

NEUTRAL PRECINCT MINUTES

Tuesday 12 July 2022, commenced at 7:05 pm

1. Apologies - nil
2. Additional items added to the Agenda - nil
3. Business from minutes of meeting held on 14 June 2022:
 - i. Following review, the minutes were moved by TM and seconded by GC as correct.
 - ii. Council written responses to motions of June meeting:

Item No: 7. - PP6/22 Woolworths Rangers Road Neutral Bay Council's Manager Strategic Planning has advised that the Precinct Committee's comments will be included in the report to the Local Planning Panel and Council.

Item No: 8.v. - DA125/2022 134 Kurraba Road Kurraba Point Comments noted by Council's Assessment Officer. The Precinct also provided feedback through the DA submission portal.

Item No: 9 i - Noise from early hours commercial refuse/recycling pickups and leaf blowers vicinity Ben Boyd Road/ Cheal Lane - item allocated to Council's Waste Management Officer. Awaiting a response.

Item No: 9 ii - No Stopping area on corner of Yeo Street and Barry Lane. Item allocated to Council's A/Manager Traffic & Transport Operations. Awaiting a response.

Item No: 9 iii - Ben Boyd Road Traffic issues & Ben Boyd Road into Military Road. Items allocated to Council's A/Manager Traffic & Transport Operations. Awaiting a response.

4. Traffic issues and pedestrian safety at Young Street and Military Road

Discussion:

- Residents noted positively the Council's decisions of 26 June to request reports come back to their next meeting on:
 - i. Pedestrian safety around Young Street Plaza with consideration for options such as a pedestrian overpass from May Gibbs Place to the Young Street Plaza with a lift; and
 - ii. Pedestrian and vehicular accidents at the corner of Military Road and Young Street.
- Residents re-affirmed concerns at the dangerous pedestrian crossing between the Post Office / Young Street impacted primarily by:
 - i. The shortening of crossing times on pedestrian crossings along Military Road; and
 - ii. Drivers not seeing the traffic lights at the pedestrian crossing after leaving the Wycombe Rd or Ben Boyd intersections.
- Residents expressed concern that Council's consideration of reportable accidents will not capture the reality of many near misses observed by pedestrians.
- Residents also, once again, identified the pedestrian safety issues from vehicles turning quickly from Military Road into Young Street which will happen again with the removal of the Young Street Plaza.

- Residents re-affirmed a previous recommendation that Council consider options such as a pedestrian overpass and would like this option to receive serious consideration.
- As previously recommended, for ascetic reasons, residents recommend an overpass be incorporated into building developments, similar to the Bridge Point overpass at Mosman.

MOTION: Neutral Precinct:

- i. **Requests Council to not only consider the pedestrian safety and vehicular accident reports at Young Street, but to make their decision informed by pedestrians' observations of regular near miss incidents on this pedestrian crossing;**
- ii. **Reaffirms its previous recommendation to Council to consider a pedestrian overpass at May Gibbs' Place / Young Street Plaza.**

VOTE: Unanimous

5. Council Plans

- i. Amended Code of Conduct - Councillors and Staff; Remote attendance at Council meetings. Noted and supported the proposals for audio-visual links for public forums and briefings.
- ii. May Gibbs' Nutcote - Joint Strategic Plan 2022-2024. Noted. Suggestion made to improve the promotion of 'Nutcote' on Council 's website along with other events/activities. Also see note below at item 8.
- iii. DPE Employment Zones Reform. Noted changes zone names.
- iv. Draft Sustainability Business Policy. Noted.
- v. Arts and Cultural Strategic Plan. Noted the 3 focus areas. See discussion and Motion regarding 'HMAS Platypus' at agenda Item 7 as a possible site for creative spaces.
- vi. Floodplain Risk Management Strategy & Plan. Notes affected residents have been advised.

Residents were encouraged to review the Plans and respond through yoursay@northsydney.nsw.gov.au

6. Development Applications

- i. DA 175/2022 52 Shellcove Road Kurraba Point. Construction of a swimming pool, landscaping and associated works. Noted. No affected resident attended the meeting.
- ii. DA. 169/2022 4F Whaling Road North Sydney. External alterations and additions to existing dwelling and associated works. Noted. No affected resident attended the meeting.

- iii. DA 182/2022 1 Hayes Street Neutral Bay. Alterations and additions to existing mixed-use building, including changes to the external façade and building envelope, a swimming pool, and the internal layout to provide a total of three (3) residential units.

Residents impacted by the development attended and outlined their concerns. Key points were:

- A positive response to the retention of the commercial premises.
- A concern that the basement level will be expanded to allow for 2 car spaces for each of the 3 residential units but none for the commercial properties nor for visitor parking.
- The proposed windows on levels 1, 2 & 3 will impact the privacy and amenity of 9 Hayes Street.
- It was noted that there is no waiting spot provided on site so all queuing for the car lift/stacker will be done on Hayes St and may impact the traffic flow and the adjacent bus stop.
- The meeting noted previous advice from Council (2022 April 5ii) that *“Council is supportive of car lifts, however they need to demonstrate that queuing within the street or road is not detrimental to sight lines and traffic flows. Some sites are not suitable for car lifts.”*

MOTION:

Neutral Precinct requests the Council:

- i. **Require an amendment to the DA to remove the privacy impact of new windows on 9 Hayes Street; and**
- ii. **Review the basement car parking and car lift arrangements to remove any detrimental impact on the traffic flow and bus stop in Hayes Street.**

VOTE: Unanimous

- iv. DA430/2021 9 Undercliff Street Neutral Bay. Amended plans. Demolition of existing residential flat building and erection of a residential flat building and associated works. Noted. No affected resident attended the meeting.

7. General Business

- i. HMAS Platypus – Torpedo Factory Renewal Project Update
‘Loretta Moy, from ‘Friends of Platypus’ attended and spoke to that organisation’s ongoing advocacy to the ‘Harbour Trust’ regarding the development and use of the site. In particular, the ‘Friends of Platypus’ would like to see the installation of water access to the site for small craft such as kayaks and kayak storage on the site. These suggestions have been rejected by the Harbour Trust indicating no space is available on the site.

Discussion:

- The meeting agreed that the success of the Kayak Club at Hayes Street Beach (150 members with 100+ waiting list and storage for 9 kayaks) shows a strong demand for this type of facility.
- It was agreed the Precinct would write to the Harbour Trust in support of the ‘Friends of Platypus’ suggestions.
- It was also agreed that the site is ideal for a range of community and cultural activities, rather than the current commercial operations, and the Council should

advocate to the Harbour Trust for more community orientated facilities on the site.

- Suggestions included a visual arts centre for local artists, art gallery, or music venue.

MOTION:

Neutral Precinct requests the Council approach the Harbour Trust to work in partnership with the Trust to improve the vision for the HMAS Platypus site to include community and cultural activities for the benefit of North Sydney residents and the broader community. A partnership would align with the key focus area of Council's Arts & Cultural Strategic Plan to "provide creative spaces and opportunities".

VOTE: Unanimous

8. North Sydney events

- i. Service NSW Centre opening at 113 Miller St North Sydney. Noted
- ii. Snow Festival Taster 14 July. Noted
- iii. NAIDOC School Holiday Walk and Workshop – 15 July. Noted
- iv. Seasonal Feasts – 16 July. Noted
- v. Tea & Tech @ Stanton - 19 July. Noted
- vi. NTH SYD Snow Festival - 19 – 30 July. Noted

Discussion:

- Residents indicated that events generally were not well known and proactive marketing was needed.
- Council's website could be improved with more colourful presentation of events on the home page.
- Residents were encouraged to provide marketing ideas through yoursay@northsydney.nsw.gov.au

9. Upcoming meetings noted:

- i. Neutral Precinct - 9 August. www.neutralprecinct.com
- ii. Council – 25 July. www.northsydney.nsw.gov.au

The meeting closed at 8:45pm