

UNION PRECINCT



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Minutes - Wednesday 6 October 2021 held online at 7.30 pm

Chair: MC & KR, Secretary MCH Treasurer: ID. Meeting chaired by MC; minutes by MCH
Present 23 – as per attendance sheet.
Apologies: JH, MM

The online meeting was called to order at 7.34 pm.

1. Apologies and Minutes of previous meeting

[Precinct Minutes available on Council website](#)

ID moved to accept the minutes. CB seconded it.

Precinct resolved to keep a note of matters of importance that need to be followed up at the top of the agenda for subsequent meetings.

These include –

Noakes Fire audit:

Precinct notes this has been assigned to Council's Team Leader – Business Compliance and kindly requests a response prior to the next Precinct meeting on 3 November.

North Sydney Olympic Pool redevelopment progress

This says closed for Council however there has been no further information provided in the report to the last Council meeting. Precinct again requests that the report be enhanced to include performance against budget in the public document provided at each Council meeting.

Noakes Boatyard – public jetty

This says closed for Council but should say awaiting response as per item 11 in August. Precinct kindly requests a response prior to the next Precinct meeting on 3 November.

2. Guest speaker – on the History and future use of Berrys Bay

MS spoke to a pictorial PowerPoint Presentation on the history of Berrys Bay, some of the pollution issues with regards to rotting wharves and boatyard junk, and potential future uses including the Sydney Harbour Heritage Fleet proposal. The message was that we need to preserve our green (parks) and blue (water) spaces for the enjoyment of residents and others. A detailed written report is attached as an appendix. The Precinct thanked him for his presentation and alerting us to some of the issues. The Chair thanked MS for his valuable presentation and the effort made.

3. Development Applications/Modifications

- **DA 230/2020**, 23 Victoria Street, McMahons Point

Modification of consent for alterations and additions and change of use – *Submissions due 8 October.*
Noted.

- **DA 285/21**, 117 Union Street, McMahons Point

Alterations and additions to a semi-detached dwelling – *Submissions due 22 October.*
Noted.

DA Approvals/refusals

4. North Sydney Planning Panel DAs to be heard on 6 October

- a. **DA 101/21** - 206 Blues Point Road, McMahons Point (Commodore Hotel)
- b. **DA 172/21** - 26 Thomas Street, McMahons Point
- c. **DA 183/21** - 1 Blue Street, North Sydney (SHORE School)

Precinct will review the outcomes of the NSPP when they are made available and provide an update to members. DA/101/21 was of particular concern because it was considered that NSC supported the application whereas Precinct was seriously opposed to it as being detrimental to the character of the area.

5. Liquor License application

3 Chuter Street, McMahons Point – submissions close 4 October

While the deadline had passed for submissions to the Liquor and Gaming Authority, the Precinct discussed the application in context of the impact it could have on the surrounding area.

The application was for the administration office of an alcohol company. Stock delivery would not be taking place from this address. However, concerns were still expressed about the potential for more people in the form of staff coming and going from the premises and the impact this would have on the already constrained parking area.

6. Harbour Bridge Cycle Access Ramp

Update on timetable of linear design option

While there is opposition to the linear ramp from residents of Alfred Street, there is good community support within the Union Precinct for the linear ramp to come off the Harbour Bridge to be used by local residents and others. The hope is that the design competition produces a superior design to the “artists impression” used by the NSW Government in previous discussions.

There was a discussion about the potential impact of the Warringah Freeway extension on the cycle path, and members noted if a cycleway is included in the Warringah Freeway upgrade, that this is not at the expense of an on/off ramp for local cyclists at Milsons Point.

7. Reminder of Council resources for coping with COVID-19

Resilience workshops recordings are available on [this site](#).

Foodbank information and donations [here](#).

MCH noted that the e-news is regularly sent to Union Precinct members with agenda/minutes.

8. Relevant Council Meeting matters

- Precinct Committees can determine the matters discussed at their meetings without reference to Council

Precinct welcomed the motion and thanked Council for passing it. Precinct believes that the Precinct System is a wonderful example of participatory democracy and is pleased its operation is being supported.

- Proposed NSC new booking arrangements for (some) parks

Precinct noted the Have your Say on booking arrangements for parks has closed.

Precinct also noted that there is an Extraordinary Council meeting re management of local parks for New Year's Eve on Mon 11 October 830pm.

City of Sydney has confirmed that the 9pm and midnight fireworks are both going ahead.

The Precinct requested that the ratepayers of North Sydney have free access to our parks.

9. Relevant Traffic Committee matters

- Bike Cycle route from North Sydney to Bradfield Park

Precinct is pleased that the shared path access on the Pacific Hwy between the bike path on Alfred St and North Sydney continues to be a shared pathway and thanks Council for reinstating this.

10. Tunnel impacts on the local community

- Discussion following Bay Precinct General Meeting on Mon 27 Sep

There weren't any members present at the meeting who attended the session, so an update was not provided. It was noted that with the change in leadership in the NSW Government and the pending Upper House inquiry into the tunnels, there was hope that the projects may not go ahead.

Precinct objects to the continuous reduction of amenity imposed by the State Government and asks Council to continue to act on our behalf to retain as much green and blue space as we can.

Precinct supports Council in its continued efforts to place pressure on the State Government to defer to the wishes of the local North Sydney community, rather than simply imposing these infrastructure projects on the area, sometimes to its detriment.

It was noted that Inner West Council is objecting strongly to the Western Harbour Tunnel, can North Sydney Council follow the views of its residents and do the same?

11. Any other business

Summary of actions from previous meeting

The Precinct discussed the summary of actions from the previous meeting. The major items of concern are noted at the top of the Minutes because we would like to remind Council of the importance of these issues to the residents of the Union Precinct.

Blues Point Reserve

Metro is commencing community engagement about future activity around where the shed currently is. It was requested that Metro present at a Precinct meeting in the future. It is not clear whether the use of the site will be decided by North Sydney Council or the NSW State Government.

Traffic issues

Precinct discussed north/south access to the peninsula. Residents were concerned about Berry Street turning into a freeway offshoot and the impact this would have on the ability to travel north/south, particularly up Miller Street.

The Precinct resolved to ask the Committee for North Sydney to present at a future meeting so we can better understand the issues.

Combined Precincts Committee

Next meeting to be held 19 October, then 15 February 2022. KH agreed to represent Union Precinct.

Local government elections

Reminder that local government elections are scheduled for 4 December. There are now only two wards and Union Precinct is in the Cammeraygal ward.

12. Next meeting 3 November 2021

Meeting closed 9:30pm

Signed as a correct record

Chair