

# Waverton Precinct Minutes

## Tuesday 1 October 2019



**WAVERTON**

**2060**

Meeting opened: 7.30pm  
Chair: IG  
Minutes: AG  
Attendance: 15

### **1 Welcome and apologies**

There were apologies from RO,SF,DA and KA.

The minutes had not been circulated in advance online; and so were discussed. The term 'greenline' in the talk about possible changes on Balls Head was clarified.

The Mayoral Minute on investigating shade and other options on the Coal Loader platform was read - and strongly welcomed. The meeting again stressed that toilet and baby changing and fresh drinking water facilities are also important, on the Platform level itself.

It was also noted the Precinct had resubmitted an amended submission on the 'Northern CBD Precinct Study', as had been decided at the last meeting.

It was:

Moved BD

Sec VY

**"That the September 2019 Minutes be approved with the substitution in 'Item 3. Tree Planting' with the words 'Council is not intending to put the lines underground' replacing the words 'Council continues to resist putting the lines underground'..."**

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

### **2. Existing Business**

#### **Tree Planting on top level of Carradah Park**

This matter had been stood over at the September meeting for further discussion.

The decision made, and the discussion held, at the September Council meeting was reported as was an advice from Council that the tree planting would commence on Wednesday 2 October. The meeting did not wish to reopen the debate, but was highly concerned that the stakes put in recently by Council ( which it is assumed indicate where the trees are to be planted), are often directly or virtually under the power lines. This will be a visual disaster with the tree pruning that will become inevitable as the trees grow. The consensus of the meeting was the Chair is to see what the Council workers actually do and is to take all concerns up with the Council management, promptly and as needed.

#### **NSC replies on items previously raised**

The Chair updated the meeting on the replies from NSC to our resolutions passed in August and September. The reply on the over use and damage to Waverton Oval attracted much laughter and was simply not treated as credible by the audience.

The NSC reply about requiring Noakes to construct a public wharf seems to confuse the 1990's DA (which we were talking about) with the recent and still live DA application.

There remained strong opposition in concept to introducing ticketing in Waverton on New Years Eve, though it was agreed to monitor the damage to the vegetation etc. this coming

year and see if the cost to Council does seem excessive.

It was noted that as part of the bushland briefing on Balls Head, no tracks deep into the SW corner will be maintained or repaired, let alone bridges built, as this is becoming a bird and wildlife sanctuary.

### **Waverton Precinct priorities for 2019**

These requests have largely been answered – if not to our complete satisfaction. It was agreed that the key item is the ‘stage 2 work’ on the Coal Loader platform; with the need to get a plan agreed for the western arm of Berrys Bay/ Woodleys/ Quarantine houses work as the other main focus area.

### **North Sydney and Crows Nest Metro OSD**

The meeting was briefed on the excellent summary document compiled by the Chair of Wollstonecraft Precinct, John Hancox, based on papers he has obtained under GIPA requests. This report was also circulated in the Correspondence folder. This paper relates to the Crows Nest OSD and the unwavering approach by Sydney Metro despite the Premier saying there would be a pause and reconsideration of the OSD due to the incredible level of public opposition. In fact the documents show that Metro has proceeded to its plan and timeline and with the same basic concept - and its key sign off point on the design is later in October. So much for reconsidering, fine tuning, listening ... it is all just a smokescreen. The notion that within government the ‘original’ idea of 50 storeys got pulled back to ‘only 27’ and so we should be thankful, is seen as a total distraction and we have no idea of that is even true.

Moved JD

Seconded BD

**“That Waverton Precinct expresses its fury on the intransigent, non genuine ‘consultation’ shown by Metro right through this disingenuous process relating to the Crows Nest OSD.**

**We express our extreme disappointment in the lack of impact on the debate by the local MPs, Gladys Berejiklian and Felicity Wilson, despite their public statements about taking time and space for reviewing the OSD plans and listening to the community input. In fact, Sydney Metro stuck right on its original timeline and with its draft buildings and layout and they merely ‘provided cover’ for a few months.**

**We express our frustration that the local Councils have not even stood up for their own formal planning controls in this area or demonstrated any integrated approach to these new developments, let alone the focus on creating employment hubs in education and health as espoused by the Greater Sydney Commission.**

**We instruct our Chair to write individually to both MPs and the Minister for Transport about our extreme irritation about the way this whole ‘consultative process’ has been handled by the Government and its relevant key departments and agencies.**

**We affirm that we welcome the new line and stations and the possibilities these create”**

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

### **Floating Dry Dock**

The Chair noted there is no date yet set for the State Planning Panel review of this DA,

but the 'Say No to Noakes' group is well organised for presenting detailed and integrated critique, covering a wide range of aspects related to the FDD proposal.

The meeting confirmed that the Precinct continues to be totally opposed to this factory being permitted.

### **Waverton Bowling Club**

The Chair reported on an update meeting held with NSC and The Hub in mid September. It appears the building is a major health hazard (asbestos) as well as 'structurally challenged' and the Council is also concerned the surrounding fill might also be toxic waste from the old gas works. Therefore, NSC current thinking is leaning to a return to parkland or maybe low key junior netball courts or similar with minimal, if any facilities.

It was noted there is a group trying to form a community association to run the site with a café and netball courts and as a commercial lease from Council.

It was stressed the issue is yet to go to NSC and that NSW Property is also a possible 'wild card' in the discussions, and would undoubtedly be looking as a principle to maximise commercial return from the site (noting there are current zoning limitations).

### **Wollstonecraft-Waverton Rail Noise Action Group**

The Convenor reported that since the last meeting the group has facilitated a meeting overseas between Transport for NSW key staff and the Slovenian company which manufactures a range of products that seem best suited – both technically and financially - to lower the problem. The Transport people are now assessing the product(s) and preparing a report for the CEO.

### **Committee for North Sydney**

The Convenor reported the Association's AGM is being organised for late October, with a prominent guest speaker and that material about this will come out soon to all members.

He also explained - as an example of what the community and therefore the Committee are dealing with - the approved development on the corner of Christie Street and the Pacific Highway in St. Leonards. In a 6 storey commercial use zone, a building is approved with 950 apartments on top of a six storey commercial base : a density ratio of 25:1 which is incredibly concentrated by any international comparison and unheard of in Australia. The approximate height of this whole structure is the same as the AMP building in the City CBD. The residential component is 'allowed' by the Council quietly adjusting the planning control by permitting "above shop dwellings" on the site.

NSC has negotiated 2 storeys will be for an Art Gallery .... no bad thing necessarily, but why an art gallery and why there?

## **3. New Business**

### **DAs**

There were no new DAs raised for comment

### **Other**

The Chair drew the meetings attention to several items of NSC correspondence, which were also in the folder. The first was a letter about various documents which are out for comment, and the second was a letter about the new draft 'Bushland Rehabilitation Plan' which is also out for comment. Lastly, there also has been a circular about the conducting

of AGMs, with which we will comply.

The Chair also noted the Council's 'Have Your Say' facility which is on their website, where residents individually can directly comment on all the strategies/ plans/ concept ideas that are out for comment at any time.

The Chair noted the Precinct lodged formal submissions in September on both the draft Local Housing Plan and the draft Strategic Planning Statement; and that copies were in the Correspondence folder.

#### **4. Community Activities**

It was noted Council has advised repairs will be made to the 'bushland track' on the western side of Balls Head Rd. during October ( where it has broken up).

#### **5. Correspondence**

The correspondence folder had been circulated during the meeting and all correspondence was accepted.

#### **6. Date of next meeting**

The next meeting is on Tuesday 5 November commencing at 7:30 pm, at the Uniting Community Hall in Bay Road.

The meeting closed at 9:20 pm.