



**North Sydney Local Government Area**  
**EDWARD AND UNION COMBINED PRECINCT COMMITTEE MEETING**  
STARTING 7:30PM  
WEDNESDAY 1 JUNE 2022

Lavender Bay-McMahons Point Community Centre,  
165 Blues Point Road

## MINUTES

**MEETING CHAIR: MC**

**SECRETARIES:**

Edward Precinct, JC [edwardprecinct@iinet.com.au](mailto:edwardprecinct@iinet.com.au)

Union Precinct, CT [unionprecinct@gmail.com](mailto:unionprecinct@gmail.com)

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### 1. WELCOME / APOLOGIES / MAY MINUTES

Union Precinct: 13 attending, 2 on zoom and 3 apologies  
Edward Precinct: 5 attending, 2 on zoom and 2 apologies.

The meeting accepted the minutes of the combined Union/Edward meeting held on 4 May.  
See <https://www.northsydney.nsw.gov.au/UnionPrecinct>  
See <https://www.northsydney.nsw.gov.au/edwardprecinct>

### 2. RESPONSE TO COUNCIL'S SUMMARY OF ACTIONS

Council's Summary of Actions relating to the motions passed in the May Edward/ Union meeting was reviewed and discussed. The meeting heard that items from the May meeting on-going or awaiting response include:

- Blues Point Road ongoing noise issues, fee structure for use of assets such as community centre a barrier for community use, and noise generated from Commodore Hotel.
- Union/Edward Precincts would like to keep Traffic Committee items as standing items which are not closed for Council until the matter is definitively resolved.
- The progress on construction of the Public Jetty in Berrys Bay should also be a standing item.
- Other issues such as Fire Orders in the LGA require attention and scrutiny due to inconsistent application of fines to residents, strata and businesses

KH noted that the 21 June Combined Precinct Meeting could discuss fire orders as it is an item of interest in relation to cladding, leaf build up etc. KH will raise.

### 3. DEVELOPMENT PROPOSALS

See: <https://apptacking.northsydney.nsw.gov.au>

**Edward Precinct**

**[DA 436/21](#) 46 Crows Nest Road, Waverton** Alterations to an existing dwelling, including a swimming pool, new fence and associated works. Estimated cost of work: \$500,000.

Approved by North Sydney Local Planning Panel (NSLPP) subject to a number of relatively minor changes.

The meeting noted this application

### **Union Precinct**

**DA for 1 Bank Lane** North Sydney was rejected by the NSLPP. This is now subject to an appeal to the Land and Environment Court. Hearing has commenced and a site meeting viewed proposed changes from a neighbour's house. No information has so far been released or communication had with those present at the onsite meeting.

### [DA 101/21/2](#)

#### **Commodore Hotel. 206 Blues Point Road McMahons Point.**

Change in operating hours for approved covered terrace. Approved with conditions mainly relating to prohibition of music and entertainment on the covered terrace.

The meeting heard:

- concerns over approvals for the gaming lounge in the current carpark, the loss of car spaces, and the inconvenience that will be to current bottle shop patrons
- how the gaming lounge does not fit well with the location, which is highly residential
- Live music and DJs performing on the open terrace were discussed, with the noise continuing well after venue closing time and street disturbances common.
- The question was raised as to the extent the venue is complying with its current Liquor & Gaming NSW requirements

## **4. COUNCIL ITEMS**

### **a. Draft Code of Meeting Practice - feedback closed 8 June**

<https://yoursay.northsydney.nsw.gov.au/code-of-meeting-practice/>

Pre-meeting briefing sessions and public forums may be held by audio-visual link. Several items covering in-person and audio-visual attendance at Council meetings.

Individual presentations prior to Council meetings are not recorded.

Precinct suggests that Council considers recording presentations.

Council should consider publishing the closed session at the end of Council meetings (with confidential information blanked out).

The meeting discussed Council meeting frequency:

- an opportunity to provide feedback
  - precincts support whatever is deemed most effective by council staff, councillors and the community
  - the swift dissemination of information by Council is appreciated

### **b. Draft Community Strategic Plan (stage 2)**

The plan includes:

- a new community vision statement and guiding principles;
- revised Outcomes and Strategies centred around five key themes:
  1. Our Living Environment
  2. Our Built Infrastructure
  3. Our Innovative City
  4. Our Social Vitality
  5. Our Civic Leadership
- Indicators to track progress towards the vision.

Precinct residents are encouraged to respond.  
View the draft plan and provide feedback online at  
<https://yoursay.northsydney.nsw.gov.au/nscsp-review1>

**c. Arts & Cultural Strategic Plan Review**

Council is updating the North Sydney Arts & Cultural Strategic Plan and needs input by residents to ensure that the new plan is tailored to local arts and cultural needs. The first stage engagement seeks to identify new and reaffirm current priorities. Complete the survey and send a submission.

<https://yoursay.northsydney.nsw.gov.au/arts-cultural-plan>

Precinct members were encouraged to make a submission and have their say as feedback will feed into the Community Strategic Plan. The meeting heard that some precinct members feel there is a 'strong' arts presence in the LGA.

**d. Precinct System Review**

The Council meeting held on 23 May deferred discussion on the Precinct System Review recommendations until the July Council Meeting (page 20 in NSC minutes). The recommendations include a public exhibition of revised precinct boundary options by August, exhibition report by October, a relaunch of the precinct system in the first half of next year, with the new boundaries to come into effect on 1 July 2023 and the precinct AGMs to be held in August/September 2023. This may be delayed due to the regular deferral of discussion and decision by Council.

The precinct expressed concern over the regular delay in progress of the precinct review. The Precincts in the LGA have been in action for 50 years, supporting community engagement in the LGA and allowing voices in local areas to be heard. The meeting strongly supports early resolution of the Precinct Review to provide more certainty as to the future of the precinct system.

**e. McMahons Point Pocket Park Proposal**

Council recently announced its intention to construct a new pocket park in East Crescent Street at the corner of Blues Point Road. It has reissued an artist's impression of the proposed East Crescent Street pocket park.

The meeting heard:

- time for community feedback or input is unclear and the process is opaque.
- Union precinct secretary will investigate further and is also planning a very informal opportunity for anyone interested in the council's approach/process to engaging artists to create public works of art. Local artists, designers, architects and planners are encouraged and welcome. Date and time will be arranged and circulated.

Contact CT if you would like to be a part of the conversation.

**5. COMMUNITY ITEMS**

**a. Noakes Floating Dry Dock Appeal**

The Chief Judge of the L&E Court has reserved his judgement as of 26 May.

The meeting heard that:

- It could be up to three months until a decision is made on an issue that commenced in 2016
- Council's solicitors were excellent.

## 6. GENERAL BUSINESS

### a. Union and Euroka Streets roadwork for speed controls

Precinct members would like to thank Council for the work undertaken to date. Signage and line markings need to be completed.

One meeting participant noted that a bus had difficulty navigating the bend and it may prove hard to see on approach. Reflectors and a slowdown sign might help.

### b. Persistent Burglar Alarm Noise

In a recently reconstructed but still unoccupied house in the Edward precinct area an alarm has gone off every hour over successive weekends including at night. The sound is a loud buzz lasting about 5 seconds which disturbs neighbours, particularly at night. Rangers are aware of the issue.

MC mentioned a similar issue in a neighbouring block of flats. Starting a diary to record the issue and recording the noise could be useful.

It was suggested that obtaining a noise abatement order could assist. But the system is complex and negotiation or mediation may be preferable. Information is available on the Department of Communities and Justice website:

[https://www.lawaccess.nsw.gov.au/Pages/representing/Noise/Applying\\_for\\_a\\_noise\\_order/Applying\\_Noise\\_Order.aspx](https://www.lawaccess.nsw.gov.au/Pages/representing/Noise/Applying_for_a_noise_order/Applying_Noise_Order.aspx)

See also

<https://www.epa.nsw.gov.au/reporting-and-incidents/report-pollution/contacts-for-noise-pollution>

Precinct is committed to providing support in relation to local concerns and issues.

### c. Community Educator

WB (a North Sydney Councillor) reported that Council had passed a motion to investigate establishing a Community Education Planning Officer who can advise precincts and community on planning matters. Council is preparing a report on the proposed role.

#### **MOTION**

**Union/Edward precincts support the concept of appointing a dedicated community education officer for planning matters in the LGA.**

Carried unanimously

Meeting closed at 9:00PM