

WILLOUGHBY BAY PRECINCT

PART OF NORTH SYDNEY COUNCIL'S COMMUNITY PRECINCT SYSTEM



MINUTES OF MEETING HELD

THURSDAY 10th December 2020

COMMENCING AT 7.30 PM

ATTENDANCE: 14 people attended the meeting

APOLOGIES: 5 were recorded

COVID-19 MEETING SAFETY PROCEDURES

In accordance with COVID-19 meeting safety procedures, all attendees used the hand sanitiser, which was supplied and tables were wiped down before and after the meeting with the sanitiser. The COVID-19 signage was displayed. Social distancing was observed, and no one reported feeling unwell. No unregistered persons attended the meeting.

Chair reported that the attendance restriction of 14 persons including office bearers at Precinct meetings has been reassessed by Council to 20 persons.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Minutes for the 12th November 2020 meeting were adopted.

Motion carried: 10 in favour, 4 abstentions, 0 against

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Precinct requests Council advice on the following 2 unanswered queries both from Precinct's October Minutes.

1. Disclosure Scheme of Private Interests of Councillors and Senior Staff

Precinct queries the meaning of the reference to IPC.

2. DA System / PCA/CDC System

In Precinct Minutes October, Precinct noted the two parallel development systems, being DA and PCA/CDC and the apparent dichotomies between these systems as to prior notifications and access to plans and asked that Council consider taking all appropriate and possible measures to align the latter system with the former.

Precinct asks Council to advise whether it identifies any problems presented to good planning and to residents by the parallel systems DA and PCA/CDC and whether Council considers it appropriate to make representation to any Government on the issue.

(Please also see Item 6 General Business - below)

243 Bus Timetable

Precinct members noted that 243 bus timetable changes were expected on 20 December 2020.

Development Control Plan Amendments - Tree Protection

A resident raised practical problems with the reduction in the tree control height from 10m to 5m, for pruning of trees on private land. Resident noted coincidental exponential increase in mail-boxed tree company cards and brochures.

CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

- Council Response to Precinct's November 2020 Minutes

Grasmere Road / Young Street Intersection - Council's Manager Traffic & Transport Operations has advised that the report to Council on 26 October 2020 outlines the reasons why the reinstatement of the roundabout is not feasible.

MOTION: Precinct requests Council provide to Precinct the report which was presented to Council at its 26 October 2020 meeting, outlining the reasons why the reinstatement of the roundabout is not feasible.

Motion Carried: 14 in favour, 0 abstentions, 0 against

Recycling Issues - Council's Waste Management Co-ordinator has advised that the recyclables that are collected from the kerb are delivered to Visy's Smithfield Recycling Plant. Recycled material includes paper, plastics, recycled aluminium, recycled steel and glass bottles and jars.

In regard to the materials in the red bin, at this stage it is not known if the red bin product previously recycled for landscape use will be put to similar use. The materials will continue to be sent to landfill unless the EPA lifts the restrictions.

Council will then make a decision to either remain on a landfill contract or exercise the option and transition to a waste processing contract should the restrictions be lifted.

Precinct enquires as to what % yellow bin is currently broadly estimated to go to landfill and what % is actually recycled.

Christmas Decorations - Council's Manager Communications and Events advises that the Events Team agrees with Precinct. Along with the decorations, Council has organised Christmas themed pavement chalk art at three locations, six pop up musical performances, roaming elves and ice cream giveaways. These are not being advertised, because with COVID-19 restrictions Council cannot hold events without seating and ticketing people.

Kerbs and Guttering - Comments noted by Council's Assets Manager.

Young Street Closure - Comments noted by Council's Manager Traffic and Transport Operations and has advised that Council will monitor traffic conditions during the initial 3 month trial period. Council's Project Manager has advised that Precinct Committee's comments will be taken as a submission.

Precinct asks Council: Is the first month of access restrictions due to works construction included in the 3 month trial period?

- **Beaches Link and Gore Hill Freeway Connection Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) now on exhibition.**
Submissions must be made directly to the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPIE) before 1 March 2021. Chair will circulate details.
- **Business Proposed to be transacted at the North Sydney Council Traffic Committee**

Meeting of 27 November 2020

- **Agenda of the North Sydney Council Committee Meeting of 30 November 2020**

The following Agenda items were discussed:

- **Active Transport Grant Offer from TfNSW**

Report to Council on three (3) grant offers from TfNSW for the construction of Active Transport (walking and cycling) projects in the 2020/21 and 2021/22 cycling facilities budget. The combined value of the three (3) grants is \$3,457,450 with a proposed contribution of \$896,750 from Council.

- **Draft Plan of Management Neighbourhood Parks/Draft Bushland Plan of Management**
Crown Land Management Act 2016 public exhibition obligation for community Information and comment.

- **Residential Food Scraps Collection and Processing Trial**

Estimate of costs and options (including use of an online / smart phone booking system) for a food waste collection trial involving the separate collection and recycling of food scraps from residential multi-unit dwellings (MUDs) in the North Sydney LGA. Vice Chair stressed the need for an EPA-style educational and advertising campaign towards reduction of food waste in the first instance, thus reducing cost of (if not need for) a food waste collection trial. Previously he raised this approach with the Mayor.

- **Grant Funding**

Grant funding for 2020/21 is \$14,544,271 which includes \$10.0m for the North Sydney Olympic Pool Redevelopment Grant.

- **Warringah Freeway Upgrade TfNSW Compulsory Acquisitions - Parks & Reserves**

On 13 November 2020, Council received two letters from TfNSW in relation to a Proposed Acquisition Notice (PAN) for parts of the Cammeray Golf Course (2 sites), St Leonards Park and ANZAC Park for the purposes of the Warringah Freeway upgrade. Some resident disquiet on this and concern whether acquisitions will in totality be returned to public use.

- **Gerard Street & Macpherson Street Intersection Report**

Precinct noted that a Council report was submitted to Council on 30 November 2020 in response to the Mayoral Minute MM04 "Road Safety Near Middle Harbour School".

The report notes that Council's preferred option of signalisation of the intersection is not supported by TfNSW due to the number of pedestrians currently using the crossing not complying with the TfNSW numerical warrants for traffic signals.

Council decide to write to the Minister for Transport and Roads requesting special consideration for installation of traffic signals at the intersection of Gerard Street and Macpherson Street on the basis of pedestrian safety and amenity and that minor changes be to the current crossing to improve pedestrian safety.

A majority of Precinct members objected strongly to TfNSW's opposition to signalisation of the intersection. Vice Chair reminded the meeting that support for signalisation is not unanimous and he has made separate representations supporting the status quo.

➤ **Military Road Corridor Planning Study**

The outcome of the Military Road Corridor Planning Study consultation process is that Council is going ahead with its plan to permit development of up to 12 storeys on 3 of the 4 nominated sites in within the Neutral Bay shopping area. Meeting sentiment was concern for the extent of the height increase and for the true village ambience of Neutral Bay.

- **Memorandum of 10 December 2020 Code of Conduct - Precinct Office Bearers & Members.**

The revised Code is now in effect and available from Council's website at:

www.northsydney.nsw.gov.au/Council Meetings/Policies Plans/Council Policies

Precinct notes that the Code of Conduct was approved by Council 30 November 2020.

Precinct notes that the document shows a lack of clarity *and certainty* on certain issues.

Precinct enquires as to what scope there is for further feedback on the Code.

DEVELOPMENT APPLICATIONS

12 Shellbank Parade

DA Plans

40 Ellalong Road

Amended Plans Received

GENERAL BUSINESS

1. Precinct System Review

Precinct member representatives at the Stage 1 consultation sessions reported on proceedings. It is apparent that Council's objective is to undertake some mergers into larger precincts. Precinct does not see sound reasons for merger of Willoughby Bay Precinct. Retention of true character of a merged Precinct would pose a difficulty. Administering a much larger precinct would significantly increase the workload on office bearers. Willoughby Bay Precinct already has a high member participation rate. Merger would not provide Council with any significant cost savings. Precinct noted that Council had approved the amendments to the Code of Conduct at its meeting on 30 November. Precinct representatives would continue to participate in the Stage 2 Precinct Review consultation sessions.

2. Dangerous Path Steps Tobruk Avenue Path to Brightmore Reserve

A Precinct resident reported that the path steps leading down from Tobruk Avenue to Brightmore Reserve are steep and the last 30m at the bottom lacks a handrail.

3. Little Wonga Road

A Precinct resident reported that Little Wonga Road is covered in rubbish and leaves. Every time it rains the leaves get washed down onto the steps; which makes walking down the steps very dangerous. This is a health and safety issue and also a liability risk for Council. Precinct was advised that although this is a private road, Council is responsible for maintenance.

4. E-Waste Concerns

A Precinct resident reports that Council contractors may still be collecting E-waste items, sometimes several together, put out amongst the household collection destined for landfill. A Precinct member asked is it not the firm practice of Council (particularly given the history of Precinct with Council in the development of a sound system for disposal of E-waste up to establishing the fine NSROC facility) to sticker the items and reject them for landfill collection?

5. Property Damage due to Beaches Link Tunnel Work

A Precinct resident raised concern about the risk of property damage due to the Beaches Link Tunnel Project works.

6. 74 Macpherson Street - Boundary Fence & Public Footpath Encroachment Issues

A Precinct resident raised a complaint about boundary fence and public footpath encroachment issues with respect to 74 Macpherson Street. The resident has requested Council to intervene with respect to the encroachment into the pedestrian thoroughfare in Macpherson Street. This resident has experienced problems with trespass during construction and fencing arguably a consequence of this parallel (and seemingly less supervised) PCA/CDC system of development.
(See also point 2 Business Arising...above.)

7. Brothers Park Garden Shed

The shed is being delivered and constructed this Saturday. Council's Ramin is coming next week with mulch and plants for its Fifth Avenue garden.

8. Vote of thanks from the Chair

The Chair moved a vote of thanks to Office Bearers and residents and wished all a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Meeting closed at 9.55 pm

Next meeting will be on Thursday 11 February 2021

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