WAVERTON PRECINCT MINUTES
TUESDAY 5TH MARCH 2013

Held at Waverton Uniting Church

Meeting Opened: 7.35PM

Chair: SF

Attendance: 19

1. APOLOGIES

The Chair welcomed everyone.

Apologies received from IB and DA.

2. BUSINESS

A. Harbour Foreshore Walkway

Motion: Precinct has learnt from the DLEP 2012 report that council officers are involved in negotiations with North Sydney Marine Centre for rezoning part of their John Street site to high density residential. It follows that the possibility of “closing the Gap” in the Harbor Foreshore walkway may arise. Accordingly, Precinct resolves:

1. Precinct is not, at this stage, taking a position either in favour of or against such a rezoning proposal.

2. Precinct reminds Council that Council has adopted support for pedestrian access across the North Sydney Marine Centre site in Council’s Foreshore Access Strategy 2007.

3. Precinct requests that Council makes the provision of pedestrian access across both the residential and boatyard sites, at the waterfront, a mandatory requirement in any rezoning negotiations with North Sydney Marine Centre.

4. In making this request Precinct suggests that pedestrian access at the foreshore would be much cheaper and far better than any access at the rear of the site.

5. Precinct requests that council undertake to keep both Waverton and Union precincts informed of any significant developments regarding the rezoning negotiations.

MOVED BB SECONDED KA Unanimously carried

B. Council’s review of the Precinct System and of Community Engagement

The meeting discussed the following interim findings from Precinct’s subcommittee which is reviewing the Council recommendations:
1. That Precinct Committees be renamed “Neighbourhood Committees” – Qualified support. The Sub-committee suggests “Neighbourhood Precinct Committees” initially in transition period.

2. Reduce the number of Precincts from 25 to 12 by realigning boundaries to suburb boundaries. Precinct is not opposed to reduction in number of precincts, but questions a simplistic suburb boundary solution. Precincts should be determined by establishing commonality of interest. The Council recommendation would fail with the Wondakiahah residential complex which is in Wollstonecraft suburb but clearly part of the Waverton community.

3. Prepare a new marketing plan - Supported. Many renters regard themselves as transient and do not get involved. Explore involvement of the Body Corporates’.


5. Provide same funding and support to each Precinct Committees – Not supported. Struggling Precincts or ones with special needs could have different funding arrangements.

6. Undertaking a broad range of community engagement complementing the Precinct system - Supported.

7. Encourage more community events – Supported.

Additional recommendations proposed by Precinct subcommittee:

8. Remove obstacles for local ward Councillors participating at Precinct meetings.

9. Improve information/consultation with Precincts about activities planned/sanctioned by Government. Examples of where this has not happened in the past - Wakelin Reserve construction of a new substation by SRA and the Carr St Optus tower.

The Sub-committee seeks additional input from the community on its recommendations so that it can present a final version for endorsement at the April Precinct meeting, prior to submission to Council.

C. Berry’s Bay: Update including Conservation Management Strategy

BB reported:

Woodleys site rezoning issue - In Draft DLEP 2012 Council Officers proposed rezoning of small section below access road from bushland to waterfront industrial. Following a Councillor on-site meeting on Sat 16 Feb, the rezoning proposal was overturned at the 18 Feb Council meeting, and the bushland zoning remains.

Conservation Management Strategy for Woodleys Shipyard site – This report, prepared by Godden Mackay Logan for RMS, issued in February, will play an important role in the Berrys Bay planning process, along with the already issued “Berrys Bay Scoping Study” and the “Sydney Harbour Maritime Industry & Boat Storage Review”. Important findings include:
“The site lends itself to ongoing waterside-focused use, such as a marina or boat servicing or stacking and ancillary activities adaptively using heritage structures. This would be a positive heritage outcome as it would continue the history of marine activities on the site”.

“The heritage significance of the Woodleys Shipyard site creates an obligation to conserve, manage and interpret elements of the site that are of Moderate significance, such as the main shed, slipways, jetties, sea-walls and vegetative settings”.

“Changes within the broader setting of the Woodleys Shipyard site should take into account the impact it may have on the heritage significance of the place. For example, changes to the surrounding vegetated setting or development on adjacent lands may impact on the prominence and character of Woodleys Shipyard site”.

“The Main Shed requires detailed heritage engineering assessment of structure and condition. Retention and adaptive reuse is preferable and will require stabilisation and appropriate repair. The large voluminous spatial quality and industrial character should be retained”.

At the Waverton Peninsula Working Group meeting 21 Feb 2013, the RMS reps said any proposal for Berrys Bay must be consistent with the Conservation Management Strategy. They also undertook to provide the next Working Group meeting in April with more developed Meridien Marinas’ proposals than those last provided to Precinct in April 2012.

Interim Foreshore Access across BP working waterfront is proceeding – Full demolition in April of one wharf on the BP site, demolition of most of the other. All work will be on water including barging away of materials. Will be fence at sea-wall, parallel fence 3 metres in, graded compacted surface suitable for prams etc.

**Motion:** That Precinct’s Waverton Peninsula subcommittee write to RMS on behalf of Precinct:

- Noting that Precinct has always sought development in Berrys Bay appropriate in nature and scale to the special values of its bushland reserves setting, and which continues the rich maritime and industrial heritage of the Bay.
- Welcoming the Conservation Management Strategy report and noting in particular the statement:

  “The heritage significance of the Woodleys Shipyard site creates an obligation to conserve, manage and interpret elements of the site that are of Moderate significance, such as the main shed, slipways, jetties, sea-walls and vegetative settings”.

- Making such detailed comments on the report as the Subcommittee sees fit, including the shortcomings in the coverage of the Torpedo Corps history at the site.

Moved BB, seconded MT carried without dissent.

3. Development Applications

a. 1 Tunks Street MP noted nothing here to concern precinct.
b. 7 Balls Head Rd. MP noted this has been approved with some modifications.

c. North Sydney Pool. Precinct just received notification of changes to zoning to enable commercial premises and allow private functions. MP will view plans and if feels warranted request an extension of time for Precinct consideration.

4. Any Other Business

a. Waverton Hub: Self Help for Active Aging. HL told us their group has formulated a survey which opens 3rd April. Survey is directed at such things as at attempting to reach a broader group, to find out what older residents want and what will help them and which streets have more over 50 year old residents. The survey can be done online or can be left at the Waverton IGA in a designated box.

b. Facebook presence for Waverton Precinct: It was agreed that Waverton Precinct would greatly benefit from a Facebook/Social Networking Presence. It is a way of reaching a wider demographic and keeping the precinct informed. CJ explained that under 30 year olds hardly use their letterboxes.

SF explained Council supported general concept and we should try to get some help from there.

DC offered to help get this going for us.

MOTION: The meeting Supports a Facebook Page and the Use of Social Networking for the Precinct

Moved BB/Seconded KA. Unanimously carried.

c. Benches Whatmore Lane. Motion: Waverton Precinct records its thanks to Council for the two benches they have placed in Whatmore Lane garden. Moved VY, seconded CB, carried without dissent.

d. Working Bee Carradah Park. VY informed the meeting that there would be a Working Bee on Saturday morning 16th March if anyone would like to join in.

e. Gore Bay Terminal Modification Project. CB informed the meeting that there is a meeting 6th March at Greenwich Community Centre discussing Shell Gore Bay Terminal.

5. Acceptance of Correspondence

The minutes from the last meeting were accepted. Moved BB/Seconded CB

Next Meeting 7.30 pm Tuesday 2nd April at the Uniting Church Hall, Bay Road, Waverton.

Meeting Closed at 9.15pm

MT Precinct Secretary 6/3/13