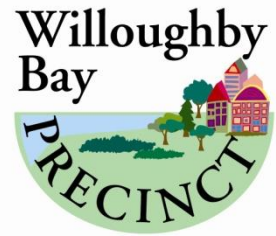


WILLOUGHBY BAY PRECINCT

PART OF NORTH SYDNEY COUNCIL'S COMMUNITY PRECINCT SYSTEM



MINUTES OF MEETING HELD

THURSDAY 12th May 2022

COMMENCING AT 7.30 PM

ATTENDANCE: 14 people attended the meeting
APOLOGIES: 5 were recorded
GUEST SPEAKER: Cr Godfrey Santer - St. Leonards Ward Councillor

COVID-19 MEETING SAFETY PROCEDURES

In accordance with COVID-19 meeting safety procedures, all attendees used the hand sanitiser, which was supplied and tables were wiped down before and after the meeting with the sanitiser. The COVID-19 signage was displayed. Social distancing was observed and no one reported feeling unwell. No unregistered persons attended the meeting.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Minutes for the 14 April 2022 meeting were adopted

Motion carried: 10 in favour, 4 abstentions, 0 against

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Young Street Plaza

There was discussion of Council's resolution not to proceed with the Young Street Plaza and a foreshadowed Rescission Motion to be considered at the next Council Meeting. It was noted that funds not spent on the Young Street Plaza may not be able to be applied elsewhere; however attendees thought it timely to raise the issue of the need to refurbish Cremorne Plaza.

MOTION: Precinct Chair to write to Councillors on behalf of Precinct to (1) reiterate Precinct's opposition to the construction of a Plaza in Young Street and support for the reopening of Young Street and noting that Brightmore Precinct and Willoughby Bay Precinct, both located to the north of Military Road - as is Young Street - have consistently opposed the Young Street Plaza, and (2) ask that consideration be given, as an alternative option, for the refurbishment of Cremorne Plaza, a Plaza which is well supported by the local community and is in need of refurbishment.

Motion Carried: 13 in favour, 1 abstention, 0 against

Land slippage at 17 Richmond Avenue, Cremorne

Precinct thanks Councillor Drummond for her Motion and thanks Council for its detailed response to Precinct's questions of April 2022. Precinct requests that Council keep it updated on the proposed strengthening of processes to protect mature trees on Council land adjacent to private development and asks Council whether rate payers will be out of pocket with regard to the removal of the two trees or whether the costs will be fully recovered from the owners.

Planning Proposal 2/22, 12-14 Waters Road, Neutral Bay

Council at its meeting resolved to support the recommendation that the Planning Proposal not be supported by Council because the Proposal is not supported by any Planning Study, so that could give rise to poor and unplanned outcomes for the Neutral Bay community.

Design and Place State Environmental Planning Policy

In the last Council meeting, Council resolved to urge the NSW Planning Minister to review his decision to proceed to implement the principles of proposed sustainability measures in the SEPP and to explore adoption of any Best Practice Design Excellence and sustainability measures.

CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

- Council's Response to Precinct's April 2022 Minutes

Land slippage at 17 Richmond Avenue, Cremorne – Council's Manager Corporate Planning & Engagement has advised that response has been provided via Memorandum dated 5 May 2022, to the Precinct Committee's email of 25 March 2022. Delay was in part due to a receipt of a related Notice of Motion presented to the April Council meeting.

Young Street Plaza – Council's Director Engineering & Property Services has advised that the matter was considered at the Council meeting of 26 April 2022, in which the Council resolved that the Young Street Plaza be removed/Young Street be reopened.

1. THAT Council reject all tenders for Tender 34/2021 for Young Street Plaza Construction.
 2. THAT all Councillors be provided with the Funding Deed and any other correspondence/information.
 3. THAT the Mayor meet with TfNSW to discuss alternate options within the Military Road corridor including alternative options for Young Street.
 4. THAT Young Street be reopened and that the funding for the reopening be sourced from either the existing TfNSW funding which funded the temporary closure of Young Street in the first place or from the existing Engineering Budget.
 5. THAT the Confidential Report relating to matters specified in Section 10A(2) (d) be treated as confidential and remain confidential until Council determines otherwise.
- **Memorandum 2 May 2022 Draft Code of Meeting Practice – Public Exhibition** – on 26 April 2022, Council resolved to place the Draft on public exhibition for a minimum of 28 days. Submissions will be accepted until 8 June 2022.
 - **Memorandum 4 May 2022 – Draft Community Strategic Plan – North Sydney Vision 2040** Feedback closes 11.59pm, 8 June 2022.
 - **Memorandum 5 May 2022 – Reply to email correspondence 25 March 2022 – Removal of Sydney Blue Gums, Richmond Avenue, Cremorne.** On 26 April 2022 the Council resolved (Min. No. 129):
 1. THAT Council notes the response that has been provided.
 2. THAT Council strengthen the processes surrounding the protection of mature trees on Council land when adjacent private land is being developed and further report be presented to Council as to how this can be achieved.
 - **Brochure 9 May 2022 – Transition to School Experience** – Online Focus Groups

- **Traffic Committee Meeting on 22 April 2022** - nothing relevant to Willoughby Bay
- **Council Meeting on 26 April 2022**
- ❖ **8.5 Proposed Additional Special Rate Variation for 2022/23** - Council resolved to apply to the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (IPART) for a one-off, permanent Additional Special Variation (ASV) of 1.1%, to be added to the IPART has rate peg of 0.9% for a total increase of 2%.
- ❖ **9.1 Removal of Tree at 15 Richmond Avenue** - refer Business Arising from the Minutes and Correspondence Received from Council.
- ❖ **10.1 Young Street Plaza - Tender** - refer Business Arising from the Minutes and Correspondence Received from Council.
- **Combined Precinct Committee Meeting 21 April 2022**
- ❖ **AGM Draft Minutes.** IG has been elected as Chair
- ❖ **CPC Draft Minutes**
- ❖ **Precinct System Review Status Update**
- **Correspondence dated 3 May 2022 from Tim James MP, Member for Willoughby** in response to GS's letter concerning Red Light/Speed Cameras on Military Rd at Spoffoth Street and Cabramatt Road, indicating he supports the request.
- **Save Our Parks Alliance**
Public Meeting on 16 May 2022 at 6.00pm at Hutley Hall - organised with the support of local Precincts (Bay, Brightmore, Parks, Registry and Willoughby Bay) and not by Council. Tim James MP, Member for Willoughby will be the keynote speaker on the issue of Cammeray Park / Cammeray Golf Course.

DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION

14 Tobruk Avenue DA Plans

Guest Speaker: Councillor Godfrey Santer - St. Leonards Ward Councillor

- Chairman of Hayberry Precinct until recently and very involved in the Precinct system for a number of years. Strongly supports the contribution Precincts can make in the community and concerned about any threat to the proper functioning of the Precinct system.
- Cr Santer proposed a Motion at the February Council Meeting designed to give full recognition of the Precinct role with clauses inserted into the Code of Conduct guaranteeing the right of Precincts to nominate and elect their own office holders and set their agendas, meeting places and schedules without Council involvement, including at election times. The matter has been deferred for consideration in conjunction with the Precinct System Review. Cr Santer would

like to see part of Council meeting time set aside for Precinct questions, a bit like question time in Parliament.

- Cr. Santer originally qualified as an Economist and worked for the Department of Foreign Affairs. Later he was Deputy Managing Director of the Australian Tourist Commission before establishing and running his own tourism business in North Sydney.
- Cr. Santer has been a member of the Labor Party since joining in 1972, when Gough Whitlam became PM.
- Together with Labor colleague, Cr Shannon Welch, Cr. Santer supports ensuring a strong policy on climate at the local level. Will be introducing a Motion at the next Council meeting to establish neighbourhood power sharing schemes to enable greater self sufficiency in power at the local level and less reliance on the grid.
- Supports proper garbage collection system with scraps going into a separate recycling bin rather than going to landfill.
- Considers protecting public areas and public parks very important. He is opposed to the Western Harbour Tunnel and Beaches Link projects.
- Wants greater recognition of the Aboriginal cultural heritage in this area for example rock carvings at Balls Head Reserve which could be thousands of years old and not properly protected. Would like the Aboriginal Museum brought back to North Sydney.
- Wants to develop the tourism aspect of North Sydney. North Sydney location is ideal - eg with magnificent views of the Opera House, the Harbour Bridge and the City.
- Would like to see better policies to protect and foster Small Business.
- Supports social, affordable housing - less than 2% of new dwellings in North Sydney. A lot of the control has been taken away from Council and given to the State Government.
- Military Road Corridor Planning Study - Council is planning to do a new Study.
- Is aware there is a Recission Motion on Young Street Plaza but is not aware of a change in support on the issue amongst Councillors.
- Cr. Santer noted Precinct's strongly expressed desire for reinstatement of the Grasmere Road/Young Street roundabout amid concern the issue has been ignored for the last 5 years.
- Cr. Santer will look into the Macpherson Street / Gerard Street enhancement of visibility resolution by the Traffic Committee in 2021. A show of hands indicated that almost all Precinct members had experienced near misses at this intersection.
- Cr. Santer - 65 Councils have asked for rate increases higher than the rate peg. Council is not keeping up with CPI. Council is running a deficit this year with loss of income due to COVID. Cr. Santer stated he understood why Precinct members might feel the previous special rate increase (7% pa for 5 years) represented punishment for not accepting Council amalgamation.
- Progress Report on the Sydney Olympic Pool has been deferred.

- Council will be considering the Precinct System Review at its next meeting. Cr Santer feels there is currently good support for the Precinct system within Council.

GENERAL BUSINESS

Councillor Spenceley's Aid Mission to Ukraine

Cr James Spenceley has purchased two ambulances to send to Ukraine and is looking for more. He has launched a Go Fund Me page - AusUkraineAid.org - and appeared on Sky Television with Peta Credlin. Cr. Spenceley, whose wife is Ukrainian has said all funds will go towards the purchase of fully-equipped ambulances in France. The ambulances will be driven from France to the areas in Ukraine where they are most needed. More details on Peta Credlin's Instagram page - Petacredlinao.

Illegal Dumping in Wonga Road

A Precinct resident has reported a pile of builder's rubbish on the western footpath, a little to the south of 2 Wonga Road. The rubbish has been there a while. Could Council please remove.

School Buses Blocking Primrose Park

On 2 May 2022, around 5pm there were 3 school buses blocking all traffic in Young Street parking lot, opposite Primrose Park. It was traffic chaos. Can Council advise on what it can do to address the issue of buses blocking traffic in Yong Street particularly in the peak hour of a week day.

WH Brothers Park

RL to organise another working bee (weeding). A Precinct resident has raised the issue of pruning by Council to retain views. It was noted that owners of neighbouring properties may have concerns about loss of privacy if vegetation is over-pruned.

RL to contact appropriate Council Officers regarding developing a proposal for restoration of the memorial. PW advised he had material from and contact details for Council's historian in this respect.

Certificates of Service

Chair distributed Certificates of Service from North Sydney Council to Office Bearers, PW, RL and LC.

Meeting closed at 9.25pm

Next meeting will be on Thursday 9 June 2022.

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