

WAVERTON PRECINCT MEETING

1 August 2023

MINUTES

The meeting commenced at 7.35pm at the Waverton Uniting Church Community Hall.

Chair: Kevin Alker

Minutes: Deborah Lloyd

Attendance: 23

**Guest speaker: North Sydney Council Open Space and Infrastructure Division
Director - Gary Parsons.**

WELCOME AND APOLOGY

The Chair welcomed attendees and our guest, GP, Director of Open Space and Infrastructure at North Sydney Council.

Apologies received from Ian Grey, Doug Anderson and John Bohne.

CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

The confirmation of previous minutes was moved by Vera Y. and seconded by Ian N.

“That the July 2023 Minutes be accepted”.

Carried unanimously.

GP, DIRECTOR OPEN SPACE AND INFRASTRUCTURE, NSC.

Mr A welcomed Mr P to the Precinct meeting, letting attendees know that Mr P has only been in the role for 3 weeks and thus quite new and not to expect him to be absolutely across all matters but welcomed the opportunity to meet face-to-face and to open discussions on various subjects and matters of importance to the Waverton community.

Mr P said that this was his first precinct committee meeting. He reminded us of Therese Mann’s goal to realign services to deliver them better to the community. He acknowledged that while there was not abundant open space, what we do have in our local government area is highly valued.

He had done a loop of the area today and familiarised himself further with the Waverton/Balls Head Reserve area before the meeting. Mr A invited Mr P to do a walk around with the Precinct Committee and he agreed to do that at a future point.

Mr P outlined his broad experience, commencing his career at Civil and Civic (now Lend Lease) before moving into the local government sector. At Willoughby Council he was involved in the re-building of Chatswood Station, the Mall/CBD upgrade and the Concourse. Then he moved to Parramatta Council, working on the 5 Parramatta Square project before arriving at the

Blue Mountains Council where he was responsible for a range of areas including tourism and recreation. After that he was at TransportNSW and then moving back to local government in Campbelltown Council (capital works) and now North Sydney Council. As a long time resident of Artarmon, he feels at home in this area.

BD had sent Mr P an outline of BB and a history of the area and has the clear impression of a very engaged community, and also cited the Streets Alive group as further evidence of engagement.

It was raised that RE, Council's former Director Open Space & Environmental Services of NSC, was very engaged with the Waverton community and consistently responded to community questions. Mr Parsons responded that he will get back to every question, even if it might take time to find the right person to respond in detail.

KA said that the Waverton Park drilling/access points are sitting proud of the park surface and therefore a tripping hazard. Mr P said he would look into it.

BD pointed out that the areas that Mr P walked around today were hard fought for. While the community had won some big issues there were still big fights in the future.

Mr P then commented on some other projects in the Waverton area. He said the Berrys Bay Masterplan that the Mayor and General Manager are pushing for further information from TransportNSW. Their information is that the project will be completed by next year although that seems very ambitious. In terms of the Waverton Bowling Club, the Aboriginal Land Council has now taken possession of the site. Council has reached out to ALC to try to partner with them and will let us know of any news. KA reminded the meeting that we have put out invitations for a ALC representative to speak with us and that remains open. The final project highlighted was the Lavender Bay to Waverton Pedestrian High Line Walk is definitely not going ahead.

PK raised the possibility that the Naval Base may close. KA said that Commanders in the past used to come to the Precinct meetings and we may invite the current Commander to attend if he or she wishes to do so.

FP requested a Western Harbour Tunnel update from Mr P. DL explained that there was further information available directly from the WHT project via an in-person meeting on Wednesday 2/8/23 or a virtual meeting on the following week with an interactive website attached to the project. Further information was directly provided to FP and an email sent to JW who expressed a desire for this information.

Further issues were brought up in relation to water leaks and accompanying road damage. Some improvements were noted by various residents. Mr P said that he would investigate further, particularly the lingering tripping and bike hazards on Bay Road. DL assured residents that NSC has read and either actioned repairs or are Council's Assets Engineering

Officer is aware from past meetings Minutes and is currently aware and action underway on all the road matters that have been raised at past meetings.

Other matters brought to Mr P's attention were the natural softening elements at pedestrian crossings growing too bushy/high and he would note this. He was also informed of a traffic calming/directing island at Euroka Street being in the wrong position for buses and they need to drive over the centre of it to take the corner. The resident was requested to take photographs and directly let the Council know if this.

EXISTING BUSINESS:

WHT and Waverton Bowling Club:

Updates were dealt with during Mr Parson's discussion.

Cycleway exit at Milsons Point:

This has now been approved by the heritage council and will definitely move ahead.

Parraween workers cottages:

These old homes behind the Orpheum Theatre, at risk of development, have now had an interim heritage order put on them and are saved for the moment.

DA's:

No DA's this month.

OTHER BUSINESS:

WHT Drilling now commenced:

- JW commented that drilling for the WHT project commenced at 7am this day and that she was not advised. DL said that she will provide JW with information on how to receive updates from the WHT project people.

The state of Waverton Oval:

- BD noted that Waverton Oval is now a dust bowl, with the sprinkler system rarely used. Council attention needs to be brought to the upkeep of the Oval. Over-use may be reducing its utility and health over time.

Comparison of streetscape plantings:

- It was discussed that the streetscape planting in Kirribilli is very different to that of Waverton. In response it was highlighted that the Waverton area focussed on wildlife corridors with native plantings, quite different to what can be and has been chosen for Kirribilli.

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES:

Feedback closes on 7 August for the replacement of shade structures on Willoughby Road, Crows Nest. All feedback received will be collated, analysed and where possible the design will be modified to include community feedback. Link to where to have your say:

[Willoughby Road Shade Structures | Your Say North Sydney \(nsw.gov.au\)](https://www.nsw.gov.au/your-say/north-sydney/willoughby-road-shade-structures)

Feedback closes on 18 August for the Draft Plan of Management for Foreshore Parks & Reserves which is now on exhibition. The draft PoM for Foreshore Parks & Reserves sets out Council's land management objectives, addresses current issues and identifies and prioritises required work. It meets Council's obligations regarding public land management under the *Local Government Act 1993*, the *Crown Land Management Act 2016* and the *Native Title Act 1993*.

[Draft Plan of Management \(PoM\) for Foreshore Parks & Reserves | Your Say North Sydney \(nsw.gov.au\)](https://www.nsw.gov.au/your-say/north-sydney/draft-plan-of-management-foreshore-parks-reserves)

The meeting closed at 8.35pm. The next meeting for the Waverton Precinct Committee will be on Tuesday, September 5th, 2023 at the Bay Road Uniting Church Hall, 75 Bay Road, Waverton, commencing at 7.30pm, when our guest speaker will be North Sydney Council's Director of Community, Planning and Environment Division - Marcelo Occhiuzzi.

All welcome.

END.