

**Parks Precinct Committee Meeting Minutes 19 October 2022** Meeting was held on Zoom

Meeting Opened at 7.05pm

**1. Attendance and Apologies**

Attendance as per attendance sheet

Apologies: MK, MS, PZ, JW

**2. Confirmation of Minutes (on NSC website) and matters arising:**

A motion was moved by GD to accept the Minutes of the September meeting.

Minutes were accepted as correct by CT (with the proviso that comments made by Cr Spenceley were amended to reflect them as being his personal views and not that necessarily being of NSC) and seconded by SB. This amendment has been made and the minutes updated and sent to NSC

**3. Guest Speaker:** The meeting welcomed Cr William Bourke who updated us on the following council activities:

- Young Street (temporary) Plaza – It has been resolved by Council that the current trial of Young Street Plaza will be disbanded and entry to Military Road re-opened.
- Mayor Zoe Baker is in negotiation with Transport for NSW to use the granted funding for the Plaza in other ways. Cr Bourke advised he wished to see a more ‘wholistic approach’ to the upgrade of Young Street and to include the introduction of more ‘greenspace’.
- Woolworths Development Rangers Road – NSC have opposed the Woolworths proposal for a 10 storey height apartment development incorporating 91 apartments, a revamped Woolworths store and speciality shops. Woolworths have now taken their application to a Gateway Review with the Regional Planning panel which virtually means the developer is able to promote and push through their development without any opposing views from the community.

SM advised the meeting that the next CPC Meeting will involve a Planning Session which will explain to interested residents the various stages of the Planning Process. This zoom session will be held on October 25 at 7.00pm – all who wish can participate.

Cr Bourke advised he has approached NSC to have a full time person employed to assist interested parties including local residents to better understand and smooth the way in the Planning Process.

- Cammeray Park – NSC are ongoingly engaging with contractors in the matters of tree destruction/re planting, and bike paths to endeavour to make the best of the destruction for the Western Harbour Tunnel project. Cr Bourke advised ‘no contracts have as yet been signed’ for the final stage of the WHT.

- CT asked Cr Bourke for an update on corflutes which are purportedly in design and production to garner support for the opposition of the WHT. Some residents are interested in affixing opposition corflutes to their front fences etc. The corflutes are still in process and not yet ready for distribution.
- Grosvenor Lane – The combination of roadway and pedestrian laneway was good in theory but in practise has not been successful due to the fact that cars are not keeping to the 10kph speed limit. It has become a dangerous walking zone for pedestrians. Council are reviewing the Grosvenor Lane project.
- North Sydney Olympic Pool – The cost to upgrade the pool was originally set at \$65M. Due to time delays and material and trades shortage due to Covid the cost has risen, and the council is making contingencies in the event it reaches \$90M. NSC is carrying out modelling on income levels to ascertain shortfalls. They are considering council asset sales and rate rises to residents to overcome the costs. Mayor Zoe Baker has agreed to attend the Parks November zoom meeting to update all on progress re NSOP.
- Neutral Bay Dining Centre for the Lower North Shore - Cr Bourke referred to Neutral Bay as being a ‘jewel in the crown’ for dining in the lower north shore area and advised that NSC is reviewing eateries around Military Road and surrounding streets to ascertain what can be done to upgrade and better market the area to a wider audience.

### **Re-zoning of residential areas and Planning Proposal 4/22**

GD welcomed SK a Cremorne resident and member of the Brightmore Precinct, to present the meeting with information relating to the controversial 4/22 Planning Proposal which was passed by the Jilly Gibson led council in June 2021 on the then Mayor’s casting vote. This proposal effectively changes the law as to what can and can’t be built in the NSC area. Prior to 2021 an R3 zoning meant that a developer was not allowed to buy a house/houses, demolish and build a residential flat building (3 storey apartment blocks). This ensured the heritage character of the area was preserved.

The June 2021 change means that developers can now buy houses in an R3 zone and proceed to demolish and build a three storey apartment block. This will set a precedent in the area and before long the low rise, heritage look of the area will be totally changed. NSC employed an independent heritage expert to review three homes in Holt Avenue, Cremorne, which had been purchased for apartment development and upon which a DA had been raised and presented to council. It was agreed these houses were of heritage value and should be retained. These three houses became subject to a temporary heritage order. The passing of the amendment in June 2021 made it possible for these properties to be demolished and replaced by an apartment building.

**A motion was moved by GD and seconded by CT that Parks Precinct support Planning Proposal 4/22 in order that the character and the heritage of this area be protected and preserved. The vote was carried unanimously in favour.** GD will forward the Parks submission to NSC.

SK urged all residents to oppose this planning revision and GD will email out a link to Parks residents to complete if they wish to support Planning Proposal 4/22. To support this

Planning Proposal please go to <https://yoursay.northsydney.nsw.gov.au/pp-4-22> Note – submissions must be received by NSC by 7 November 2022.

4. **DAs under consideration** – no DAs were raised

## 5. General Business

**North Sydney Council Meetings** – Cr Bourke advised the meeting all NSC Meetings are now on Zoom and are open for all residents to watch. Council Meetings are now fortnightly and not monthly.

**Cammeray Park ‘temporary pathway’** - CT and RF raised the issue of the ‘temporary pathway’ which joins Ernest Street to Warringah Road. This is a joint walkway/cycleway and residents report that cyclists travel at speed and it is dangerous for pedestrians using this pathway. Cyclists are using electric bikes which are not easily heard by pedestrians. A wider or separate pedestrian/cycling pathway was suggested.

**New Year’s Eve Fireworks** – NSC are issuing free – but must be booked and ticketed – tickets for foreshore NYE fireworks. Tickets can be booked online.

**Low income housing** – LP raised the issue of a new DA for the demolishing of a relatively modest apartment block on the corner of Sutherland St and Park Avenue. Eleven luxury apartments are replacing this lower rental 1920’s apartment block. LP raised her concerns that low income rentals/housing is becoming impossible in the NSC area.

Meeting adjourned: 8:04 PM

Next Meeting: 7.00pm on Zoom

Wednesday, November 16, 2022