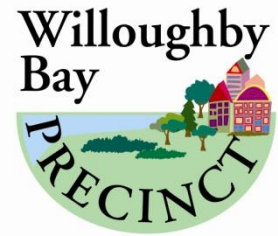


# **WILLOUGHBY BAY PRECINCT**

**PART OF NORTH SYDNEY COUNCIL'S COMMUNITY PRECINCT SYSTEM**



## **MINUTES OF MEETING HELD**

**THURSDAY 14 April 2022**

**COMMENCING AT 7.30 PM**

**ATTENDANCE:** 15 people attended the meeting

**APOLOGIES:** 5 were recorded

**GUEST SPEAKER:** Deputy Mayor Cr. William Bourke – St. Leonards Ward Councillor

## **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.

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY**

## **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

Minutes for the 10 March 2022 meeting were adopted

***Motion carried: 11 in favour, 4 abstentions, 0 against***

## **BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

Cremorne Conservation Group is planning a function on Monday 30 May 2022 from 6.30-8.00pm at the Cremorne Orpheum Theatre as part of a campaign for the Orpheum to have a State Heritage Listing. Renowned historians Dr Peter Sheridan AM and Dr Ian Hoskins will share their stories, pictures and film about the history, architecture and famous people behind the iconic Orpheum Theatre. Tickets can be purchased directly from the Orpheum Theatre Box Office. Price \$20.00pp.

### **Land slippage at 17 Richmond Avenue, Cremorne**

Two mature Sydney Blue Gums adjacent to the building site at 15 Richmond Avenue, Cremorne were removed under emergency orders by Council on 20 March 2022. This followed engineering advice that, due to excavation adjacent to the roots of the trees, the soil had become unstable and there was a real risk of a serious landslip.

**MOTION: Precinct would like to know who gave the engineering advice and who is paying for the removal of these perfectly healthy trees and rectification works and planting of replacement trees and whether Council can recover costs from the developer? Precinct endorses Precinct Chair's correspondence to Council of 25 March 2022 and has asked Cr. Bourke to follow up.**

***Motion Carried: 14 in favour, 1 abstention, 0 against***

### **Planning Proposal 2/22, 12-14 Waters Road, Neutral Bay**

At Precinct's 10 March 2022 meeting, Precinct passed a Motion opposing the approval of this Planning Proposal. Since our meeting that Proposal has been referred and considered by the North

Sydney Local Planning Panel with a report from Council's Strategic Planner recommending that the Proposal not proceed to Gateway Determination. The Strategic Planner's report quoted the reasons given in Precinct's Motion.

Precinct Chair addressed the North Sydney Local Planning Panel at its meeting on 13 April 2022, reiterating the same reasons for opposing the Planning Proposal.

**MOTION: THAT Precinct thanks Council for the Strategic Planner's report and authorises Precinct Chair to write to each of the Councillors advising Precinct requests they not support the Planning Proposal proceeding to Gateway.**

***Motion Carried: 14 in favour, 1 abstention, 0 against***

Young Street Plaza

**MOTION: It has been suggested that the partial closure of Young Street may be an item on the agenda at the next Council Meeting. Precinct requests Council reinstate Young Street as a proper thoroughfare.**

***Motion Carried: 13 in favour, 2 abstentions, 0 against***

## **CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED**

- Council's Response to Precinct's March 2022 Minutes

**That future Precinct meetings commence with Acknowledgement of Country** – Council's Community Engagement advises that Council's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Protocols (2021) provides suggestive wording for an Acknowledgement of Country. The following wording is considered appropriate. "I would like to acknowledge the Aboriginal traditional custodians of this land. I would also like to pay respect to Elders both past and present, the spirits and ancestors, and extend that respect to other Aboriginal people present".

**That Precinct opposes the approval of Planning Proposal 2/22, 12-14 Waters Road, Neutral Bay** – Council's Strategic Planner has advised that the opposition is noted. The Planning Proposal has not yet been formally exhibited and as such this cannot be treated as a submission. Should this Planning Proposal proceed to public exhibition, the Precinct Committee can make a formal submission using the Online DA/PP Submission Form. Note: if/when the Planning Proposal is exhibited following "Gateway Determination" by NSW Government, all Precinct Committees will be advised.

**Precinct asks Council in the wake of the recent wild weather to please clear bushes which have spread completely across the footpath at 47 Wonga Road and at 38 Brightmore Street there is a tree overhanging the footpath and completely blocking it.** – Council has advised that a maintenance team will attend to the site to prune the vegetation and clear the footpath. Work will be completed by 15/4/22.

**Precinct would like the reinstatement of the roundabout at Young Street and Grasmere Road and removal of the speed bumps. This being the safest possible solution to a traffic problem that has been created since the removal of the roundabout.** – Council's A/Manager Traffic and Transport Operations has advised that the changes made to this intersection were part of the cycleway and it was to improve safety of cyclists. Cyclists are very vulnerable road users especially when it comes to intersections and roundabouts. Research often shows cyclists are involved in serious crashes at roundabouts involving cars or other vehicles. Transport for NSW guidelines and

approvals were needed to install the cycleway, so therefore changes to this intersection would not be approved.

An investigation was conducted of crashes at this intersection and it showed that over the past five years of data there have been no vehicle crashes at this intersection. Therefore, the justification of changing to a roundabout on safety grounds is unwarranted. The speed bumps will not be removed because they force vehicles to go slower and improve safety for vulnerable road users.

- **North Sydney Council Meeting of 28 March 2022. The following items were resolved by Council**
- **8.10. Community Housing Project and Funds: Update on a New Generation Boarding House** - the purpose of this is to combine two community housing projects into one with two units for women escaping domestic and family violence. Council approved a contribution of \$3,089,831 from the Affordable Housing Reserve for the project.
- **8.11. 15mins Free Parking Trial – Parraween Street Cremorne – Outcomes Report** – the report updated Council on the outcomes of the 15 minute free parking trial in Parraween Street, Cremorne. Council approved the continuation of 15 minute free parking for 116 metered bays in Parraween Street.
- **8.12. Young Street Walking Cycling and Streetscape Upgrades** – this report detailed the community consultation outcomes on the proposed Young Street (Sutherland Street to Grosvenor Street) Walking, Cycling and Streetscape Upgrades project. Council approved design for tender and construction commence.
- **Expression of Interest – Regional Planning Panel and Local Planning Panel**  
Applications close 29 April 2022
- **Next Combined Precinct Committee Meeting is on 21 April 2022**
- **Redistribution of Development Infrastructure Contributions** – Precinct Chair read out a letter from a local resident which has been passed on to the relevant Minister regarding the proposal that half of the North Sydney Council’s Development Infrastructure Contributions be redirected to NSW Treasury. The writer’s understanding is that the annual sums involved are between \$2.8m and \$9.3m.

## **DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION**

30 Macpherson Street DA Plans

### **Guest Speaker Deputy Mayor Cr. William Bourke – St. Leonards Ward Councillor**

Councillor Bourke has been a resident of Wollstonecraft, North Sydney, Neutral Bay and Crows Nest for over 20 years.

- Has a background in marketing and sponsorship and a local business in Crows Nest.
- Is President of Sustainable Australia Party, a Federally registered political party. He was elected as a Sustainable Australia Party candidate in the recent Council elections in St Leonards Ward and Georgia Lamb was elected in Cammeraygal Ward.

- Sustainable Australia Party operate at all three levels of government and are running candidates in the upcoming Federal election.
- The party stands for sustainability and democracy with a platform of:
  - ❖ Protecting the environment
  - ❖ Stopping over development
  - ❖ Stopping corruption
- Issues most locals want to talk to Cr Bourke about are development issues. North Sydney has very high housing targets from the State Government. Council voted to reverse allowing residential flat buildings in the R3 medium density zone.
- Supports affordable housing and stabilisation of house prices
- Supports stabilisation of the population with a healthy level of immigration around 70,000 per year.
- Council voted to rescind the Military Road Corridor Planning Study and continues to push back against some very big developments on the Pacific Highway and North Sydney CBD
- On the Young Street Grasmere Road roundabout, Cr. Bourke suggests a petition which the Traffic Committee will look at if there are a dozen or two dozen names on a petition which are enough to table at a Traffic Committee. At that point the Traffic Committee would have to do a broader community consultation. Cr. Bourke will follow up re the roundabout reinstatement.
- Redistribution of Development infrastructure Contributions – Cr. Bourke understands that Council is very opposed to this because under State Laws these contributions do not have to fund Council infrastructure. (See Correspondence received) Precinct residents are advised to write to the Minister for Planning and express their concerns.

## **GENERAL BUSINESS**

### **Red Light Speed Cameras Military Road Cremorne**

**MOTION: Willoughby Bay Precinct notes with concern the ongoing threat to safety of pedestrians crossing Military Road at Cremorne, since the installation of the integrated B-Line/ Tidal Flow system, particularly the regular running of red lights, through the pedestrian crossings, by speeding motorists on green walk phases.**

**Precinct Chair to write to local MPs, Timothy James, Willoughby and Felicity Wilson, North Shore requesting both write to the Minister for Urban Roads to ask her to use her discretionary power to have Red Light Speed cameras installed and to improve the visibility of traffic signals for motorists (eg location and size of traffic lights) particularly at Cabramatta Road.**

***Motion Carried: 14 in favour, 1 abstention, 0 against***

## **WH Brothers Park**

The next working bee for the gardeners will be Thursday 21 April 2022. RL thanks all who helped out last Monday and all those who would normally have been there but couldn't because of prior commitments.

### **Issues raised by PW**

Environmental Reference Group meeting of 11 April 2022 – diverse reports

Red Bin Issue – modest waste output not reflected in Council rates. Council has asked for a report.

Food & Garden Waste

NSW Planning Minister has ditched the draft *Design and Place State Environmental Planning Policy* which was intended to improve development design standards including sustainability / thermal performance, provision of green spaces, easier walking and cycling options. PW believes Western Sydney amenity will be compromised, eg poor-performing black tiled roofs were to disappear.

Meeting closed at 9.40pm

Next meeting will be on Thursday 12 May 2022.

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