

MINUTES
General Meeting
of the
Chatswood West Ward Progress Association
At the Dougherty Centre, Victor Street Chatswood
7:30 PM, Thursday 19th October 2017

Meeting Commenced at: 7:30 PM

Welcome: The President welcomed members to the meeting

Acknowledgement to country: The President: I wish to acknowledge the traditional custodians of these lands on which we gather and show our respect to their elders past and present.

Declarations of interest? Nil

Becoming a member: Membership fees are due on 1st January 2017

We respectfully request that visitors attending our meeting or receiving our West Ward Bytes become a member of the Association. Membership is \$10 a year. To join you can see the Treasurer after the meeting. Payment can either be by cash at a meeting or by direct bank transfer. In addition, every applicant/member must have completed an application form. These are available at a meeting or on our website cwwpa.org.

It was generally agree that payments made after the 31st October would include both current and next year's membership.

Present: Eighteen members as recorded in the attendance book

Apologies: John Benn, Kathy Vern-Barnett, Clr. Campbell, Ian Campbell, Clr. Saville

Any matters for General Business? Nil

Treasurer's Report: The Treasurer tabled his report and spoke to it the main variations are 5 new members and \$173 additional payment for insurance. Cash is \$5,985.34 with additional \$1,050 outstanding from newsletter advertisers. The report was moved, seconded and adopted.

Vice President: Due to Charles' move to Treasurer, there is now a vacant Vice Presidents position. If there is anyone prepared to take on that role, please let us know. The role does not require a lot of effort.

Councillor's Reports: No Clrs. Present or reports. Clr. Campbell has asked for the Association's views on community committees.

GOVERNANCE

Proposed changes to the Constitution

This matter will be brought back in front of the Association in due course.

FEDERATION OF WILLOUGHBY PROGRESS ASSOCIATIONS

Charles Gowing and Richard Lambert made the following points arising from the recent FWPA meeting.

- There is still confusion regarding the status of the land at 1-5 Railway Street. This land would be an ideal addition to the Transport Interchange. It is understood that the current lease has been sold on. There appears to have been advertised offering the freehold for sale but the State Government

who owns the land has denied this. The FWPA is following up.

- We are now waiting to see a revised draft of the proposed Local Government Act after submissions have been reviewed.
- There was discussion re the Northern Beaches Tunnel that mainly impacts on Artarmon.
- It was suggested that room bookings for 2018 be checked due to the Federation booking at the Library not being accepted.
- The General Manager had proposed wholesale delegation of Council functions to the GM. This proposal will now be subject to a Council briefing. The FWPA's will meet with the Mayor to discuss.
- Letters have been sent regarding the proposal to establish a Project Reference Group for the Metro South dive site.

MAJOR LEGISLATION CHANGES

See item above regarding review of the Local Government Act.

OPEN SPACE

Lowanna Park: Proposed upgrade to playground on HAVE YOUR SAY.

TRAFFIC & TRANSPORT

- **Pickup/Set down changes outside Chatswood Public School:** Due to ongoing congestion it is proposed to make changes to parking on both side of Centennial Avenue between the Highway and Edgar St.

There was general agreement that the Shared Car (GetGo) parking space at the top of Centennial Ave needs to be considered in any changes.

- **Truck access to Chatswood Public School:** A waste pick up truck was observed backing across the highway in the school. Roads and Maritime Services advised that this issue does not seem to be a road condition problem but a driver problem. It is suggested that contact be made with the garbage truck company to inform them of the appropriate movement of vehicles when picking up waste. Also this should be part of a management plan that the school has in place with regards to this service.
- **Footpaths within Chatswood, Lane Cove North Estate and Lane Cove North:** There are a number of aspects listed with suggestions for improvements that can be reviewed in the full report. It was interesting to note the Officer's comment that the footpaths in Lane Cove North Estate are a responsibility of the management committee for this private development.
- **Eddy Road parking restrictions:** There is a recommendation to approve 2P 9.30am-2.30pm SCHOOL DAYS and No Stopping 8am-9.30am and 2.30pm-4.00pm SCHOOL DAYS parking restrictions in Eddy Road, south side of road, between Lone Pine Avenue and De Villiers Avenue, Chatswood.

Full details can be accessed by cwwpa.org

Members were advised that the best way to communicate traffic related requests to Council and the RMS is via the Council email (email@willoughby.nsw.gov.au) requesting that the matter be raised with the RMS.

Mention was made of the Snap Send Solve phone app. That can be used to transmit problems to Willoughby Council.

Metro South: Cllr. Saville sought re-assurance that Mowbray House would not be demolished. This appears to have been given in the recent Council response to Cllr. Saville.

Beaconsfield Lights: It is assumed that the proposed changes are still with Lane Cove Council.

MAJOR DEVELOPMENTS

CBD LEP: At the last meeting, after reviewing the Council motion relating to this matter members noted that many of the suggestions proposed by the Association were not supported by all West Ward Councilors. It was acknowledged that it was unfortunate that other aspects of the LEP such as height and FSR provisions were grouped with key amelioration issues. However, it was thought that perhaps a better way than voting against the motion would have been if an amendment was put excluding the unwanted height and FSR provisions. **Members had moved to ask Cllr. Saville to explain her rationale for voting against the reforms outlined above. As no response has been forthcoming it was decided to leave this matter on the table.**

Charles' CBD report to the FWPA's has been placed on cwwpa.org

Specifically Charles raised:

- Proposal at Chatswood Chase to merge surrounding land and new buildings to same height as the Chase.
- Developments along and behind Victor Street
- Former Amber site on the Pacific Highway
- Third DA at site adjacent to CPS
- Currey Park being formally included in CBD strategy
- Inconsistency between published Ward boundary and CWWPA boundary

GENERAL BUSINESS

Community committees: Cllr. Campbell had asked for the Association's view on this matter. It was moved, seconded and adopted that Council continue with community meetings as well as other consultative endeavours. It was felt that the committees usually included people with professional expertise, as subject matter experts. This may not happen with other types of consultative activities. Overall, there was strong opinion across the attendees of the importance and value of these committees.

Citizen of the year: Council have called for nominations. If you have a suggestion, please contact one of the Committee. However, be aware that you would need to provide supporting documentation for a nomination. Alternatively, you can directly nominate someone.

Chatswood Public School:

The State Government has announced that a budget has been approved for the vitalisation of Chatswood Public School (CPS). However, details are short in coming. An information booth at the school on Friday 22nd September was farcical. The project officers standard answer to most questions was "We cannot talk about that". It was rumoured that there was to be a 'special visitor' to the booth with the assumption that a mini-launch of the project would occur.

A Project Reference Group has been formed and met on two occasions. At the first meeting there were representatives from both CPS and Chatswood High School CHS). Evidently the Department has developed two concept plans. Both plans involved the retention and likely expansion of the CPS 'Bush Campus' at CHS.

The community's preferred approach is to expand CPS at its current location, if necessary with expansion by the acquisition of adjoining land. However, the Minister for Education has responded "*I am advised that the Department is not currently considering the acquisition of land ... because that would have an impact on the funding available for the upgrade of school facilities*" at the last meeting of the Chatswood West Ward Progress Association it was agreed that we should

continue to advocate for the acquisition of land adjacent to CPS t. A better solve longer term educational requirements in the area. It was also agreed that the wider community, including Chatswood High School should be consulted over the proposed changes.

It appears the Department may be embarking on a stop-gap measure of increasing the number of CPS demountables at CHS site and the refurbishment of some classrooms on the CPS site. Whilst this might address next year's enrollment crisis it does not necessarily provide a long term solution.

It is unclear if Willoughby Council will be consulted about the proposal and new legislation may have passed control to the State Government.

Some of what appears is being proposed is a second oval at CHS. Accommodation of 1,000 primary students and a new four storey high school building. CPS currently has 1,250 students and anticipate 1,300+ in 2018. There are 400 CPS students on the CHS site. This may increase to 600.

At the information booth, parents were arguing the need to provide not just learning spaces and play space but also ancillary facilities such a large assembly hall and enrichment spaces for things like music and art etc.

Whilst the Department has been spruiking that new facilities will be ready for the first day of school in 2020, their project officers mentioned that it was likely a 3-4 year project.

You can send any submissions to David Tonge at the Department of Education: david.tonge3@det.nsw.edu.au

It was agreed that the Association should lobby for meetings between the school principals, P&Cs, Director of Education for the area, the Mayor and Ward Councilors and ourselves to consider the issue of appropriate consultation for the proposed changes at CPS and CHS.

Ern Navin turns 100: We delivered a card, best wishes and a memento to Ern for his birthday.

Correspondence OUT/IN – treated in main agenda.

Next meeting: Thursday 16th November 2017

Meeting closed at: 8:40 PM