

# Waverton Precinct Minutes

## Tuesday 7th May 2019



**WAVERTON**

**2060**

Meeting Opened: 7.30pm  
Chair: IG  
Minutes: AG  
Attendance: 15 plus 1 guest

### 1. Welcome and Apologies

Apologies were received from SF and BD.

### 2. Waverton Bowling Club

This business was brought forward to allow a presentation by Councillor IM who had been invited to update us on the current thinking within NSC Councillors on this issue.

IM noted the bowling club site was created as a spin out of the parkland in the early 1950's, concurrent with the creation of a lawn bowling club on the site. It is prime real estate and with the closing of the Club the land has reverted to management by Crown Lands.

NSC is eager to control the future of this site and may prefer to merge it back into the park and demolish the building as it is high maintenance, especially as it appears there is no obvious Council use for it and there is a reluctance to make it commercial land because of the obvious interest that will attract from property developers – and opposition from the local community.

After questions and a long discussion, the attendees present clarified they:

- were not particularly attached to the existing building;
- like in concept the idea of some community use of the site if that is possible without major expense by Council and with Council having a revenue flow from the site ( for example, netball or basketball courts, or a childcare facility);
- want any building on site to be minimal and low impact; and
- do not trust the State Government or the Department of Planning or Property NSW to “do the right thing”.

It was:

Moved JD Seconded KA

***“That Precinct confirms its earlier motion on this issue. Precinct calls on Council to be given the lease for the site and for it to then conduct a process to find the most appropriate use for this open space. This outcome may be to simply ‘fold’ the site back into the surrounding parkland and Precinct has no objection to that result.”***

Carried Unanimously

### Existing business

- a) Replies from Council

The Chair noted there was no reply from our April Minutes, as our only motions were to go ahead and submit an objection to the Floating Dry Dock and to use some of our own (not NSC provided) money to assist the local community group.

It was noted that local group – “Say NO to Noakes”- is also rumoured to starting a GetUp campaign to :

- oppose the FDD
- insist a public wharf be built
- push for construction of a walkway behind Noakes
- insist on the prompt removal of the dolphin wharf
- find a public, community use for the Bowling Club building and site

b) Correspondence

All Correspondence received since the last meeting, including any NSC meeting minutes and Precinct e-News, was tabled and circulated during the meeting.

Attention was drawn to a community forum about the ‘Stop the Tunnels’ at the Crows Nest Community Centre on Wednesday night; and a ‘Meet the Candidates’ session at Greenwich Community Centre on Thursday night. This is the only such public and free session being run in the area. The latest update from “OVERdevelopment – we’re OVER it!” group was also included

c) Wondakiah Siltation

Wondakiah residents noted it is clear the silt comes from Brennan Park (i.e. not the polluted gas works area) and that remediation is clearly NSC’s responsibility. It is understood budget for the estimated \$300,000 clean up is not being made available. The meeting did not understand why a vacuum sucker could not be used as a cheaper option. The meeting also supported the creation of both gross pollution and fine pollution traps being built - and regularly cleaned out – as part of the remediation work, so this problem situation does not recur. It was noted discussions with NSC officers have been going on for 4 years.

It was:

Moved PD Seconded BN

***“That the Chair and the Residents Strata group prepare a briefing paper on the history of this issue; the options which seem to be available; send this to NSC; and then conduct a follow up meeting with the relevant NSC staff.”***

Carried unanimously

d) North Sydney Metro OSD

It was noted the Committee for North Sydney has contacted Lend Lease (LL) and had a walk around the area last week with several of their key staff including their head of Urban Regeneration. As a result LL is arranging to show us what they have done at Darling Park and Circular Quay in terms of creating more public space and amenities through their redevelopments and also recommended we find out more about their recently opened redevelopment of Spencer Street station in Melbourne. They are enthusiastic about some ideas and grasp this site is a key to the activation and better integration of pedestrian movement around the CBD - and will look to the Committee to assist promote these outcomes with other interested parties. They did note they must still build in accordance with the Sydney Metro time lines for the rail line to open on time. They want an integrated, exciting development, which assist ‘lift’ the CBD to be their result on this site.

It was noted we may get something great, not much, or nothing ... but at least we are talking directly with LL.

e) Waverton Precinct priorities for 2019

In the light of NSC’s unwillingness to talk generally about our previous suggestions, the last meeting had tasked the Chair and Treasurer with drafting more specific resolutions for consideration. This had been done and all the detailed possible resolutions were discussed.

The following motions came from this long discussion.

It was:

Moved RO Seconded VY

***“To deal with increased tourist foot traffic, Precinct requests NSC to install its normal pedestrian benches in 10 additional locations by the end of 2020, these being located approximately at:***

- Woolcott St., south side opposite number 38***
- Larkin St east side adjacent to the Wood St entrance to Carradah Park***
- Larkin St East side opposite number 12***
- Off Larkin St., next to the artists’ lookout facing towards Barangaroo and the city***
- Around the intersection of the drop off point in Waterhen Drive and the walkway to the Coal Loader buildings***
- On the grassed area down the hill from the intersection of Waterhen Drive and Balls Head Rd on the west side, looking to the city***
- Balls Head Rd walkway (west side) opposite the intersection with Wood St***
- Balls Head Rd regular footpath (east side) near number 45***
- The flat part of Dumbarton St, near the top of John St.”***

Carried unanimously

It was:

Moved IG Seconded KA

***“Waverton Precinct requests NSC during the 2019/20 financial year to install 3 male toilets and 1 trough; 5 female toilets; 1 wheelchair accessible toilet, 1 baby change room as an integrated public toilet complex under the access ramp to the Coal Loader Platform”***

Carried unanimously

It was:

Moved IG Seconded VY

***“Precinct request NSC to install shade cloth ( or similar on the pergola structure above the full width walkway across the Coal Loader platform, before the 2019 summer period.”***

Carried unanimously

It was:

Moved IG Seconded VY

***“That Precinct request NSC to install 4 picnic-type tables and benches in the open areas on the Coal Loader Platform – noting these should be removable for major events. Precinct also requests appropriate rubbish/ recycling bins be installed nearby and that these be emptied at least each Monday”***

Carried unanimously

It was:

Moved JD Seconded SV

***“Precinct request attendance at a Precinct meeting in 2019 by a relevant NSC officer to brief us and to discuss the NSC ‘site activation’ strategy and associated revenue expectations relating to the Coal Loader Platform”***

Carried unanimously

It was:

Moved IG Seconded RO

***“Precinct request a simple sign saying “Welcome to Carradah Park”(or similar) be erected at each entry point being:***

- at the base of the steps at the western end of the Oval nearest to the Bay***
- near the “BP site” sign, opposite the bottom of Wood St.; and***
- at the entry point near the bottom of Balls Head Rd, where the steps from the Coal Loader come down”***

Carried unanimously

It was:

Moved JD Seconded AG

***“Precinct invites relevant staff from NSC to brief us on and discuss with us the management plan for Balls Head. To assist Council prepare for this briefing, we note concerns raised with Precinct about items such as:***

- closure of tracks and lookout areas for no obvious reason ( and then not reopening them)***
- failure to fully sweep the road and to regularly clean out mud and debris behind the traffic calming devices***
- inappropriate and inconsistent planting and tree pruning practices***
- the default use of bark chip instead of grass in picnic areas***
- deliberate planting in front of prime viewing spots***

***Precinct also congratulates NSC on the new picnic benches and the stone platform bases recently installed on the headland’s 2 picnic areas”***

Carried unanimously

It was:

Moved IG Seconded JD

***“Precinct requests Council to remove the flag poles near the railway station and to not re-erect these anywhere else in Waverton”***

Carried unanimously

#### **4. New Business**

- a) DAs

None of these caused any concern.

#### **5. Community Activities**

Nothing specific was reported - so interested attendees were referred to the village notice board.

#### **6. General Business**

Councillor IM was thanked for his contribution this evening; and was asked to find out the current status of the transfer of the Quarantine Doctors’ houses over to NSC and to come back and report on this to a later Precinct meeting.

#### **7. Date for Next Meeting**

The meeting closed at 9:50 pm.

The next meeting is on Tuesday 7 May commencing at 7:30 pm, at the Uniting Community Hall in Bay Rd. The Chair noted he will be overseas at that time.