

Waverton Precinct Minutes

Tuesday 6th November 2018

Meeting Opened: 7.35pm

Chair: IB

Minutes: IG

Attendance: 13

1. Welcome and Apologies

Apologies received from KA, RO , and KM.
Councillor IM was also present as an invited guest.

2. Existing Business

a) Replies from Council

The Chair noted NSC is now providing these regularly. He intends to challenge the status of some items marked as 'closed for Council'. The current main concern is the lack of clarity around the Ross St upgrade.
The report was tabled and circulated.

b) Rail Noise

No update was available. The Chair understands the committee is still waiting for Transport for NSW to decide how they will implement the findings of their review.

c) Precinct computer systems

The site is now operational.

Most people had received the Minutes of the last meeting, but not all, so it seems the email list might not be fully accurate. The Chair committed that this will be resolved before the end of the year.

d) Committee for North Sydney

Members of this body are preparing background material for use at a likely public Rally in mid November, which is in response to the replies received from Sydney Metro on the results of their community consultation process (see next item).

The Association has decided to fund the public Rally and is also active around a membership drive in order to raise public awareness, assist community coordination, and raise some funds. A letterbox drop across the municipality has been organised over the coming week (see also item 3c).

The Committee also will be convened in late November to look at the 'Public Domain Strategy' put out by NSC and a newly released set of documents put out by the Department of Planning and Environment, called the 'St Leonards and Crows Nest 2036 Plan'.

e) Other

From a recent meeting, it appears the commitment around the Highline project is looking positive. A 'pitch' document has been requested by the Minister, to use within Transport but also with

Destinations NSW and the Federal Government to try to source funds and the SHHL Association has volunteered to prepare the document.

The NSC proposal to close Balls Head on NYE was also discussed, with the Bushcare group noting the damage done has been significant, and repeated in several areas year after year. They suggested Council be asked to have more Rangers visible through the evening to minimise damage to bushland; and for the Police to more actively deal with crowd control and drunks on the Headland in the second half of the evening.

3. **New Business**

a) Waverton Peninsular Steering Group

The next meeting will be 20 November.

It was agreed the Precinct should raise the need for a “Stage 2 works” on the Coal Loader platform – comprising some shade, some benches, and a toilet block and baby change room under the ramp. The toilets on Balls Head should also be linked to the sewer system.

Another item to raise is that talks have been held with the ‘Cape Don’ restoration group and they are looking for funding to invest in quieter equipment to do their sandblasting and rust removal work.

Lastly, the Precinct should raise the handover of the ex-Quarantine facilities to the Council and reinforce the need for a new plan for the Woodleys area.

b) NSC draft ‘Public Domain Strategy’ for North Sydney CBD

This new document is out for discussion. It is a major document and a good starting point for discussion, though critically does not include some key features discussed at previous Precinct discussions especially around the Metro station.

c) Community Rally against over development

This event is next Saturday at 1100 and it is critical to get people to attend and to get involved around this issue. The focus of the over sized developments are right across the municipality, and in particular the Pacific Highway arc from the Bridge to RNSH. This brings in residents from Kirribilli and Lavender Bay right through to Naremburn and Greenwich, with Crows Nest becoming a key battleground.

There is a petition, which will be at the Rally, which was tabled at the meeting for attendees to sign.

d) Other

A query was raised about the status of the plans to rebuild the Olympic Pool at Milson’s Point. Councillor IM answered, noting the various options but also explaining in more detail the preferred NSC option – option 2.

Waterhen Base Commander NW noted they will be hosting a Christmas event on 7 December and asked the Precinct to provide a list of attendees.

He also noted the construction of their new pontoon wharf has moved back to mid 2019.

4. Development Applications

a) Noakes

It was noted at the recent Council meeting, NSC has asked their staff to go back through the files relating to the 1990's last approved DA, to see if Noakes has failed to meet any of its commitments. The recollection of attendees was that the Council had dropped the idea of a walkway when State Rail had said the land was unsuitable for such a structure; but that Noakes has simply ignored its commitment to construct a public wharf.

The meeting felt strongly that the building - or not - of a public wharf should not become part of any bargaining around the approval of the current DA to bring in the FDD.

“Waverton Precinct supports NSC’s efforts to enforce all undertakings made by Stannards/Noakes in relation to the approval of their 1990 DA”

Moved SF Seconded IB

Carried unanimously

b) 8 Woolcott Street

The Chair undertook to check and report on this item.

c) Other

Councillor IM addressed the meeting about the item discussed at the last Council meeting around proposed new meeting procedures. He wants to retain direct public access to the Council in session, but noted some individuals are clearly not using that access in good faith. One person spoke to 12 items at the last meeting and rarely stays to the 3 minute time allocation. He has written to all Precincts asked for advice on how to deal with this situation and is visiting the Precincts he represents to discuss it at their regular meeting with attendees.

“Waverton Precinct strongly supports ongoing public access to Councillors in session on items on the Agenda. We view this timely input as a great benefit to Councillors in deciding on complex and contentious matters and we also view this as a key democratic policy to give the any member of the public access to the decision-makers in an open forum”

Moved JD Seconded SF

Carried unanimously

5. Community Activities

The updates on all these were noted and tabled

6. Next meeting

The next meeting is the AGM, including election of office bearers, followed by the Christmas function. It will be held at the Coal Loader conference room commencing at 7:30 pm

The meeting closed at 9:20 pm.