

**Union Precinct Meeting
Minutes - Wednesday 6 April 2022, 7.30pm
Hybrid meeting at McMahon's Point Community Centre and via Zoom**

Chair: MC & KR; Secretary MCH; Treasurer ID. Meeting chair KR; Minutes MCH

Present: 14 in person, 1 on Zoom, as per attendance sheet.

Apologies: BM, PM, MM, KH, JR

Annual General Meeting (AGM)

The AGM was held prior to the commencement of the regular meeting. The Minutes from that meeting will be up on the Council website and sent with the Minutes of the regular meeting.

Main points:

- Chairperson and Treasurer's reports were presented.
- KR and MC were again appointed co-Chairs.
- ID was again appointed Treasurer.
- CT was appointed Secretary
- MCH will continue on the Committee but has handed secretarial role to CT.
- It was noted that unless Council changes its rule re four-year terms, this will be the last year the Chairs and Treasurer can hold office.

1. Apologies and Minutes of previous meeting

The minutes from the previous meeting were discussed. ID moved and MC seconded the adoption of the minutes.

Summary of Actions were read. A copy can be found on Council's website here -

https://www.northsydney.nsw.gov.au/files/assets/public/docs/1_council_meetings/precincts/union_soa_2203.pdf

Re Commodore Hotel noise complaints. More information is needed to clarify MC to follow up with JL re further details to clarify excessive noise and disruption.

2. Development Applications/Modifications

- **DA 72/2022, 45 Thomas Street McMahons Point.** Demolition of existing structures and construction of a part 2 and part 3 storey dwelling, tree removal, landscaping and associated civil works. Closes 8 April 2022.

RT addressed the meeting, with other concerned residents also commenting. Concerns raised were a lack of information about the development, non-compliant rear setback, does not match the adjoining properties as required by the DCP, neighbours will experience overshadowing, loss of trees and lack of detail re excavation works to take place and what impact that will have on neighbouring properties.

Precinct asks that Council consider the points above in assessing the application.

- **DA 64/2022, 131 Blues Point Rd McMahons Point.** Internal alterations to retail premises including removal of internal stairs, changes to walls and doors. Closes 1 April 2022.

Precinct expresses its concern about the potential impact these changes will make to the existing bookshop. We want to see the continuation of an iconic local business which brings business to the local village and adds to the fabric and culture of the area. Therefore **Precinct asks Council to consider the impacts it will have on the running of the business.**

Update on DA 18/21, 1 Bank Lane, North Sydney

The application is now being heard by the Land and Environment Court with an onsite meeting being held on 17 May.

3. Discussion on option of “temporary merger” with Edward Precinct

The idea of a merger with Edward Precinct has been discussed numerous times over the last two years within Union Precinct. At its March meeting, Edward Precinct supported a trial merger to start in May 2022. Following lengthy discussion, the following motion was passed.

That Edward and Union Precincts merge temporarily, essentially for the purposes of holding joint monthly meetings. This temporary merger will be for a period of three months, at which point it will be reviewed by both Precincts. If both agree to continue, this temporary merger will continue until Council makes a decision on the amalgamation or boundary changes associated with the precincts. The temporary merger may be terminated if one or both of the precincts agree. Financial and administration functions for each precinct will remain separate. The location of meetings will be held at McMahons Point Community Centre. The management of the meetings and any minutes or correspondence from those meetings will be shared between the executive committees of the two precincts.

MCH proposed the motion with MC seconding.

Voting results:

9 in favour

1 objection

3 abstained

4. Response to Mayor’s letter to community re “State Government’s ...grab for development levies.”

The Mayor’s letter was read at the meeting regarding the State Government proposal to redirect development levies away from Council to the State Government Budget. Members were encouraged to write to the State Government via our local member. Union Precinct will also send a letter.

5. Items from Council meeting 28 March 2022

The most relevant and exciting item for Union Precinct was the tabling of a report to the legal and planning committee with respect to activities at Noakes Boatyard including the fire order and public jetty.

Precinct thanks Council for following up on these issues that we have been raising consistently over a number of years.

6. Other Council matters – Draft Playgrounds Plan of Management closes 12 April; Merrett Playground Upgrade. Closes 10 April.

Merrett Playground is the playground next to the Waverton Bowling Club

7. Any other business

Creative space on Blues Point Road

CT provided an overview of the Creative Space on Blues Point Road and the activities and benefits it brings to the community. It is a sustainable space – economic, environmentally, socially sustainable. Creativity helps getting people together, assisting with community cohesion, amenity. The space is self-funded and is a social enterprise that also addresses sustainability and circularity. The lease is ending soon and CT requested Precinct support for Council to enable operations in the McMahons Point Community Centre across the road. It was also discussed that the fees Council charges for use of the hall should be reviewed so that local community groups such as choirs etc, can have reduced pricing.

Precinct passed a motion to support activating the underutilised community centre for community use and a review of the fee structure for local community groups.

CT proposed the motion. ID seconded it.

Voting results:

11 in favour

0 objection

(note some people had left the meeting by this stage so numbers differ from earlier votes).

Review of speed limit on Blues Point Road

The Precinct asks Council what actions it can take to help support a reduction in the speed limit along Blues Point Road to 40km an hour.

Library of Things

KH provided an overview of The Sydney Library of Things at the Coal Loader which is open every Saturday 9am-12pm. Members can borrow items such as gardening tools, sewing machines, handyman tools, party catering kits, yard games, camping gear, craft items etc. More information can be found on Council's website here - https://www.northsydney.nsw.gov.au/Environment_Waste/Get_Involved/The_Sydney_Library_of_Things

Harbour Bridge Cycleway

Despite significant local opposition, the State Government has approved the linear bike ramp which will run alongside the bridge through Bradfield Park.

Noakes Dry Dock update

The court case begins on 2 May. Union Precinct will have a voice via RT, while other members of the Precinct are also appearing in their capacity as impacted neighbours.

Combined Precincts Committee (CPC)

Next CPC meeting will be held on 31 April KH will represent Union Precinct and discuss the Noakes Fire Audit.

Union Precinct Committee – new member

In recognition of his tireless work representing Union Precinct on the CPC, KH has been appointed to the Union Precinct Committee. The Committee now consists of KR and MC (Co-Chairs), ID (Treasurer), CT (Secretary), with MC and KH supporting.

Meeting closed at 9.43pm.