

**NORTH SYDNEY COUNCIL**  
**CREMORNE SHOPPING AREA STREETScape COMMITTEE**

**MINUTES OF 87<sup>TH</sup> MEETING**  
**HELD ON TUESDAY, 12 JULY 2022**  
**AT 5.30PM IN THE ROS CRICHTON PAVILION,**  
**NORTH SYDNEY COUNCIL**

**Present:** Councillor Baker in the chair. Councillor Beregi and Councillor Welch

Ulrik Funch, Cremorne Chamber of Commerce  
Fiona Gracie, Cremorne Conservation Group  
Chris Holding, Cremorne Conservation Group  
Chris Quinn, Exagym  
Mary-Ann Thomson, Harrison Precinct (via zoom)  
Catherine Clarke, Harrison Precinct (via zoom)  
Kaye Donoghue, Harrison Precinct (via zoom)  
Lesley Sommerville, Brightmore Precinct (via zoom)  
Ken Pritchett, Resident (via Zoom)  
M. de Solom, Harrison Precinct (via zoom)

**Council:** Duncan Mitchell, Director Engineering and Property Services  
Diana Mejia, Engineering Project Manager  
Paul Yang, Engineering Project Manager  
Peita Rose, Governance Officer (Minutes)

**1. Meeting opened** at 5.30pm, with Councillor Baker in the Chair.

**2. Apologies**

Nil.

**3. Confirmation of the Minutes**

The Minutes of the 86th Meeting held on 5 April 2022 were adopted.

Moved by Ulrik Funch and seconded by Councillor Welch

**4. Matters Arising from the Minutes:**

Nil.

## 5. Projects Update

### 5.1 Cremorne Plaza and Langley Place upgrade

Council's Director Engineering and Property Services advised that currently they are progressing in the design brief to get consultants on board for the design for the refreshing of Cremorne Plaza and Langley Place. It was mentioned at the last meeting that this would get underway shortly and that a project brief that would go out for consultancy services has now been completed. This was to be distributed to the interested Streetscape Committee members for their review and feedback. The intention now is to get concept designs done as quickly as possible, and get community consultation underway for the concept designs and be able to commence construction works this financial year. There is enough funding for this area and the refreshing of Cremorne Plaza is a priority.

The scope of works is to do as much as possible with the budget at this stage. Council has \$2million to do that, and hopefully get some money moved over from the B-Line. Council does have to do some negotiations with that and there could be more if those negotiations are successful to transfer some money from the B-Line Project.

The project brief for the plaza design is being distributed with these minutes to the Streetscape committee members on 9 August 2022, all streetscape committee members that want to provide feedback on the brief need to contact Council's Project Manager via email ([diana.mejia@northsydney.nsw.gov.au](mailto:diana.mejia@northsydney.nsw.gov.au)) by 23 August 2022. If no feedback is received by this deadline, the brief will be deemed satisfactory and Council officers will proceed with the procurement process to engage Design Consultant for the works.

### 5.2 Proposed Military Road Intersection Improvements Program - Neutral Bay and Cremorne

Council's Director Engineering and Property Services advised that the three intersections in Military Road have been completed, and Cabramatta is being built now. After that intersection, works on MacPherson Street Intersection will commence. They are the two major intersections in Military Road that Council is working on at present. That will then complete all the intersection upgrades planned by Council in Neutral Bay and Cremorne over the last 18 months, being all five Intersections.

It was stated that the footpath from Spofforth Road up to Military Road at Cabramatta Road is heavily damaged and uneven, and is a trip hazard.

It was asked if Council was looking at the intersection of Hampden Avenue? It was suggested a raised pedestrian safety treatment be considered for this intersection.

### **5.3 Military Road Streetscape Works Upgrade**

Council's Director Engineering and Property Services advised Council has finished the Military Road Public Domain works in Cremorne. There is no more work to be done there. The tree planting, paving works, planters, landscaping and the fencing for the Military Road corridor have all been completed.

### **5.4 Young Street Trial Plaza Neutral Bay**

The Mayor stated that there has been no change since the last meeting regarding the Young Street Trial Plaza Neutral Bay. Council resolved to remove the plaza and open the road to traffic and that's underway. It was also resolved by Council that the Mayor meet with Transport for NSW to negotiate the use of \$1.9 Million to be used elsewhere. Council has identified that the three obvious effective sites for those are Langley Place, Cremorne Plaza and May Gibbs Place, Neutral Bay.

## **6. Parraween Street free 15-minute Parking Trial**

Chris Quinn from Exagym stated that he had a look to the outcomes of the 15-minute free parking trial and suggested that according to the report the cost to Council to move from 15 minutes free parking to 30 minutes would only be \$5800 a year. It was suggested that it be changed to a 30-minute trial and if it doesn't work it can be changed back to 15 minutes. With the number of spaces, it won't be an issue, but for a business it's a big plus.

Council's Director Engineering and Property Services advised that the current resolution is that this is on hold for a 12-month period, and it will come back to Council. It was stated that parking utilisation is still significantly down from what it was 4 years ago. We are still at 2016/17 occupancy rates and if it is changed back, you have the issue of people overstaying.

Councillor Beregi stated that she suggests that it be changed to 30 minutes parking just for the Parraween Street parking spaces. With 15 minutes most people wouldn't stop as you can't do anything in that amount of time.

A Motion was moved by Councillor Beregi and seconded by Chris Quinn.

**1. THAT Council undertakes a time trial for free 30-minute parking through the day in Parraween Street.**

Voting was unanimous.

**Resolved to recommend:**

**1. THAT** Council undertakes a time trial for free 30-minute parking through the day in Parraween Street.

This recommendation requires Council endorsement before it can be further developed.

At the 3761<sup>st</sup> Council meeting on 25 July 2022 Councillor Beregi raised a Notice of Motion recommending that:

**1. THAT** Council resolve to adopt the following motion that was unanimously supported at the recent Cremorne Streetscape Committee meeting, which stated:

*1. THAT Council undertake a time trial for free 30-minute parking through the day in Parraween Street.*

The Motion was moved by Councillor Beregi and seconded by Councillor Gibson.

The Motion was put and carried

## **7. Streetscape Committee Update**

Council's Director Engineering and Property Services will organise to meet and walk around and look at the issues of the streetscape with the committee. After the meeting Council's Engineering Project Manager organised a site visit with the Committee, site visit to be held Wednesday, 10 August 2022.

M. De Solom stated that part of the Streetscape upgrade was the urban rebranding, and asked If Young Street doesn't eventuate, will the funding become available to revisit the urban branding for the Cremorne Village?. It was asked would the rebranding be back on the cards.

Council's Director Engineering and Property Services advised that the work has been done in preliminary format, but the reason Council has chosen not to proceed, is because Council wanted a more holistic approach throughout the whole LGA. It is a Council decision, and it can come back through the streetscape committee.

Please find below link to the Neutral Bay and Cremorne villages urban branding report brought to Council in 2019, this report includes all the options considered at the time.

[https://www.northsydney.nsw.gov.au/files/sharedassets/public/webmeetings/2019/jul\\_22\\_2019\\_730pm/engineering\\_and\\_property\\_services\\_division\\_22\\_jul\\_2019/eps02\\_urban\\_branding\\_and\\_style\\_manual\\_for\\_neutral\\_bay\\_and\\_cremorne.pdf](https://www.northsydney.nsw.gov.au/files/sharedassets/public/webmeetings/2019/jul_22_2019_730pm/engineering_and_property_services_division_22_jul_2019/eps02_urban_branding_and_style_manual_for_neutral_bay_and_cremorne.pdf)

It was resolved during that meeting that the matter was deferred for a Councillor Briefing.

A Councillor Briefing was held on 9 September 2019, and during this briefing it was agreed to have further meetings to assess the actual scope of the rebranding works. After further meetings with the General Manager and key internal stakeholders, it was decided that Council would take a more holistic approach to the re-branding project to include corporate branding and all suburbs in the LGA.

### **Building at 231 Military Road - now the NSW Health Centre**

The Mayor stated that herself and the Mayor of Mosman are trying to talk to the local area health service about their building, as it has been sitting there neglected for many years. It used to be a Mental Health Unit and they are trying to get NSW Health to reinvigorate it, and use it as we could particularly use Mental health facilities in this space.

M. De Solom stated that it is certainly a landmark that should be better valued and currently the building is obscured by inappropriate plantings that require constant maintenance (Murraya hedges) and also create dark alcoves that are not just visually unpleasant but also create unsafe conditions for people walking past at night time.

## **8. General Business**

### **Telstra Exchange Site on Military Road, Cremorne**

M. De Solom raised concerns about the current state of the Telstra Exchange in Cremorne, highlighting that the razor wire and concrete facade are visually harsh, ugly and not in keeping with the desired streetscape of the area. Ideally, we would like Telstra to improve their streetscape presentation. For example, upgrade the fence or soften the landscaping with plants.

It was stated that Telstra response was to remove the Graffiti but it's more than graffiti. The issue is the razor wire fencing as it doesn't enhance the streetscape and the gate is always open. It needs to be softened and enhance the streetscape.

It was stated by the Mayor that because it is owned by Telstra, there isn't much Council can do to compel them to make the site attractive.

Council staff and the Mayor will write to the Chief Executive of Telstra

Council has already sent a letter to Telstra about the appearance of the substation (Letter attached).

**Hampden Avenue Bus Stop**

It was stated that a precinct member reported that the Hampden Street bus stop seat was broken.

**9. Next meeting: Tuesday, 18 October 2022**

**10. Close meeting: 6.25pm**

Mr Andrew Penn  
Office of the CEO  
Locked Bag 5639  
MELBOURNE VIC 3001

18 July 2022,

Dear Andrew,

**Re: Unkept appearance of the Telstra Exchange at 219 Military Road Cremorne.**

I write in relation to the appearance of the Telstra exchange at 219 Military Road, Cremorne and to request that maintenance be undertaken to improve it's visual appeal and contribution to the streetscape.

North Sydney Council has recently upgraded the Military Road corridor to create a high quality urban environment between Neutral Bay to Cremorne. In contrast, the Telstra exchange looks neglected and attracts graffiti. I note that the Telstra news article which appears to support this request: <https://exchange.telstra.com.au/getting-our-hands-dirty-to-clean-up-our-exchanges/>

To meet the aspirations of the community, I ask that attention please be given to improving the appearance of the Cremorne exchange to demonstrate that Telstra is committed to maintaining it's sites to a high standard in terms of appearance. Please find attached photos of the Telstra Cremorne exchange showing graffiti and unkept appearance.

Please feel free to contact me.

Yours Sincerely,

Duncan Mitchell  
**Director Engineering & Property Services**

Tel: (02) 9936 8230  
Email: duncan.mitchell@northsydney.nsw.gov.au





Photo 1 Telstra Cremorne exchange showing graffiti – 10 July 2022



Photo 2 Telstra Cremorne exchange showing unkept appearance- 10 July 2022