



**AGENDA - Wednesday 12 August 2020
7.00pm ROS CRICHTON PAVILLION**

Present: BH, CT, CW, DH, DP, GM (chair), JC, MC, MH, MR, O/AY

Apologies: JC

1 Guest Speaker

Unfortunately, **Councillor Zoe Baker**, Wollstonecraft Ward was unable to attend the meeting. She has been invited to our meeting on 9 September.

2 Minutes of meeting 8 July 2020

Minutes from this meeting were circulated to meeting attenders on 9 July and to all email members on 11 July. Copies are available online on Council's website.

Minutes were approved unanimously.

3 Development Applications

The following relevant DAs were under assessment or determined as at 4 August 2020:

- DA 130/20 46 Edward St. Demolish and rebuild rear of existing dwelling. Closed 17 July
Concern by resident from Priory whose house is badly affected.

Discussed in general:

- Over-development of site area
- lack of adequate landscaping as per council's requirements
- over-looking of neighbours
- in-adequate setback from building line as per Councils requirements
- loss of morning light
- potential decrease in sunshine.

Given the above, it may take 12 months to be processed by Council.

- DA 145/20 60 Crows Nest Road, Waverton. Erection of solar awning and associated battery/inverter, Smart Commercial Solar Pty Ltd. Closed 31 July
No comment.
- DA 147/20 - MLC Building 105 - 153 Miller Street Demolition of existing heritage listed building and construction of a 27 storey commercial building Lodged: 7 July. Now closed but precinct has approval to make a submission until 14 August.

The planned building:

- substantially enlarges the building footprint
- removing most of the grass area along the Miller St frontage.

The existing heritage office block is claimed by the developers not to be fit for purpose. Precinct considers this to be incorrect, given that Lend Lease performed a major award-winning internal refit in 2005/6

The building is listed on both the Docomomo Australia and Docomomo International Registers, supported by many architects. Precinct unanimously opposed the demolition and proposed new construction.

Petition is at <https://www.change.org/p/north-sydney-council-save-the-mlc-building-north-sydney> if precinct members want to sign.

4 General Business

4.1 Precinct Review phase 1 - submissions close 19 August

Documents were circulated to email members on 7 August with a request to respond prior to the meeting. No responses were received. The Edward Precinct submissions will be lodged prior to 19 August. Precinct members with comments or suggestions should respond to the precinct email address no later than midday on 18 August.

Responses:

Code of Conduct: – Edward will primarily respond to point 15 as below:

Proposed addition “The Mayor and General Manager are the official spokespersons for the Council. As such, they (or their delegate) should be approached first for presentations to Precinct Committees on Council issues.”

Edward does not agree with this addition. We propose that we approach proposed presenters directly. If NSC requires them to obtain approval from management, that is up to Council.

Proposed addition “Precinct Committees and their Office Bearers must treat Councillors equally. If one (1) Councillor is invited to a present to a Precinct Committee, other Councillors are also to be given equal opportunity.”

We disagree with this point and think it unnecessary. We should not be required to invite all councillors to our meetings, not that many or any would come.

Discussion Paper: – the NSC approach is generally reasonable, though some small comments have been made. Edward’s main input to the submission form relates to proposed changes to precinct boundaries, on which no firm conclusion has been reached.

Precinct Boundaries

Option 1: combine Edward with southern CBD

Option 2A is not supported as it crosses the freeway.

Option 2B Edward, CBD, Stanton and part of Hayberry – may be too big?

Possible alternative: Edward/Waverton was suggested but was not fully supported because the two precincts problems and issues are often so different

It is recommended that NSC discusses with all precincts their preferred options, and following analysis of the Precinct Review submissions, discusses options with CPC.

Requests in relation to file management

Edward has made many requests to NSC over the past year to improve some aspects of its communications and file handling. These should make the handling of files and overall management by precincts simpler. Council requested that all of these should be included in our submission to the Precinct Review. Our submission requests NSC to make a number of changes relating to:

1. Precincts E-News pdf design
2. Individual precinct committee POP or IMAP email addresses
3. Display of file name not document title in pdf documents
4. File naming to improve storage (date and name sequence to be the same)
5. PDF file properties, showing Acrobat information on screen.

4.2 LGNSW Conference - call for proposed motions/issues closes 13 August

Proposed Motions:

Edward and many other precincts strongly oppose the construction of the WHT (and probably the beaches link although the documents justifying this have not yet been released). We recommend that improved public transport is assessed as an alternative to

the two tunnels. In particular a metro from Chatswood or maybe North Sydney to at least Mona Vale should be constructed.

Edward precinct supports Lavender Bay precinct's recent motion:

"That educational institutions acquiring additional land pay Council rates on new acquisitions."

In the view of Edward – this should relate to recently acquired land, of say in the last 10 years, as well as future acquisitions.

Both motions were supported by the meeting.

4.3 Berrys Bay and Proposal by Sydney Heritage fleet

MC raised the fact that there is a proposal that the Museum of Sydney Harbour (the badly named MOSH) will be established on the old Woodley's site in Berrys Bay.

The meeting discussed a number of the issues relating to the current MOSH design. Of particular concern were:

- the size of the jetty accommodating 26 heritage boat berths
- likely lack of access to the foreshore areas, jetty and some nearby areas
- the risk of pollution of the bay with paint and grinding residues, plus attendant noise issues
- loss of public amenity, particularly water space e.g., for kayaking and beach access.
- Questions were raised on how vessels were to be moved from water to land, which is not shown in MOSH diagrams.

Overall, the concept of the museum was supported, but care should be taken to make the overall development public and local resident friendly, while affording full protection to the environment.

4.4 Changes to DA submissions and Council Access to Information Policy

Closed 21 July. The policy states, "that people making submissions who include personal information in a submission will need to acknowledge that the personal information will be made available for public viewing" From CPC minutes.

This was discussed with a unanimous view that Edward Precinct does not agree with this policy.

The inclusion of a submitters name and address is required, so that Council can check, if required, that the submission is a rate payer or resident (a valid submission).

However, Council should only include name and possibly the suburb in the published/online version against the submission.

To include the name and address of persons making a submission is considered a removal of a person's basic privacy.

There is no reason for this information to be published on a public forum. This in fact is totally opposite to Councils requirements for Precincts, where only initials are allowed in precinct minutes, not even names.

Edward Precinct will raise with the CPC that the policy is amended to say that while personal details should be submitted, Council will only include the name and suburb in the published/online version. Consideration could also be given to the option to withhold the name, as on submissions made to NSW Department of Planning.

4.5 Precinct Donations

An Edward precinct member suggested that Precinct should consider donating precinct funds to Taldumande Youth Services - <https://www.taldumande.org.au/> - located at 168

Pacific Highway, North Sydney. However, we were advised by NSC that Precinct funds provided by the council cannot be used for donations.

Discussion of the proposal centred on the need to conserve council funds, and the suggestion that if Precinct members sought to donate to local charities, they should do it in their own names. No change to NSC regulations is required.

4.6 Possible continuation of monthly precinct meetings

Monthly meetings would have at least one significant advantage in terms of our ability to address current DAs. The meeting agreed that for the time being at least, monthly precinct meetings would continue.

4.7 Speaker for September meeting

Zoe Baker has been invited to address our 9 September meeting.

MOSH could be invited to address our October meeting, though we will wait until they have been to Union precinct's September meeting.

4.8 Possible joint precinct meeting with CBD in October

Edward is the logical precinct to merge with all or at least the southern part of the CBD. In the short term, perhaps for our October meeting, we will consider a joint meeting with CBD.

For businesses to attend, the meeting should be early, and the meeting agreed to a proposal to commence joint meetings at 6:00. Edward precinct stand-alone meetings will continue to commence at 7:00 as long as we are meeting in Ros Crichton. With the current limit of 16 members in Ros Crichton, it will not be practical to invite CBD until this restriction is removed.

If approved by NSC, it was proposed that we should continue to meet in Ros Crichton once COVID restrictions end, with its additional space and useful screen. If and when the precincts enlarge, more space will be necessary anyway.

4.9 Possible street party/ies later in the year

Proposed for early December.

Possible Sites – Shore Headmaster's yard, ACU, Oak St, Short St, Graythwaite, Ros Crichton.

JC will discuss with Shore and ACU. ACU is preferred as more central to the precinct. Dates and location will be discussed at our September meeting. Alternatively, the party could follow the AGM, which could run from 6 to 7 in Ros Crichton.

The flyer for the AGM planned to be held on 11 November could contain an invite to the party on the back.

4.10 Report on Combined Precinct Committee ad hoc meeting on 21 July

GM considered that the ad hoc CPC, which was unable to pass any motions, was not very useful.

4.11 Wards

Ward numbers and boundaries – Edward's motion at last meeting was rejected by Council primarily due to timing issues. We were proposing 5 wards, which we believe is more representative of the many concerns that vary area by area, ward by ward.

Unfortunately, it seems too late to take further action. Edward will propose shifting to 5 wards for the next election, whenever that is held.

4.12 Other Business

NS Olympic Pool: The Planning Panel approved the revised plans with conditions, as discussed at <https://www.planningportal.nsw.gov.au/planning-panel/north-sydney-olympic-pool>

Meeting was advised that an inaccurate letter was sent to objectors. Panel approved the revised plans subject to conditions, which did not actually represent approval. Many aspects remain undesirable from the viewpoint of pool users. GM plans to put a motion to the August CPC.

NSC should forward the amended plans to NS residents who objected

Aspects not fully covered in the assessment seem to include the pool's reduced suitability for school swimming competitions.

Chair thanked participants and closed the meeting at 8:15.

The Precinct monthly meeting is your opportunity to provide community advice to Council on matters affecting your local area. For more information or suggestions for agenda items, contact the Edward precinct committee at <edwardprecinct@inet.net.au>.

Next Edward Precinct meeting: Wednesday 9 September 2020