

MINUTES

General Meeting

Chatswood West Ward Progress Association

Dougherty Centre, 7 Victor St, Chatswood

7:30 PM, Thursday 20th September 2018

Meeting commenced at: 7:30 PM

Welcome: The President welcomed members and visitors to the meeting.

Acknowledgement to country: The Chairperson: *"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.

Members Present: Twelve members and two guests present.

Apologies: Kay Fruedenstein-Hayes, Cate Carey, Greg Fullerton, Jim McCredie, Ruth Hardy

SPECIAL ITEM: Short presentation by David and Linda Strickland on the **Willoughby Neighbourhood Watch** initiative.

It was outlined that in descending order frequency the type of crimes in Willoughby are retail theft (Westfield) where a significant number of police are deployed arresting 535 offenders in the past twelve months; various types of fraud and identity theft; property damage & graffiti; Drugs (recently an "Uber Cocaine" rings was broken up); non-domestic assault & disorderly conduct (alcohol); dwelling theft and attempted thefts; car theft; sexual assault and domestic violence. Compared to NSW, Willoughby incidences are significantly lower apart from various assault crimes.

The focus of the new style Willoughby Neighbourhood Watch (WNW) is Crime prevention and promoting good neighbours. There is a website willoughbyneighbourhoodwatch.com and a Facebook group 'Willoughby Neighbourhood Watch Group'. Both sites have information, resources and tools. WNW covers the whole of Willoughby using on-line technology. They can provide anti-theft screws for number plates. There are 394 members on the Facebook group. Police clear up rates are quite good in Willoughby which is safer and less attractive to criminal elements. WNW focus is on home, car and personal safety. They have engravers that can be borrowed to mark your possessions, plus Ultra Violet marking pens for sensitive items.

Any matters for General Business? Nil.

Minutes: The Secretary tabled the Minutes of the August meeting. They were moved with the addition below from Jim McCredie, seconded and carried.

Jim McCredie has requested that the matter he raised on loss of parking in the CBD be added to the Minutes as "getting Council to plan street closures by builders hoardings making nearly continuous kerb closures to on-street parking. Already Council has worked out with State rail that they will need about 70 on-street parking space and the announced developments will need an out 70 more. I think the builders may have to take turns in some streets, like the ships waiting offshore for a turn at a coal loader".

TREASURER'S REPORT:

The Treasurer tabled his **monthly report** and spoke to it noting \$50 of income for August. \$365 expenditure on public liability and volunteer insurance (down from \$550 in 2017). Cash in the bank of \$7,105.46. Currently registered members plus three whose contact details are still being sought. The Treasurer moved his report which was seconded and carried.

REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS

Clr. Campbell elected to report on various items when covered in the Agenda.

GOVERNANCE

Community Advisory Committees: It has been recommended that most advisory committees be dissolved in favour of various alternate forms of community engagement. It is recommended that the Access, Seniors, Bicycle and Heritage to be re-formed as reference groups.

Charter for Public Participation: The State Government (Information and Privacy Commission) has released a guide for Council. A key aspect is that it recommends involving the community as early as possible in the consultation process. **Propose letter to Council suggesting that they adopt the Charter as the basis for their citizen engagement policy and programs. Adopted. Also propose requesting the Federation to support the call on Council/ Adopted. Link to Charter to be placed on cwwpa.org.**

Resident satisfaction survey: Over 70% of residents rated Council services as good or very good overall with 4% rating Council poor or very poor. This was 8 to 10 points more than results for Sydney and Melbourne. The biggest problems were again related to traffic, parking, planning and building permits. **Propose write to Council seeking comparative results from prior survey. Adopted.**

FEDERATION OF WILLOUGHBY PROGRESS ASSOCIATIONS

Next meeting 6th October: Apologies to be given for Charles Gowing. Refer matter re Public Participation Charter above.

MAJOR LEGISLATION CHANGES

Proposed Eddy-De Villers Conservation area: Council advised their intention to list the area as a Heritage Conservation Area. There was widespread opposition to the proposal. Clr. Campbell successfully moved that there be a community information session on the matter. The CWWPA has offered to host this session. At this stage the proposal is not proceeding.

Heritage house listings: 126 Greville Street to proceed. Seidler's 'Glass House' in Hawthorne Ave (near Louise Ave) not to proceed due to significant alterations.

OPEN SPACE

Sports facilities action plan: Changes to usage of sports field. Clr. Campbell had undertaken to raise a Notice of Motion that neighbours be consulted when changes of sporting use on a ground are proposed. **Clr Campbell still planning to raise this matter with Council.**

OH Reid lights: Proposed lights at Bales Park in Willoughby have been shelved. Expect push for lights at OH Reid. **Propose a leaflet drop to local residents advising them how to mobilise and inviting them to our October or November meeting. Adopted.** Clr. Campbell suggested check the status of the Greville St Reserve in relation to lighting.

Article regarding the 90s proposal for lights published at cwwpa.org

TRAFFIC & TRANSPORT

Beaconsfield lights: There has been some progress. Due to the route of the Mowbray school bus alternate route options are being explored. There has also been a suggestion (being

explored) of using a camera at the intersection to detect traffic violations.

Highway traffic signals between Fullers & Albert: Safety issue considered by Traffic Committee and referred to RMS. **Awaiting response.**

Pedestrian bridge over Pacific Highway: After representations by the Association, RMS have advised that they will investigate what improvements to pedestrian flow can be made. They are not prepared to install lifts as highway is to be widened sometime in the distant future.

Sydney Metro is holding two drop-in information sessions to discuss upcoming work between Chatswood and Artarmon. Come along to meet members of the project team who will be happy to answer any questions. There is no need to make a booking, drop in at any time.

- **Thursday 27 September, 4pm–7pm** - Chatswood Bowls Club, [665 Pacific Highway, Chatswood](#)
- **Saturday 13 October, 10am–1pm** - Dougherty Centre Chatswood, [7 Victor Street, Chatswood](#)

The Nelson St bridge will be removed in November 2018. A replacement bridge (pedestrian only) is scheduled for 2020.

Station Link: Buses replace trains between Epping and Chatswood on 30 September. Fullers Road and parking in the CBD will be disrupted for around seven months. It is anticipated that this service may cause issues that will need to be addressed.

DEVELOPMENTS

It was reported that under new processing regimes, not all assessment reports prepared by Council officers are now placed in front of Council. Rather going direct to the various determining bodies such as the Local Planning Panel, Sydney North Planning Panel and the Department of Planning (for gateway determinations).

Garden of Remembrance & 67 Albert Avenue: Approved by Sydney North Planning Panel but Council has advised developer that their lease does not allow for the approved development.

51-61 Archer street, 34-34b Albert avenue and 30-32a Bertram street:: Council Officers have recommended that the application, with a variety of amendments, be forwarded to the Department of Planning for a Gateway determination.

54-56 Anderson street (near O'Brien St): The Willoughby Local Planning Panel supported the extension of the CBD to include the subject site.

Chatswood Chase: Major upgrade planned.

Unsafe building cladding: In response to a question from Cllr. Saville, Council has outlined the steps it has taken on this matter. It emerged that The Concourse will need to be re-clad. It is not stated who will bear this cost. Evidently, this matter is under close review by Council. It is expected a full report will come before Council in due course.

Wind tunnel effect of development along Victoria Avenue: Letter sent to Council. **Awaiting response.**

688-692 Pacific Highway: No apparent further developments regarding this site.

A number of large developments previously noted are currently being processed by Council – There has not been any change in status for: 465 Victoria Avenue (opposite RSL); 475 to 501 Victoria Avenue (opposite RSL); Planning Proposal for 1-13 Spring Street, 56-70 Archer Street and 35 Albert; Pre Gateway Review of Planning Proposal for 65 Albert Avenue, (Mandarin Centre); Planning Proposal for 58 Anderson Street; Planning Proposal for 5-9 Gordon Avenue (Next to Chatswood bowling club on Gordon Street); 629 - 639 Pacific Highway, Chatswood

GENERAL BUSINESS

Phone Tower: TPG are proposing to install a 5G Mobile Phone Base Station tower in the vicinity of 245 Fullers Road. It appears that residents were given little, if any, notice apart from a A4 poster on the pole. It was reported that these new facilities will be mounted on street poles, not dedicated towers.

Shops in Mowbray Rd West: Proposed change of use to Pool Shop. It was reported that there have been a number of aggravated robberies at the shop over the years.

Chatswood Education Precinct: Primarily School Community consultation has been undertaken. The Association was not formally advised nor invited. Work is scheduled to start in 2019 and be completed by 2024. There was discussion of the likely changes in traffic patterns of parent dropping students to the primary school.

Newsletter and WWBytes: Still require Assistant Distribution Co-ordinator and Advertising Co-ordinator and a graphic artist for a review of materials..

Animated awning sign in Chatswood Mall: A sign outside the Orchard Tavern may affront Council codes. A member is investigating.

9 Centennial Ave: The Secretary wrote to council requesting from the Council as to what are the next steps, the urgent actions to reinstate and restore the roofing and building.

Council response: *See at end of agenda.*

Personal request from a resident of Castlecrag regarding development in Castlecrag in relation to the Foreshore Building Line: Advised to object to proposal and that we could consider a formal approach by the Castlecrag PA.

A question was raised regarding the Church on the corner of Mowbray Rd and the Highway. It was pointed out that both the Church and graveyard are heritage listed and that it is unlikely that it would be proposed to demolish them.

A member raised the fact that he had nominated a house in Fullers Road as a Heritage item but had not heard anything back from Council. **Clr. Campbell undertook to investigate.**

Correspondence OUT/IN

Next meeting: Thursday 18th October 2018.

Meeting closed at: 9{15 PM

9 Centennial response from Council

Response:

In response to your email below I can advise that the following steps are required in progressing the listing of 9 Centennial Avenue as a Local Heritage Item:

- 1) The Willoughby Local Planning Panel (WLPP) is required to provide advice on the Planning Proposal (being the proposed listing as a Local Heritage Item) prior to the draft Local Environmental Plan (Planning Proposal) being forward to the Department of Planning and Environment (DPE). The WLPP provided advice to Council on 31 July, 2018. This advice is consistent with the resolution of Council to forward the proposal to the DPE for Gateway determination. The advice is attached to the report to the Council meeting of 27 August, 2018 (Monday night) on the comprehensive heritage review.
- 2) The draft Local Environmental Plan (draft LEP) for the listing of 9 Centennial Ave as a Local Heritage Item is required to be forwarded to the DPE for Gateway determination. The paperwork for this is complete and it is anticipated to forward the documentation on Tuesday 28 August, 2018 following the Council meeting of 27 August at which the WLPP advice is tabled.
- 3) Once DPE has provided Gateway determination it is placed on a 28 day exhibition. This will include a notice in the North Shore Times, notifying the owners of the property, Ward Councillors and the relevant progress association (in this case West Ward PA).
- 4) Following exhibition the proposal is reported back to Council detailing submissions received in response to exhibition and recommending whether to proceed to make the LEP (list the property).
- 5) If Council resolves to list the property it is forwarded to Parliamentary Counsel for gazettal.

Note, protection of the property currently exists under the Interim Heritage order (IHO) applicable to the site. From the date the exhibition of the draft LEP commences, protection is provided under the provisions of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act, 1979 (EP & A ACT 1979). It is anticipated the exhibition will commence before the end of the year. The IHO is due to expire on 19 February, 2019 (by which time the draft LEP provisions would be in place). The applicant has appealed the Court's decision on the IHO which is due to be heard on 21 February 2019 (after the IHO has expired).