

Chatswood West Ward Progress Association
MINUTES - Monthly Meeting
Thursday 20th August 2015
7:30 PM Dougherty Centre – 7 Victor Street – Chatswood

Chairman's welcome: Chairman welcome attendees.

Attendance: 18 persons as recorded in Attendance Book.

Apologies: Brigid Miall, Alan Hall-Watson, John Hayes, Ross Wellings, Craig Campbell, Chris Jefferd

Declarations of Interest: Nil

Any matters for General Business? Nil

The Minutes of the July meeting were tabled and accepted.

Treasurer's report: (by email) \$6,294.82 balance.

Councillor's Report: Councillor Saville reported that the Mandatin redevelopment proposal is coming to Council on 24th August; Second round community consultation on Edger St Reserve open – especially suggestions for name of the Park; the JRPP report for Hercules St in front of Council on the 24th; RMS refused pedestrian crossing supervisor for Mowbray Rd; no decision on what is to happen to the parts of the Wurlitzer Organ; The Concourse Report generally positive concern with lack of a Place Manager and Urban screen; The Draft Parking Strategy was withdrawn from Monday's agenda after a rigorous review by Councillors; still waiting for a RNSH briefing on proposed sale of hospital lands; Coolaroo ParkPlan of Management adopted. Various works to be undertaken; extensive staff redundancy in effort to save \$2 million; Grant for restoration work in the tidal zone along the Lane Cove River at Mowbray Park and the Golf Course,

OPEN SPACE REPORT

Currey Park: Residents were astounded when work commenced on removing ten large trees and digging up portions of Currey Park to allow Westfield to build additional car parking spaces. There appears to have been a major failure in consulting/advising about these proposals. The Mayor is meeting with Westfield today (Tuesday) to advocate on local resident's behalf.

It was moved, seconded and adopted that the Association write to Council and Westfield strongly objecting to the loss of mature trees and the extensive alienation of portions of the park to accommodate a general works area during the time of the carpark upgrade. Also to write to Council requesting that they refuse any application by Westfield to use additional portions of Currey Park as a works area. Also to write to the Mayor that she meet with the State Manager of Westfield (rather than Scentre managers) to see how this matter might be handled to the better satisfaction of the community.

It was also moved, seconded and adopted that Greg Brown be thanked for his extensive work on this matter, Greg was thanked by acclamation.

OH Reid Off-leash dog area: Ian Campbell arranged for a meeting with the Mayor, Open Space Supervisor (Julie Whitfield) and local dog owners who use the off-leash park. Both the Mayor and Ms Whitfield were sympathetic to residents' concerns that they were being 'excluded' from the area when some sports were on the oval. It was agreed that the best solution would be to ensure the sporting field was marked out in such a way that the perimeter of the oval could still be used. The Mayor undertook to discuss the issue with the General Manager as a matter of policy. It was also agreed that the issue of looking at the Greville Street Oval as an additional off-leash area would be explored via the Companion Animals Committee.

Ian Campbell updated the meeting on the meeting with the Mayor and Julie Whitfield. He also undertook to follow up with the Mayor in a couple of weeks.

10/50 review: Thirty new regulations. Details not available. No word from Council on reduction of bush fire prone areas. **Councillor Saville undertook to follow up.**

TRAFFIC REPORT

Western Mowbray Precinct: A report on the Mowbray Road Traffic Study will be on the agenda for the Transport, Access and Environment Committee Meeting to be held 7 September 2015.

Parking Strategy: This item take to last Monday's **Cultural & Civic Committee?**

Draft Residential Permit Parking Policy - 55% support; with 63% supporting a discount for pensioners. Will include provision for 3 permits per household. Unclear if RMS will allow the scheme or if all houses in a street are eligible for permits.

- *Draft Car Sharing Policy* - 57% of respondents support charging car share operators for their use of designated car vehicles parking spaces.
- *Draft Motorcycle Parking Provision Policy* - 55% support more parking for motorcycles
- *Draft Long Stay Visitor Parking Policy* - many of the respondents wrongly held the view that supporting this policy implies supporting the installation of parking meters in residential streets.
- *Draft Parking Provision for Tradespeople policy* - No changes to apply to this policy.
- *Draft Parking Fees & Charges Policy* - There were no comments on this issue.

There is **no** immediate consideration for the introduction of parking meters as this could be reviewed when the parking demand on streets exceeds 90% occupancy.

It was moved, seconded and carried that the Association write to Council requesting that the Draft Parking Strategy be referred for consideration by the Willoughby Traffic Committee before being brought back to Council.

Lone Pine Avenue: Request by resident for No Parking along one side of street not supported by Officers. However, a the Willoughby Traffic Committee on Wednesday, after representation by NSW Buses, the Council Officers agreed to reconsider this matter.

Countdown Timers (Archer & Victoria): Outcome of trial? Council Officer reported after the meeting as follows:

“Thanks for the heads-up on this. I've been waiting to find out how long we would keep the countdown timers for and was surprised at the SMH article. I contacted RMS yesterday to see about the status of Victoria and Archer and have had a response this morning. “PCT (Pedestrian Countdown Timers) at Chatswood will be remaining. As she surmises, the list on the website is new introductions only. 2 of the 6 sites from the trial will keep their PCTs – Chatswood and Market/Elizabeth in Sydney.”

So good news for us however it looks like we have little chance of getting the timers onto other intersections as they seem only to be going onto the “scramble” crossings ie those where all traffic stops for pedestrians and they can then cross in any direction.”

MAJOR DEVELOPMENTS

Proposed Optus Tower at Chatswood Golf Club: No update.

GENERAL BUSINESS

Amalgamations: Lots of speculation. IPART report due in October.

Review of Wards & number of Councilors: Status quo.

Dougherty Apartments refurbishment: Due for completion in 2016.

Membership Drive: John Hayes and the Secretary have developed a flyer that could be used for this purpose. Seeking approval to spend \$71.50 for 600 flyers that Peter will hand deliver by knocking on doors. The meeting approved the proposed expenditure of \$72.00. **The Treasurer undertook to mail out to un-financial members.**

Peter Hayes indicated his preparedness to deliver flyers into high rise area.

There was a suggestion that the flyers include at least some Chinese invitation. **However, this would be dependant on someone volunteering to obtain a translation.**

Membership due date: The website and WWBytes have been updated showing the membership renewal date as 1st January.

Newsletter: Due to time constraints a proposal for next newsletter has not been able to be progressed. Need someone to take-on Advertising Management & Coordinating Distribution.

A call was made for a volunteer(s) to take on Advertising Management and Distribution Coordination. **However, there were no volunteers.**

The Concourse 5yr Review: Generally positive – good social/cultural investment. Positive income. Questioned the value of the urban screen. Identified opportunities to generate increased returns. Council decided that the Wurlitzer restoral project would be canned. What happens to the pieces? **(Councilor Saville undertook to follow-up on what happens next).**

Boats & Trailers: New laws. Trailer must move every 30 days. When will caravans and box trailers also be targeted?

Correspondence OUT/IN – treated in main agenda.

Meeting closed 9PM

The next meeting: Thursday 17th September 2015

Terry Fogarty and Ian Campbell an apology for next meeting.