

# MINUTES

Chatswood West Ward Progress Association Meeting  
Dougherty Centre, 7 Victor St, Chatswood  
7:30 PM, Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> July 2019

**Meeting to commence at: 7:30 PM**

**Welcome:** The President to welcome members and visitors to the meeting.

**Acknowledgement to country:** *"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 as recorded.

**Apologies:** Terry Fogarty, Kay Freudenstein-Hayes, Hon. Anthony Roberts MP, Ruth Hardy, Hemen Ghosh, Kathy Vern-Barnett

**Late items from Committee – Nil.**

**Matters for General Business from members? – Nil.**

**Minutes:** The Minutes of the May meeting and AGM were distributed. In the Secretary's absence, the minutes for the May general meeting were tabled, moved by adopted.

**Treasurers Report:** The Treasurer tabled his report (attached). It was moved, seconded and accepted.

## REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS

All Councillor Reports are to be in writing and will be included 'as is' in the Minutes. Cllr. Lynne Saville's report as per attached.

## FEDERATION OF WILLOUGHBY PROGRESS ASSOCIATIONS & NSROC

**The Federation met on the 1<sup>st</sup> June.** CWWPA were represented by Terry Fogarty, Charles Gowing and Andrea Austin.

**Proposal to scrap Planning proposals:** FWPA has written to Minister for Planning Stokes, requesting a meeting. A lowly planner responded that neither the Minister nor the Department Head were available for a meeting.

**Charter for Public Participation:** Letter sent to Council.

**Confidential Council information:** Terry undertook to write a briefing paper on this issue. The bottom line is that the CEO and Council seem to be operating within the letter of the legislation. Full report in Appendix.

## MEETING WITH MAYOR:

*Willoughby City Council Notes of the Progress Association Presidents Breakfast Meeting 26 June 2019 Present: Mayor - Gail Giles-Gidney, CEO – Debra Just,*

**Chee reports:** Main items covered included:

- New Council meeting schedule,
- Use of confidentiality,
- Local Strategic Planning Statements,

- Not being able to get someone from state government to present on how LEPS, DCPs and LSPSs interact,
- Local Planning Panel,
- Boarding houses
- Local (shopping) Centre Strategy –

*Other matters discussed/mentioned – public liability insurance, Willoughby Leisure Centre renovation, Northbridge Plaza car park, off street parking in new developments, upkeep of verges. **Detailed report in Appendices.***

**Public liability insurance:** For some years we have been part of the FWPAs Public Liability Insurance. Recently we were advised that because we meet in Council premises we are covered by the PLI. By opting out of the FWPA PLI insurance we would save between \$300 – 600 p.a. (depending on what other Pas stay in the scheme).

The way PAs were given the benefit of being under Council's umbrella was by a specific motion passed by the full Council granting them the right of free use of Council facilities a limited number of times a year. For this to change there would need to be a contrary resolution by Council (or some other event - see below). I believe the restriction on the number of meetings is a clause in their PL Insurance. Whilst we are in that category and under the current situation there is no need to check annually that we are still covered.

If things were to change, we would be notified by Council and could take appropriate action. Apart from a contrary resolution a trigger event could be if Council was amalgamated. In such situations, the determinations going forward are only made after a protracted investigation. We could bring to note our concern at the time and again would be notified of any change.

With the FWPAs there is always the risk that the then Treasurer for some reason fails to complete the insurance renewal. Remember, this is a voluntary position and from time to time it has stood vacant and hard to fill. As FWPA only meets every few months, if this were to occur we could also be exposed. I think Council renewal processes would be more robust.

The Secretary's view is that there is minor and manageable risk in accepting the Council offer.

**Motion:** That CWWPA advise FWPAs and Council that will accept the Council offer to cover Public Liability Insurance *and we will take up the Federations Volunteer Insurance. Moved by: Diane Seconded by: Marina Carried unanimously.*

## **GOVERNANCE**

**New CEO?** When is a General Manager not a GM. **Answer:** When they are a Chief Executive Officer. From now on the former General Manager, Ms. Debra Just has been confirmed as Council's Chief Executive Officer. Evidently the change was made because non-government people do not understand the term General Manager as being the Chief Executive of an organisation. We suspect that as far as the Department of Local Government is concerned, she is still technically the General Manager under state legislation. Bit like having two or more business cards depending who you are talking to and about what.

**Why a CEO:** Willoughby City Council is a substantial organisation with:

- 413 full-time staff,
- \$1.7 billion of assets under management,
- annual revenue of \$119 million,

- combined capital and operational expenditure of \$140 million, and
- a spend of \$34 million on projects and capital works next year.

It is fitting that the leader of an organisation this dynamic and complex be identified as a Chief Executive Officer.

**Councillor remuneration:** the maximum level for Metropolitan Small category (\$20,280 Councillor Annual Fee and \$44,230 Mayor Additional Fee) based on the 2019 determination of the Local Government Remuneration Tribunal.

**Council Budget:** Key highlights include a projected surplus of \$6m before capital revenue (\$9.5m including capital revenue); \$33.8m allocated for project and capital works to upgrade and deliver new community assets. There will be annual rates increases in line with the permissible rate of 2.7% and no increase to the domestic waste service charges. Spend has been allocated to the five outcomes:

- A city that is green: \$22.4m
- A city that is connected and inclusive: \$18m
- A city that is liveable: \$30.9m
- A city that is prosperous and vibrant: \$15.2m
- A city that is effective and accountable \$23m

We asked our West Ward Councillors to provide details of what expenditure there will be in West Ward. Cllr. Campbell responded that he was seeking this information

**Annual General Meeting:** The existing committee was re-elected. Andrea Austin (Schools) and Diana Pryde (Open Space) were also appointed to the Committee (expanding its numbers by one).

#### **CHATSWOOD EASTSIDE PA (CEPA) SUGGESTION TO MERGE WITH CWWPA**

CEPA has suggested a merger with CWWPA. CEPA has been advised is unlikely that would be in the best interest of CWWPA for us to merge. They have also been advised that they could join as Associate Members i.e. no voting rights. Detailed report in Appendices.

Note: I have been advised that some CEPA members may attend the meeting. Their desire is to merge with CWWPA. However, that cannot be progressed on Thursday night. Under our Rules, only the following motion can be considered

**Motion:** That CWWPA advise CEPA that they are welcome to join CWWPA as Associate members.

NO CEPA members were present at the meeting. After discussion with our CWWPA members, it was decided that NO MOTION would be passed. We would like to invite CEPA to present to CWWPA members about how they think this could work and what benefits would it provide to West Ward.

#### **MAJOR LEGISLATION CHANGES**

**Medium Density Code:** It appears that the Medium Density Complying Development Code that was shelved last year will be reintroduced after July. This will allow fast-tracking of dwelling types such as terraces without any notification to adjoining owners. The legislation applies to areas already zoned for medium-density. Cr Saville advised that she has raised a motion with Council and moratorium is in place until the end of October.

#### **HERITAGE ITEMS**

**126 Greville St:** Submission made in support of proposed heritage listing in line with previous resolution.

**9 Centennial Ave:** Ongoing issues with weather protecting the building. Issue has been reported to Council. Action promised. Cr Saville advised in the upcoming meeting on 22<sup>nd</sup> July that she will be raising a motion to Council to ensure that the building is made weatherproof. Currently windows are open and the tarp covering the roof is flimsy and damaged. David Grover has not received any reply from his letters to council on this issue.

**Listed properties surrounding Chatswood Education Precinct:** Concern has been raised regarding the impact of the new development heritage listed properties and bushland in the area. Departmental representatives have stated that these concerns will be addressed. Properties include 9, 19 & 60 Centennial Ave plus Chatswood Primary School building

### OPEN SPACE

**Rotary Athletic field:** Council is planning to replace 2 x floodlights poles at the Rotary Athletics Field in Lane Cove North with six poles and floodlights. This work requires a Review of Environmental Factors (REF) to be undertaken. Details on HaveYourSay. Residents in the adjoining areas – Mowbray Rd West, Walkers Drive, Kinsellas Drive and Sawyer Crescent have been letterboxed on Thursday 20 June, 2019. Submissions due by Friday 12 July 2019. Sought a volunteer to deliver some flyers to affected houses including Avian Crescent where Council had not notified. Six volunteers responded. Information distributed.

**Tennis courts 52 Fullers Rd:** Consultants have recommended that consideration be given to installing lights at the courts. We distributed a flyer to neighbours and contacted the Ward councillors. The following response was received from Clr. Campbell:

*Thanks for sharing your concern.*

*I think there is a little confusion here- lights on the court were not on the agenda last night. What was on the agenda was an overall tennis court management strategy, which was recommended to be put out for public consultation (starts on page 165 of the agenda if you download it from the web page).*

*Although it does reference a previous audit, which notes that these particular courts are not lit and could be, the strategy does not recommend specifics re lighting (or any specifics at all for that matter, since it's a strategy). Any such proposals would have to go through their own consultation and DA process in any case, to the extent that they come up. As direct neighbours you would of course be informed and have your input sought were such a scenario ever to eventuate.*

*The overall strategy on the agenda last night seemed reasonable to me, and the public consultation / exhibition is the perfect time to make submissions about any specifics in it, including lighting (or the potential for lighting). I didn't see any harm in proceeding with gathering input on the overall strategy, and my colleagues felt the same; it passed without opposition.*

*If the matter ever proceeds to recommending lighting (which is far from certain at this point since the strategy document notes we have sufficient tennis court infrastructure on the public lands which we manage), we would be having a much different discussion, and there would be a robust consultation and debate.*

*That said, please use the opportunity of the exhibition when it goes up to register your concerns on that particular point.*

*I hope that helps clarify a bit. Please let me know if you have any further queries.*

**Tennis court strategy:** Council has issued a tennis court strategy which we believe is flawed as a number of tennis facilities were overlooked by the consultants. Ward Councillors

were alerted. Undertaking given by Cllr. Campbell that the full consultant's report would be included with publicly exhibited documents. Have Your Say should be available towards the end of July.

**126 Greville Street: Note: The closing date for submission the 19<sup>th</sup> July. If the proposed motion below is carried an email would need to be sent to Council immediately following the meeting:**

After a recent security incident, the Church of Scientology is proposing changes to public access to the site. A condition of the original consent was that the public had the right to enter and cross the site. The current proposal place security gates on the Greville St and Range Rd entry points (the rear boundary to bushland would remain open). Key cards would be issued to adjoining neighbours. Apart from those entering the site from the bushland at the rear, all other members of the public would need to request access via a security intercom. Egress from the site would be via way of an exit button. The Church is also requesting a change to a condition regarding the gates operations after 6PM.

**Motion:**

CWWPA would like to note that the gates have already been closed for some period of time.

In DA 2014/430F at 126 Greville St CWWPA requests as per the original Conditions of Consent that access should remain and the public should continue to have access.

If Council does decide that gates are warranted then CWWPA would like to see included as conditions of consent in any approval.

- a). Key cards should be available to any resident of the West Ward. Reason: Currently all residents have unfettered access to the site.
- b). All locked gates with exit buttons also be fitted to a 'back to security' emergency telephone. Reason: In case of gate malfunction.
- c). In relation to Clause 77, CWWPA notes the proposed deletion of the words "Greville Street entry gates should close at 10:30pm as being redundant. If the DA is approved.
- d). CWWPA objects to the deletion of the condition "No closing/opening of the gates should occur between 6PM and 10:30PM" Reason: This was inserted as a Condition of Consent for noise alleviation for neighbours. If the clause was deleted neighbours would be adversely affected. If the Church wished allow access/egress by this gate between then prescribed hours it would need either to leave the gate open (as at present) or place security on the open gate to control access.
- e). Gates provide a safety risk of being locked in.

***Moved by: Diane Seconded by: Richard All in favour.***

**OH Reid Citizens Panel:** We would like to provide you with an update on our fight to stop the potential installation of Floodlights at OH Reid Oval. With the assistance of our West Ward Councillors we have been able to persuade Council to form a Citizens Panel to provide input into the Master Plan for OH Reid oval. The panel is being formed and should be up and running by early July. The Council has called expressions of interest for Panel members. As previously determined, Council has been advised that our Open Space Convener is CWWPA nominee on the panel. The citizen's panel will meet several times between July and Oct/Nov which will allow us and others to put our case. A draft consensus-driven report from the Citizen's Panel will be submitted to Council around Nov. The report will then be circulated to residents for comment - late 2019 or early 2020. The goal of the Council is to have an endorsed Master Plan for OH Reid Reserve by Feb. 2020.

Cr Saville advised that the panel has been chosen and will be notified shortly.

**Developer funded projects:** Council can levy new development for funds for specific projects across the city. There are a number of projects planned for West Ward over the next ten years. Total planned is nearly \$11,000,000. Whilst West Ward represents around 25% of the city our allocation is just over 20% of funds to be spent. Planned projects include new synthetic grass field costing \$1,000,000 (precise location unknown at this stage) and \$2,200,000 to be spent on sporting facilities at Chatswood High School. Full details are provided on CWWPA.org and in the Appendix. Note: If the develop levy funds are not forthcoming due to a downturn in development these projects may not be realised.

Cr Saville asked where these numbers came from as it appears that the CHS oval has already been completed and Andrea Austin asked if the \$2.2m to be provided for the CHS is being done in conjunction with the Department of Education.

***Councillors should be asked to explain why West Ward does not have an appropriate number and value of projects***

**Sports shuttle:** The NSW Department of Transport is partnering with Sutherland Shire Council for a weekend sports shuttle bus that would stop at major sporting fields.

**Motion:** At the last meeting of the CWWPA it was resolved that we write to Council requesting what plans does Council have to introduce a weekend sportsground shuttle bus service". **Background:** Weekend traffic congestion is a major problem for Willoughby. A lot of this is caused by journeys to and from and drop-off and pickups at sporting facilities.

***Moved by: Chee Seconded by: Andrea All in favour.***

**Open space ratio:** Richard Lambert brought in an article from the Herald Sun which showed that on a People per hectare basis, our neighbouring Councils had more space. *Moved and accepted that we ask Willoughby Council how this was measured, their involvement and what was our status*

Council responded: *Council was not asked to provide data or comment on this article and first saw it when it was published. It was also published in The Age, with the data attributed to "2016-2017 data, as reported by councils to the NSW Office of Local Government"*

<https://www.theage.com.au/politics/nsw/how-your-area-of-sydney-fares-for-open-space-20190412-p51dr6.html?cspt=1555978514|345f9dc9ed4a8b3105ae6a0070ce69e3>

**Chatswood Golf Club:** The initial assessment of the re-development of Chatswood Golf Club is still with Willoughby Council. If they find that the proposal is compatible with the site and if the initial assessment is positive the plans are placed on public exhibition before being considered by the Sydney North Planning Panel. As part of its initial assessment, Council advised the club that it would not support and loss of private recreational space on the site. The club is looking to provide a retirement village on the site along with improved facilities for its members and the public. If you wish to stay informed about this application you could write to Council and/or your ward councillors requesting that you be kept informed of the progress of the application.

## **TRAFFIC & TRANSPORT**

**Resident parking scheme review:** Council is reviewing the resident parking scheme west of the highway surrounding the public schools. See map of study area in attachment. The review is to determine if the existing Resident Parking Scheme should be extended to improve access to on-street parking. Online comments will be open on Have Your Say Willoughby after the school holidays/

**255 bus service:** The Associations resolution and background information was forwarded to council's traffic engineer. **Response:** Council Traffic team has completed a review of the STA bus service route #255 (De Villiers Avenue/Eddy Rd and Lone Paine Avenue) and community consultations on street parking changes have been completed. Majority of the local residents support proposals to introduce new timed No Parking restrictions on De Villiers Ave/Eddy Rd and Lone Pine Ave, to support the safe and efficient movement of STA buses operating between Chatswood and Chatswood West. Traffic reports with recommendations have been prepared for the Local Traffic Committee's review on 19 June and Council's final approval.

On the 19<sup>th</sup> June Council at the local traffic committee is proposing:

1. The implementation of new timed Bus Zone regulatory parking restrictions in De Villiers Avenue, Eddy Road and Lone Pine Avenue, Chatswood.
2. That Transport for New South Wales and State Transit Authority are requested to immediately supply a fleet of smaller sized buses suited to safely, efficiently and reliably operate the 255 bus service operating between Chatswood Transport Interchange and Chatswood West.
3. That the implementation of timed No Parking regulatory parking restrictions in De Villiers Avenue, Eddy Road and Lone Pine Avenue be considered following receipt of advice from Transport for New South Wales and State Transit Authority.

**Pacific Highway, Oliver, Albert & Centennial:** A man has been taken to hospital in a critical condition after he was struck by a car at the intersection of the Pacific Highway, Albert Avenue and Oliver Road. He was crossing the Highway with his wife and dog. The man sustained spinal and head injuries and was been taken to Royal North Shore Hospital in a critical condition. The woman received minor injuries after falling during the incident. The injured dog was taken to the local vet and later died.

The CWWPA has been lobbying Roads & Maritime Services (RMS) and Willoughby Council and Police for years to rectify this dangerous location. Maybe something will be done now someone has been nearly killed.

The Police report the car was travelling southbound on the Highway meaning it probably ran the red light at Albert Avenue. Many cars have been observed doing this and we have reported this specific problem.

Many times on the Highway the Centennial Ave lights are green and the Albert Ave lights are still red for a while so cars cruise through the whole intersection, often at speed. Even railway replacement buses have been seen having trouble stopping at the red on Albert.

The Pacific Highway is an RMS Road. Please refer to the local traffic committee agendas and minutes on the council website for information about previous complaints:

<http://www.willoughby.nsw.gov.au/Council-Meetings/Committee-List/Traffic-Committee/>

In particular refer to:

- Item 6.1 in the agenda and minutes for the 15 Aug 2018 meeting concerning Pacific Highway and Victoria Avenue; and
- Item 6.2 in the agenda and minutes for the 20 June 2018 meeting concerning Pacific Highway/Albert Ave/Centennial Ave.



Referring to the recommendation of the item 6.2, 20 June 2018 meeting, CWWPA will consider at its next meeting in July 2019 the following for referral to the council traffic officer:

**MOVE THAT:** “A car and pedestrian collision occurred at the intersection of Pacific Highway, Albert Avenue and Oliver Road on 27 June 2019.”

With regard to item 6.2 of the Local traffic committee meeting on 20 June 2018, can the RMS and council update CWWPA on the progress of safety and performance improvements at the intersection as well as funding for the intersection under the NSW Black Spot Program. That NSW Police advise if any additional monitoring of traffic flow and safety needs to be implemented at this intersection.

**Moved by: Charles Seconded by: Richard All in favour.**

**Beaconsfield lights:** Update?

**534 bus replaced by 533 bus:** Transport for NSW has announced some changes to local bus routes: Route 534 between Ryde Shops and Chatswood via North Ryde will be replaced by route 533, which will now operate full time seven days a week. New timetables available on 28<sup>th</sup> July. 627 and 628 buses have been cancelled. **Maps on website.**

**Metro NorthWest & Station Link buses:** Metro trains commenced on 26 May after some teething problems the service now seems to be operating satisfactorily.

**Millwood Avenue:** The nature strip foliage and debris is now unfortunately encroaching the footpath again on Millwood Avenue nature strip Chatswood west. It's now to the point of being dangerous in some places for pedestrians. **Follow up sent to Council, noting that Millwood is under the Care and Control of RMS.**

**Trial CBD parking availability website:** Council has released an interesting [online parking map](#) for the Chatswood CBD. The online map shows the location of all potential off-street parking locations (free & PAID) as well as Council off-street parking stations (of which there are two). Council claims that “*the new parking map website makes it easier for drivers to find parking in Chatswood, reducing congestion and making trips more efficient*”. However, they do not provide any evidence to back their claims.

The map does not show available parking spaces in real-time. So there is really little difference knowing that some streets have paid parking whilst others are free – if you can find a space. What drivers want is to know where there is an available space.

**Federal funding of critical infrastructure:** A former NSW Premier is calling on the Federal Government to provide funding to assist with the cost of the state providing critical infrastructure. The call is predicated on the assertion that many of the infrastructure demands Sydney faces are a result in the very large increase in population for which we are expected to cater. Largely, this population increase is a result of the Federal government's immigration policy and a lack of a population strategy. Immigration to Sydney could be growing from 40,000 p.a to 100,000 p.a.

**Motion:** That the CWWPA write to our local Federal Members, the Hon. Trent Zimmerman and the Hon. Paul Fletcher requesting that he advocate for the Federal Government to provide critical infrastructure funding for NSW.

**Moved by: Chee Seconded by: Richard All in favour.**



## MAJOR DEVELOPMENTS

**Expansion of the Chatswood Education Precinct:** Public consultation occurred on 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> of May. Added to significant register??

**Chatswood Golf Course Senior Living proposal:** Council replied” In reply to your request for information regarding Chatswood Golf Club I can advise that an application has been lodged with the Department of Planning and Environment for a Site Compatibility Certificate (SCC). The Application will be determined by the Sydney North Planning Panel. If issued, a SCC will enable a Development Application to be lodged for a Seniors Living Development on part of the land owned by the Chatswood Golf Club .

If a Development Application is received by Council it will be notified to surrounding residents as well as Chatswood West Progress Association for 21 days. Council will be the determining authority for the Development Application.

You can find information regarding the SCC Application on the Department of Planning website at :

[https://scc.planningportal.nsw.gov.au/proposaldetails.php?rid=SCC\\_2017\\_WILLO\\_001\\_00](https://scc.planningportal.nsw.gov.au/proposaldetails.php?rid=SCC_2017_WILLO_001_00)

**Bowen & Moriarty:** Council officers are supporting a ‘spot re-zoning’ of 1A-29 Bowen Street & 6-18 Moriarty St. The Planning Proposal seeks to amend Willoughby Local Environmental Plan 2012 to change the zoning for the sites and adjacent roadway at Bowen Street from R2 Low Density Residential to R4 High Density Residential, allow a building height of up to 30 metres and a Floor Space Ratio up to 2.5:1 (including 7% residential GFA to be affordable housing). NB Conservation Zone has been lifted. Cr Saville raised that she was the only Councillor against the development at Council.

**41 Wood St:** The following response from Council has been provided by Clr. Saville. The application is still under assessment which will determine numerical compliance or otherwise. We have had other applications (for residential flat buildings) which have been applied for under *SEPP Affordable Housing* requiring the 10 year affordable use. This has been addressed through conditions including evidence of engagement for 10 years of an affordable housing provider (such as Link Housing or others) together with a restriction on title. With these conditions in place the responsibility to monitor and ensure it is used for affordable housing purposes would primarily rest with the affordable housing provider.

**Fawltly Towers:** After the ludicrous situations with the Mascot and Opal residential towers the State Government is only now considering a crackdown on dodgy construction work. They are proposing registering building designers, engineer and architects on the basis that they could be de-registered if they transgress. They still seem unwilling to recognise the deficiencies in the private certifier process where the developer pays the certifier to sign-off on the building. They claim that they have already addressed the issue of shonky certifiers. It is obvious the certification process has to be returned to the only qualified independent staff and process – Council inspectors.

You can read the details of what is proposed and have your say at:<https://www.fairtrading.nsw.gov.au/consultation-tool/building-stronger-foundations> **Submissions close on 24/07/2019 at 11:59 pm**

## GENERAL BUSINESS

**Inappropriate illuminated advertising sign:** We were alerted by a member of an inappropriate illuminated sign at the Transport Interchange. This high profile advertisement for the new movie 'Child's Play' is on display at Chatswood Station. If

you look, the child is holding a large knife. Hundreds of our children pass this sign twice a day. Given that the issue of children and weapons is problematic in our schools, many people are outraged. If you would like to express your outrage you can write to the responsible organisations below (and send a copy of your correspondence to cwwpa.org@gmail.com)

**Advertising Standards Panel who hears community complaints about advertising**

<https://adstandards.com.au/lodge-complaint>

**oOh! media who owns the billboard - the ad company that self-regulates**

<https://www.oohmedia.com.au/contact-us/>

**NSW Trains who sells the space**

<https://www.transport.nsw.gov.au/about-us/contact/complaints-and-feedback>

**Passing of Les Murray:** Council responded to our call for a permanent, public commemorative tribute for Les as follows: *"The oil painting of Les Murray by Margaret Acland (a finalist in the 1983 Archibald) was temporarily removed from public display at Chatswood library while we undertook some upgrade works.*

*The intention is to re-hang the painting in a public area of the library, with a plaque commemorating Les and the significant cultural contributions that he made. Officers would be happy to work with you on the wording for this plaque."*

The Secretary recently attended a mini memorial for Les at Chatswood Library where he spoke and read one of Les' poems.

Suggestions included maybe having a room named after him.

**The 'Archipaws' Pet Portrait competition** promotes Willoughby City Council's Pet Festival that will come alive with activities for pets and their human companions on Saturday, September 21 at OH Reid Oval, Chatswood West. Artists, owners and pet lovers can submit their drawings, paintings or photographs before August 9. Twenty finalists will have their images featured on 3 m tall flags in the Chatswood CBD and be in the running for a prize pack. [Enter at website](#)

**Illuminated awning signs:** Re Development application: 455 Victoria Avenue Chatswood NSW 2067. (DA-2019/155) Convert existing under awning classic sign into a changing LED sign. A member has provided the following information. *"I have lodged an objection as follows and have copied you in. This might be a matter for discussion with Mayor as here are increasing attempts to ignore this bylaw and Council appears not to be enforcing as in case of the newly opened Chemist Warehouse which actually has two such signs! Most Councils ban animated awning signs. Sydney City Council enforces this principle strongly.*

David Grover updated that this particular sign had been switched off but raised that more and more flashing signs are appearing.

**Motion:** That Council enforces its own guidelines for advertising throughout the city – particularly in regards to animated signage.

***Moved by: Diane Seconded by: Diana All in favour.***

**CWWPA Facebook:** The Secretary currently posts items of interest to the cwwpa.org website. These posts are then automatically posted on the CWWPA Facebook page. It has been suggested that it would be useful if these posts could also be made on other Facebook sites such as Willoughby Living. To date we have not a simple method to do this. We would welcome a volunteer to work with the Secretary on this project. Diana volunteered.

**WWBytes:** The approach has been modified. Now includes a link to CWWPA website for each headline article.

**West Ward News:** It is planned to have a West Ward News ready for delivery in August. Now that we have a Website and FB site that contain detailed articles on the very latest news (as well as the WWBytes) the West Ward News main focus will be on driving residents to those sites and particularly to register for the West Ward Bytes. Accordingly, we may not need to have a large edition of the News. The stories carried will highlight those aspects where the Association 'has made a difference' on behalf of residents. The Editor is being supported by two additions to the distribution assembly and volunteer coordination team and a proof reader.

**Archipaws pet competition OH Reid:** The 'Archipaws' Pet Portrait competition promotes Willoughby City Council's Pet Festival that will come alive with activities for pets and their human companions on Saturday, September 21 at OH Reid Oval, Chatswood West. Artists, owners and pet lovers can submit their drawings, paintings or photographs before August 9. Twenty finalists will have their images featured on 3 m tall flags in the Chatswood CBD and be in the running for a prize pack.

**Illegal dumping:** It is reported that there were 416 cases of illegal dumping in Willoughby City last year but only 7 prosecutions. Unfortunately, no information was provided in the report as to how this compares to other Council areas within Sydney. It is possible that the incidences of illegal dumping may have increased since Council introduced its '**One free pickup a year**' service.. Some residents may think it is OK to place rubbish on their verge and that the Council will just come along and pick it up. Perhaps Council needs to do more education on this issue.

**LSPS:** Cr Saville advised that the LSPS was about to become available for comment and she encouraged for all to have a look and comment on any matters that could raise concern including green space, schools, traffic and density.

**Correspondence OUT/IN** – handled within Agenda.

**The next meeting will be on the Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> August.**

**Meeting to close at 9:40 PM**

**Absences:** Sept – Terry; Oct – Charles, Nov – Terry.

## COMMITTEE MEETING

Confirmation of memberships:

**Jul 2019 committee meeting:**

**Confirm renewing members**

First	Surname
Robert	Fuss
Mary Veronica	Fuss
John & Margaret	Greathead

**Approve new members:**

First	Surname
Peter	Wright
Fiona	Lines

**Donations as no details provided**

First	Surname
Kerry	Owens
Jake	Owens
Harriet	Owens
Madeleine	Owens

### Decisions between meetings

Over the past two months I forwarded two matters to the Committee seeking a response. On both occasions I received less than optimum responses. Under such conditions, unless there is a clear majority I leave things they were.

It is quite frustrating not receiving even an acknowledgement let alone a response. The way it is now, I am wasting time that I would really prefer to be doing something else.

I would like to suggest we have a face to face meeting when I return to try and agree some ground rules.

## Council Confidentiality

A local government Council from time to time needs to deal with information of a confidential nature. How such information is to be managed is set out in the **NSW Local Government Act 1993** (1993 Act) **Chapter 4, Part 1 Clause 10A** (Chapter 4). This deals with information destined for Council meetings and Council Committee Meetings (where all members are Councillors). The types of information that can be deemed confidential includes: matters of a personal nature, commercial-in-confidence, maintenance of law, security, litigation and Aboriginal heritage.

The **1993 Act** is silent on how information is to be managed prior to it being presented to Council. Under **Part 335 (1) and (2)** of the 1993 Act declares that the General Manager is “generally responsible for the efficient and effective operation of the council’s organization “ and “... the day-to-day management of the council.” So, prior to the tabling of information to a formal meeting of Council, the determination of confidentiality of Council information seems to rest with the General Manager.

When information is to be presented to a Council meeting, **Chapter 4** is invoked. The **2018 Department of Local Government’s Model Code of Meeting Practice for Local Councils** (the 2018 Model Code) specifies that “*Council and committee meetings should be: Transparent, Informed, Inclusive, Principled, Trusted, Respectful, Effective and Orderly*” (Meeting Principles 2.1).

The **2018 Model Code** introduced another category of defined Councillor meeting termed a **Pre-meeting Briefing Session**. Clause 3.32 of the Model Code states inter alia “*Prior to each ordinary meeting of the council the general manager may arrange a pre-meeting briefing session to brief councillors on business to be considered at the meeting. Pre-meeting briefing sessions may also be held for extraordinary meetings of the council and meetings of committees of the council*”. Clause 3.33 further states that “*Pre-meeting briefing sessions are to be held in the absence of the public*”.

The **1993 Act** is silent on the concept of a **Pre-Meeting Briefing Session**. It is understood that **Chapter 4** would not apply to such meetings. Hence, information not generally covered by **Chapter 4** could be deemed confidential at the discretion of the General Manager..

In the **Willoughby 2019 Adopted Code of Meeting Practice** (Willoughby Code) **clause 3.32 states that** “*Prior to each ordinary meeting of the council, the general manager may arrange a councillor briefing session to brief councillors on business to be considered at the / or in future meetings and any other matters*”. The wording, whilst different to the **2018 Model Code** is likely consistent with it and probably more accurately reflects the Willoughby practice of General Manager Briefing Sessions occurring at times other than immediately preceding a Council/Committee meeting.. Again under clause 3.33 of the **Willoughby Code** these sessions are to be closed to the public. Again **Chapter 4** would not apply.

### DEALING WITH COUNCILLOR QUESTIONS

In the **Willoughby Code**, **clause 3.14** “*A councillor may, by way of a notice submitted under clause 3.09, ask a question for response by the general manager about the performance or operations of the council*”. **Clause 3.9** states that “*A councillor may give notice of any business they **wish** to be considered by the council at its next ordinary meeting by way of a notice of motion*”. The practice of Councillors submitting questions that are not in the form of a notice of motion is largely historical. It would seem preferable that all business be transacted by a formal notice of motion. **Clause 3.16** provides that “*the general manager or their nominee may respond to a question with notice submitted under clause 3.14 by way of a report included in the business papers*”. Note that there is not a requirement for a general manager to provide such a report.

**Clause 3.12** states that *“If the general manager considers that a notice of motion submitted by a councillor for consideration at an ordinary meeting of the council has legal, strategic, financial or policy implications which should be taken into consideration by the meeting, the general manager **may** prepare a report in relation to the notice of motion for inclusion with the business papers for the meeting at which the notice of motion is to be considered by the council”*. Again, there is no imperative that the general manager to submit such a report.

#### **CAN A GENERAL MANGER NOT LIST A NOTICE OF MOTION PUT BY A COUNCILOR UNDER CLAUSE 3.14?**

The wording of this clause is such (*“they wish to be considered by the council at its next ordinary meeting”*) there does not seem to be a requirement for the General Manager to immediately list such a motion. However, if the Motion is listed, you would expect that **Chapter 4** would be invoked so that those parts of the motion that do not involve confidentiality would be considered in open session by Council. However, it would still be open to the General Manager to list any part of the motion for confidential consideration of the Council in accordance with **Chapter 4**. There does not seem to be a provision in **the 1993 Act** or the **Willoughby Code** **actually** requiring the General Manager to list any Councillor motion.

#### **IN THE CASE OF CLR. SAVILLE’S QUESTION**

##### **Item 21.1 QUESTION**

I am wondering if you could please give councillors an update on the following aspects:

- Rentals and leases at the shops
- are we on track re any associated building costs and our budget?
- Any other relevant aspects?

The ANSWER provided in the Council papers was *“These matters were addressed in a confidential memo to all Councillors dated 9 May 2019”*. Additionally, it was minuted that at the Council meeting *“in accordance with **clause 32(5) of the adopted Code of Meeting Practice** the Deputy Mayor ruled that no questions or discussion would be permitted on the response provided by Council staff in Item 21.1”*.

#### **HYPOTHETICAL – WHAT IF THE SAME INFORMATION WAS SOUGHT BY A NOTICE OF MOTION**

For instance the mover could **MOVE THAT** the General Manager release information on the above (question) items previously provided to Councillors by way of a confidential memo dated ..... that does not warrant confidentiality being maintained under **Chapter 4**. It would appear that under such a motion some information may need to be publicly released. However, the General Manager might still be within their rights not to release certain information at a specific time under their ‘responsibility’ remit. For example, the previously provided confidential information may not have been a complete set and work could still be in train on developing final position.

## Meeting with Mayor

**Chee reports:** CEO discussed the **new Council meeting schedule** to start from August. 1st and 3rd Mondays of the month will the Councillor briefings, 3rd Monday the Council meeting and 4th Monday a community information session. External parties eg. RMS may be invited to present. The information sessions will be open to the public, Councillors may/may not attend and this will not be a decision making forum. Proposed time 6.30 – 8pm, questions will be allowed from the floor and anticipated that by the following Monday, information links will be posted. Considering webcasting the information sessions, but webcasting may be too rigid, so possibly a video. There may be more than one subject matter per session. Looking at 10 sessions per year, Feb to Nov, although with a mid-year break, may be 9 sessions. May revert to “old” meeting schedule if not considered to be working, although there is no commitment for review or timing for this, will need at least 12 months

Concerns raised that **much seems to be done in confidence these days**, on the basis of commercial-in-confidence, legal process or some such. Debra Just went into great detail with regards to the Concourse cladding on why this was done under the cloak of confidentiality.

**Local Strategic Planning Statements** are not spot rezonings but a planning paper on how Council is responding to the Planning Panel.

CEO did not respond to the issue of FWPA **not being able to get someone from state government to present on how LEPs, DCPs and LSPs interact**, although later in the meeting it was suggested that the Planning process be one of the subjects for a community information session.

Question asked how the **Local Planning Panel** was going, as it was about 6 months since commencement. CEO quoted some statistics – about 70 applications – and considered to be going well. With experts on the panel who can make decisions/adjustments/conditions on the spot, it was considered to be an efficient process.

**Boarding houses** – to increase number of car parking spaces, limits on size in low density area to a maximum of 12 rooms. No changes to areas they can build in.

**Local (shopping) Centre Strategy** – final LEP/DCP to be in place in 2021. Report to Council late 2019/early 2020 when there will be an opportunity for the community to comment. If want further engagement, put hand up now (Norma Shanky-Williams)

Other matters discussed/mentioned – public liability insurance, Willoughby Leisure Centre renovation, Northbridge Plaza car park, off street parking in new developments, upkeep of verges. Meeting closed 8.55pm



## REQUESTED MERGER WITH CEPA

### CHATSWOOD EASTSIDE PA (CEPA) SUGGESTION TO MERGE WITH CWWPA

CEPA has suggested a merger with CWWPA. CEPA has been advised is unlikely that would be in the best interest of CWWPA for us to merge. They have also been advised that they could join as Associate Members i.e. no voting rights. Detailed report in Appendices.

**Motion:** That CWWPA advise CEPA that they are welcome to joining CWWPA as Associate members.

**CESPA wrote:** at the last meeting of Chatswood East PA we discussed the future of Chatswood East PA (CEPA) given our inability to attract new members, no one volunteering for committee positions and I am working full time again and cannot devote the time required to the Presidents role. **Our initial response was as follows:**

*Sorry to hear of the tribulations of the Chatswood Eastside PA. We know that a few Associations are considering merging. A sign of the times perhaps.*

*Whilst the **Chatswood West Ward** PA (CWWPA) also grapples to maintain a strong following we have been reasonably successful having expanded our Committee in the past couple of years. Monthly communication with around 600 westwarders and a yearly printed newsletter distributed to 6,000 households in West Ward*

**CESPA:** We discussed options for merger (or other) and all agreed Chatswood West would be best option given shared responsibility for Chatswood CBD, in same ward and would create the "Chatswood" PA, in line with other suburb based PAs.

*To clarify, the boundaries of the CWWPA are **synonymous with the boundary of the Willoughby West Ward**. This extends generally to the vicinity of Archer Street and **includes the majority of the Chatswood CBD**. Some time ago, we agreed with the Chatswood Eastside PA on this boundary which published on the map of PA boundaries available on Council's website.*

*The Chatswood Eastside Progress Association lies **wholly within the Middle Harbour Ward***

*CWWPA covers the following Willoughby suburbs: Chatswood West, Lane Cove North, part of Roseville and part of Chatswood. So **we are not a "whole of suburb" PA**. like many others.*

**CESPA:** It was agreed I would reach out to you to see if any interest and identify a way forward. I cannot find a contact number for you, thus email. Can you give me a call on 0411 042 851 so we can discuss as we have our meeting next Tuesday and wanted to advise of some indication and response.

*Phil, I doubt that we could give you a response within such a tight timeframe. I believe our President is on holidays at the moment. We would need to prepare an appraisal of your proposal for our members consideration. Whilst we generally meet monthly, we do not meet in June, so our next meeting is the 3<sup>rd</sup> week in July.*

*The following clauses in our Constitution would be relevant for any amalgamation.:*

*The **objects** of the association shall be:*

- i) to represent the interests of the residents and ratepayers of **Chatswood West Ward** of the City of Willoughby.*

- ii)            ii) to preserve and improve the amenity and environment of **Chatswood West Ward**

*The **boundary** of the association **shall align with the boundary of the West Ward of Willoughby City Council** or such other boundary as may be determined by the association from time to time and as recorded in its rules.*

*2. (4) **In the case of the association being amalgamated** with another association, persons who were members of those associations immediately before any amalgamation will be the members of the new association.*

Subsequently, we advised CEPA that they would be welcome as Associate members.

Here is the relevant section from our Constitution:

## **2 (b) Associate membership**

(1) Any person who does not meet the requirements of another membership category may apply to become an associate member of the association (2) An associate member has the right to attend meetings of the association, raise an issue and speak to it. (3) An associate member does not have the right to move, speak, enter into debate or vote on a motion or stand for election to the Committee

At her sole discretion, the Chair may propose a motion to address a matter raised by an Associate member. Typically, such a motion would only apply for a significant issue.

The following table is redacted. It was incorrectly published on the Council website.

## Developer Funded Projects

Item	Description	\$	Timeframe
6	Waling tracks from CBD to Lane Cove River	250,000	Medium-term
7	Signs for walking tracks	90,000	Short-term
9	Lane Cove River suburbs stormwater outlets	60,000	Short-term
10	All suburbs creek banks	150,000	Short-term
11	All suburbs foreshore protection	100,000	Long-term
22	West Ward playgrounds	1,350,000	Short-term
26	West Ward picnic shelter, BBQs	100,000	Medium-term
32	Chatswood synthetic grass field	1,000,000	Short-term
35	Chatswood High multi-purpose synthetic court	200,000	Medium-term
36	Chatswood High School Indoor sports facility	2,000,000	Long-term
37	Refurbish tennis courts for multi-purpose use	5,000,000	Short-term
43	Zenirh centre improvements	275,000	Short-medium-term
47	Cianter studio improvements	28,650	Short-term
48	Mosaic centre	40,000	Short term
52	Devonshire St day care	10,000	Short-term
54	Ext'n bicycle network	30,000	Medium-term
55	Upgrade bicycle routes	10,000	Long-term
57	Upgrade bicycle routes	10,000	Long-term
60	CBD pedestrian access	200,000	Medium-term
72	Bus shelters	15,000	Medium-term
73	Bush shuttle	25,000	Short-term

TOTAL West Ward	10,943,650
TOTAL City	50,953,300
West Ward percentage	21.48%

## Chatswood Resident Parking Scheme Review



*Resident Parking Study Area*

As part of Council's Street Parking Strategy implementation plan, Council has completed a street parking study for the Chatswood area west of highway in the vicinity of the public schools **to determine if the existing Resident Parking Scheme should be extended to improve access to on-street parking**. The extent of the study area is shown on the plan above.

Council would like to have your views on the proposal before Monday, 5 August 2019. They have advised *"We will organise a Have Your Say survey after school holidays. A consultation letter will be mailed out to the affected residents advising the proposal and requesting to comment on it using an online survey form or paper copy form. We would like to have your views on the proposal before Monday, 5 August 2019."*

The key traffic generators in and around the precinct include Chatswood train station, Chatswood Public School, retail shops and businesses situated along Pacific Highway and Albert Avenue. Currently a Resident parking scheme operates in some streets in the Precinct. The key objectives of the study are to review the appropriateness of extending the resident parking scheme in the Chatswood area and the appropriate type of parking restrictions (e.g. length and duration) should a resident parking scheme be justified.

In this study, parking occupancy surveys were undertaken on weekdays and Saturday at hourly intervals. The survey data was analysed to understand long-term parking behaviours and parking demand in each street. Based on the analysis a Resident Parking proposal has been formulated. This proposal is aimed at achieving a balance between the parking needs to residents and visitors to the area. It is also important to ensure on-street parking is well utilised.

See map below which shows existing resident parking areas in the Study Area. There are unrestricted parking in the streets within Resident Parking Scheme areas,

e.g. on the northern side of Sutherland Road (Whitton Road-Pacific Hwy). In this proposal, we are extending Resident parking restrictions across those adjacent unrestricted parking spaces. The study looked at both sides of the streets on the boundary.



*Current Scheme*