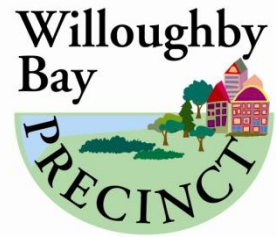


WILLOUGHBY BAY PRECINCT

PART OF NORTH SYDNEY COUNCIL'S COMMUNITY PRECINCT SYSTEM



MINUTES OF MEETING HELD

THURSDAY 10th June 2021

COMMENCING AT 7.30 PM

ATTENDANCE: 16 people attended the meeting
APOLOGIES: 2 were recorded
GUEST SPEAKER: Cr. MaryAnn Beregi

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.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Minutes for the 13th May 2021 meeting were adopted

Motion carried: 10 in favour, 6 abstentions, 0 against

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

The Vice Chair advised that the Community Recycling Centre at 8 Waltham Street Artarmon has reopened and is again accepting E-waste and other problem waste.

CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

- Council Response to Precinct's May 2021 Minutes

Affordable Housing – Council's A/Director Community and Library Services has noted Precinct Committee's comments and advised that the Miller Street project in which the current boarding house is to be demolished and replaced with 11 self-contained studio apartments is in process. A DA has been approved and Council's housing partner, Link Wentworth Housing, is managing the project.

Council approved \$2.0m from Council's Affordable Housing Reserve levy to be used for the project. On 24 May 2021, Council (item 8.17) endorsed using the remaining funds in the Affordable Housing Reserve of \$2.1m for a second project with Link Wentworth Housing which is to purchase a property or properties for the purpose of housing women who have escaped domestic violence. Colliers will be engaged to bid for the properties on Council's behalf.

Election Candidate Attendance – As advised to all Precinct Committees (via the Manager Integrated Planning and Special Projects memorandum date 5 May 2021), Council resources cannot be used for campaign purposes. External groups e.g. the local media or Chamber of Commerce could facilitate such (if they elect to do so).

- **Memorandum of 17 May 2021** – Young Street walking, cycling & streetscape upgrades and Cremorne to Kirribilli walking, cycling and streetscape upgrades (consultation time expired)

- **Memorandum of 26 May 2021** – Documents on Exhibition – Submissions close 22 June 2021.
- **Memorandum of 2 June 2021** – Draft Environmental Sustainability Strategy 2030 – on public exhibition until 28 June 2021.
- **Agenda and Minutes of the North Sydney Council Meeting on 24 May 2021**
- **Minutes of the Traffic Committee Meeting held on 30 April 2021**
- **Memorandum of 3 June 2021** – Traffic Committee Agenda
- **Business Proposed to be Transacted at the Traffic Committee on 11 June 2021**
- **Northern Suburbs Ocean Outfall Sewer (NSOOS) Project Update** – WH Brothers Memorial Park, Cremorne, June 2021. Sydney Water is installing an additional work shed on site for an emergency access and exit point for crews working in the tunnel below ground. The NSOOS work is expected to be completed in late 2024.

DEVELOPMENT APPLICATIONS

9A Wonga Road	DA Plans
1 Prospect Avenue	DA Plans
118 Macpherson Street	DA Plans
10 Shellbank Parade	DA Approved

GUEST SPEAKER: Cr. MaryAnn Beregi (Victoria Ward)

Young Street Closure

A Precinct member expressed the view that the Young Street closure has been a huge waste of money. Initially on a 3 month trial, the trial was extended on the grounds that it was very popular. However, some residents claim that the reality is that it is rarely used, and is an eyesore. The impact on traffic flow has been to force all local motorists coming from the city who wish to turn left into Young St, into Waters Road or Winnie Street, thus unduly impacting those through streets.

North Sydney Olympic Pool

This project which is behind schedule and over budget has lacked any transparency from the beginning. To fund the pool development, Council has taken on a \$34 m debt and withdrawn \$3m out of the open space budget.

The better and publicly preferred option would be a \$30m revamp and retention of its landmark art deco features. A further \$30m could then have been allocated to building another pool in the St. Leonards / Crows Nest area, with swimming lessons and mums & bubs classes and where there would be more ample access and parking. There is no parking at NSOP.

Bike Ramp off the Harbour Bridge

Council is opposing two bike ramp proposals by the State Government – a circular one and a linear one-on the basis that each intrudes into Council parkland, with a lift being the Council-preferred option.

Ernest Street Freeway On Ramps

Cr. Beregi agreed with a Precinct member that in closing off the on ramp to the Freeway from Ernest Street, motorists will be forced to use Military Road to access the Freeway.

Military Road Corridor Planning Study

Precinct expressed concern that residents had put in submissions in good faith and then councillors argued in favour of 8 storeys but then voted for 12 storeys. It is understood that Council has met with Woolworths. Council owns the Grosvenor Lane car park land. No developer can do anything without Council and its valuable carpark land. Resident concern is that the concession of 12 storeys was both premature and unnecessary, when Council held a sound bargaining position.

Council Amalgamation

There is a risk that the threat of council amalgamations could arise again via the friendly merger of councils.

Western Harbour Tunnel and Beaches Link

There is Council concern about the Western Harbour Tunnel and the impact it will have on the CBD and upon the Berry Street thoroughfare in North Sydney. The project is not certain, as the money has not been allocated in the forward estimates and there is now an Upper House enquiry into the Beaches Link. A \$20b tunnel from Rozelle to the Northern Beaches is a large expenditure, with no public transport and no business case presented.

GENERAL BUSINESS

1. Proposed Continuous Footpath and Drainage Works

A Prospect Avenue *resident* has received community consultation regarding Council proposing to construct a continuous footpath at the intersection of Gerard Street and Langley Avenue, Cremorne. The footpath is proposed to keep stormwater flowing down Gerard Street rather than flowing into Langley Avenue. The proposal will improve pedestrian safety at the intersection as it will slow cars entering Langley Avenue from Gerard Street.

If there is community support for this proposal, it is intended that works will commence and finish in the 2021-2022 financial year. Feedback closes 29 June 2021. Complete the survey online at <https://yoursay.northsydney.nsw.gov.au/traffic-surveys>

2. SCEGGS Redlands

The above have acquired all the properties in Monford Place (a small street running off Military Road, Neutral Bay at the back of the school) and now SCEGGS want to purchase the Monford Place Council road land

3. WH Brothers Memorial Park / Fifth Avenue Update

Thanks to the local working bee of 7 June 2021 which helped the workmen from Interflow spread the mulch in the Park and in Fifth Avenue. Precinct has taken photos of the workmen and will send these to Hugh Goodman.

An additional shed is being installed in the Park for emergency access and exit for crews working in the tunnel below ground.

MOTION: Precinct requests Council install full accessibility including pedestrian access for disabled persons at WH Brothers Memorial Park.

Motion Carried: 13 in favour, 3 abstentions, 0 against

Due to motorists parking across the entrance to the Park, Precinct asked Council to indicate no parking at the driveway, but preferably without the visual clutter of street signs. As at 9 May 2021 Council has responded: Council's Manager Parks and Reserves has advised that signage will be installed in due course.

Precinct requests Council consider upgrading the memorial plaque to WH Brothers which is deteriorating.

Vice Chair indicated that descendant Sean Brothers would wish to have some input to this.

Chair has advised that the grant funding received from Trent Zimmerman has not been fully utilised and suggests that the gardening group consider their options with regard to purchasing more tools, before 30 June 2021.

4. Vice Chair Environmental Issues

Liveability Census Survey – Precinct members are urged to complete this survey closing 30 June 2021.

Draft Environmental Sustainability Strategy 2030 – open for consultation until 28 June 2021.- Goals include action on: Council's climate emergency declaration, carbon neutrality for Council operations, halving water use in Council operations, achieving 70% waste diversion from landfill, switching Council's fleet from fossil fuels to electric, protecting native plants and animals and looking after our waterways.

Wood smoke – Concern was expressed about the harmful environmental effects of smoke from wood-fired heating, in past years reported as pooling around properties in Tobruk Avenue, but now noticed from a Montague Rd property, even in mild weather.

Precinct asks Council: what are the restrictions and the rules applicable to wood-fire heating in our closely settled neighbourhoods?

5. Birthday Wishes

Birthday wishes were offered to very longstanding Precinct member BC on the news of his recent 90th birthday.

Meeting closed at 9.20 pm

Next meeting will be on Thursday 8 July 2021

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