

MINUTES

Chatswood West Ward Progress Association Meeting
Dougherty Centre, 7 Victor St, Chatswood
7:30 PM, Thursday 15th August 2019

Meeting to commence at: 7:30 PM

Welcome: The President welcomed 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: Alan Hall-Watson as a Director of Chatswood Golf club; Andrea Austin as a member of Chatswood Education Precinct planning group; Edward Dickey who works at the Church of Scientology.

Members Present: Sixteen members and visitors as recorded in the attendance book.

Apologies: Jim McCredie, Ruth Hardy, Bronwen Sidaway, Basil Laszynski and Lyn McCloskey, Bridget Miall, Kathy Vern-Barnett, John Hoult, Malcolm and Deirdre Putney, John Hayes, John Owens, Clr. Saville (received after meeting commenced).

Late items from Committee: Council is looking for volunteers for the Emerge Festival on 7th September. Details on the Emerge website.

Matters for General Business from members: None requested.

Late items requested by members: Nil

Minutes: The Minutes of the July meeting having been distributed to members were tabled, moved by adopted with the correction that the table of Developer Funded Projects was redacted as it was incorrectly published on the Council website. There was also a clarification regarding the proposed development at the Chatswood Golf Club – The Northern Planning Panel had approved the Club’s SCC and the DA is in preparation.

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

REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS

No Councillor reports were received.

FEDERATION OF WILLOUGHBY PROGRESS ASSOCIATIONS & NSROC

Public liability insurance: Letters sent to FWPs and Council advising that CWWPA advise FWPs and Council that will accept the Council offer to cover Public Liability Insurance *and we will take up the Federations Volunteer Insurance*. The following was received from Ms Melanie Smith, Community Culture & Leisure Director, Willoughby City Council -

Thu, Jul 25, 10:28 AM (23 hours ago)

It is noted on file that the Chatswood West Ward Progress Association will be covered under the umbrella of Council’s Public Liability Insurance.

GOVERNANCE

New Community Forums by Council: “an innovative new way Council is engaging with the community. Chaired by Mayor Gail Giles-Gidney, the seminars are a forum to hear about significant issues and projects. Once a month. The first Monday 26 August, 6.30pm – 8.00pm, Council Chambers, Level 6, 31 Victor Street, Chatswood

1. Sydney Metro Update

2. **Planning made easy: Presented by Greg McDonald, Director Planning and Infrastructure, Willoughby City Council**

Everyone welcome – no need to RSVP

Proposed change to rates base: There is talk again of changing the way rates are levied from the current system using the unimproved capital value to using market value (Capital Improved Value). This would mean that more valuable properties would pay an increased amount.

CHATSWOOD EASTSIDE PA (CEPA) SUGGESTION TO MERGE WITH CWWPA

CEPA advised that 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. **The President, Phil Dunbar, of CEPA has requested to address the meeting.**

Mr Dunbar addressed the meeting further outlining the reasons behind their proposal to merge with CWWPA. This included that on their eastern boundary they abut three PAs. They have their AGM next Tuesday and do not expect to be able to fill their Committee position which could lead to the need to fold the PA.

Questions & Facts:

How many households within CEPA area? Unclear. Many units in the eastern sector.

How many members? 71

Money in bank: \$266.00

Parks in area: 4

Issues: Parking, development on the fringe of the CBD

MAJOR LEGISLATION CHANGES

Emergency Services Levy: The state government has backed down on its intent that Councils would fund new benefits for the states' firemen for their rates. Councils rallied and the government has backed down, temporally at least, The state government will fund the benefits for next year. Firemen will get workers compensation for a range of ailments without the need to prove they were job related.

Local Strategic Planning Statement (LSPS): A 20-year vision for land use and how future growth and change will be managed. This is a new approach introduced by the State government that they will use in making determinations. Possibly the most important thing for us to respond to. Council has been alerted that the link to HaveYourSay was not working. Comments by 27 September. There is also a **Design Excellence Policy** on exhibition. Comments by 13 September. It was noted that the new Chatswood Plaza complex of Retail, Commercial, Heritage and Residential recently received a prestigious design reward.

HERITAGE ITEMS

9 Centennial Ave: David Grover provided an update outlining that scaffolding had been installed, although not to his satisfaction; windows are still open. He also mentioned that they have approval to sub-divide the site.

OPEN SPACE

126 Greville Street: Note: Due to logistical problems the resolution on this DA was submitted after the closing date. We received the following from the Church of Scientology:

we are happy to provide free access cards to any of our neighbours to come onto the grounds during the daytime, to enjoy the scenery or pass through on their way to the Gumnut cafe, or whathaveyou. (By neighbours I am meaning anyone who lives in the nearby streets, not just those directly adjoining our property). There is also an intercom at every entrance which can communicate immediately to our Security Office which is manned 24/7.

Late submission acknowledge by Council who said the resolution would be taken into consideration during assessment of the application.

Mr Dickie from the Church was at the meeting and offered access key cards to the site for any member who wanted on.

OH Reid Citizens Panel: First meeting Monday August 19.

Sports shuttle: Letter sent to Council supporting concept. We received the following response from Council: *“There are no proposals to investigate the provision of a Council bus service to support improved public transport access to recreational venues on weekends at this stage. Council’s preference is to work with Transport for New South Wales to improve its services rather than a new bus service involving Council”*. Full response in Appendices

Tennis Court Strategy: On exhibition for comments by September 30, 2019. Contains a number of references to lights near bushland.

TRAFFIC & TRANSPORT

Post StationLink: Charles Gowing reported that parking in the CBD has now reverted to pre Stationlink arrangements. Recently when the Metro and the Northern Line were closed on the weekend this caused havoc temporary bus stops were set up in different places than people expected. Charles has written to authorities about these matters.

Traffic Committee Agenda: Charles Gowing reported that the Agenda is late.

Proposed Clearways and No Standing: Millwood, Fullers, Highway plus View St, View Lane, Lapastrier Lane and James St, Chatswood (see attachment). Council asked to clarify situation regarding off-road parking along clearways and the difference to the current white shoulder line on Millwood Ave. Advice was that there is no change.

Kiss & Ride Signs: Around the Interchange, the traditional green advisory signs below a No Parking regulatory sign have been replaced with hard to see sign set back on the footpath. Council have advised that TfNSW proposed using the new signage. WE requested information on the number of parking fines issued at Kiss and Ride zones but Council does not have the figure.

Pacific Highway, Oliver, Albert & Centennial accident: Letter sent to Council who advised that they referred it to RMS for response.

Beaconsfield lights: No update available.

Federal funding of critical infrastructure: Letters sent to Federal members – no acknowledgements.

MAJOR DEVELOPMENTS

Grand Tower: One of the three former NSW Architect Chris Johnson designed towers over Chatswood Interchange has been found to have combustible claddings. Orders have been issued for the immediate removal of the cladding.

Chatswood Education Precinct: Andrea Austin updated the meeting. Issues raised during the consultation sessions have been taken onboard by the Department. The school hall will be retained. The development is still on track

GENERAL BUSINESS

Proposed new shops: The majority of people were not in favour of more shops west of the highway. People were concerned about the need for increased residential density to support new shops and existing parking and traffic congestion. We suggested that our Ward Councillors take the opportunity to recommend that the reference to West Ward locations be removed from the report. **The Council unanimously moved to note the report.**

Out and about ride service for the aged: Council have launched a ride share service for the aged. Called Out and About aged patrons can book a car to take them to their desired destination. Cost: \$6.50 per trip. Note: Only available to My Aged Care assessed patrons.

Illuminated awning signs: Letter sent to Council that Council enforces its own guidelines for advertising throughout the city – particularly in regards to animated signage. Clr. Saville followed up with Council. Clr. Saville received a response from Council which included the following information:

Part G.5 of Willoughby Development Control Plan (WDCP) contains Council adopted provisions for the control of Advertisements and Advertising Signage in the LGA.

Council provisions are required to be read in conjunction with State Government controls which take precedent in the event of inconsistency. State Government controls applicable to signage include State Environmental Planning Policy 64 – Advertising and Signage (SEPP 64) as well as State Environmental Planning Policy (Exempt and Complying Development Codes) 2008 (Codes SEPP). Under the Codes SEPP certain signage does not require Council consent.

Part G.5 of WDCP incorporates a range of additional controls for signage. Although it does not prohibit changing or moving signage. Amenity and character of the surrounding area, cluttering and unnecessary repetition, architectural features of the building, etc. are all matters addressed in the DCP.

Council officers consistently apply the relevant provisions of SEPP 64, WDCP, RMS guidelines

Schedule 6 (Types of Advertising Structures) of WDCP. Part G.5 of WDCP was amended in 2011 and Schedule 6 was deleted in 2013.

Inappropriate advertising content: Determination received from Ad Standards Community Panel who dismissed the complaint on the basis that the ad was legal and compliant with Standards and noting that the Standards do not cover the location of an advertisement.

It was mentioned by the Secretary the need to engage with the complex documents Council publishes. The DCP mentioned above covers hundreds of controls. It is easy for Council to get things through without the community being aware of the details.

My community project: Information sought from Councillors regarding Council involvement with this initiative which provides funding for local projects. Clr. Saville forwarded a response from Council Officers that stated inter alia “*The ‘My Community Projects’ is a funding initiative administered by Service NSW. As this is a State Government initiative, Council has had no involvement with the process at all*”. Such is in fact not the case. Councils are referenced in the project details. They can either apply for funds for their own right or sponsor community nominated projects.

Former Principal Woodward: Ilma Woodward a former Principal of Chatswood High School recently turned 100. Ilma was the school’s third Principal and its first female Principal. She was also the first female Principal of a Co-educational High School in NSW. Ilma was Principal at CHS in the 1970s for six years

West Ward News: Quotes obtained. Rawson 2pp \$751, 4pp \$1,032' Direct Impressions 2pp \$609, 4pp \$689. Bob Lawrence OK to work with Phil Sharrat and Larry Salinger and Terry on recruiting deliverers and bundling. Diana Pryde will secure advertising. Will be called a **Spring Edition**. No specific time imperative.

Advisory Committees: We recommended to Council that the report be placed on Public Exhibition. Council determined unanimously to refer the report to the advisory committees for feedback. (Refer appendices).

New restaurant at the Concourse: Council approved a lease application from Guzman & Gomaz for a modern Mexican restaurant

Correspondence OUT/IN – handled within Agenda.

The next meeting will be on the Thursday 19th September

Meeting to closed at 9:20 PM

Absences: Sept – Secretary; Oct – Treasurer, Nov – Secretary

Appendices

Review of Advisory Committees

We welcome the release of Council's latest review of advisory committees report. However, due to the reasons outline below, we call on Councillors to:

1. Place the report on public exhibition
- or
2. Resolve to recommend the establishment of Consultative Groups for the next term of Council comprising experts with either technical or local strategic knowledge (and for the draft policy to be amended to reflect this determination).

Council resolved to defer the matter to allow further consultation with the advisory committees.

1. Why place on public exhibition?

There has been insufficient opportunity for advisory committees to formulate a considered response to the proposed policy. No Advisory Committee has met in the four days since the report was released. (Committees meet to a defined schedule)

The report includes **hitherto unseen documents** that may have significant impact on the quality of Council decision-making going forward.

2. Why establish Consultative Groups

There is no rationale provided in the policy for segmenting technical advice and local knowledge at the strategic level. The interplay of both, within a consultative group is more likely to result in a well thought through approach and provide Council with the more robust and informed overall advice.

Consultative groups are a more financially and effective option. Consultative groups that can provide BOTH expert technical advice AND expert local strategic knowledge will result in savings in Council staffing time. (Only need to service one group, not two). This is consistent with Council's strategic financial objectives.

It is most likely that Council would be unable to attract technical experts to donate their time pro bono rendering an Advisory Committee nonexistent. In comparison, local community members often have personal linkages to technical experts and could be used to assist 'recruit' such experts.

Council Response regarding sports shuttles

Council's Traffic & Transport Team Leader has forwarded the following response to your suggestion for an introduction for a sorts ground shuttle:

It is noted that part of the motor car users on the road network in Willoughby LGA on weekends are those undertaking recreation based journeys. These users typically choose to use their motor cars due to their family situation and complex journey paths and additional travel time required using rail and bus services and the cost of Uber/ taxis services. Also many journeys on weekends involve other destinations such as retail outlets and other recreational destinations.

The partnering of Transport for New South Wales with Sutherland Shire Council for a weekend sports shuttle bus that would stop at major sporting fields in Sutherland LGA is noted. Willoughby LGA is served by a high level of public transport services with the local and broader community having choice of rail, bus, Uber, taxis. These services are operated by NSW Government with service information can be found via the NSW Government website.

<https://transportnsw.info/travel-info>

In some instances, there is likely to be a proportion of the trip that also requires users to walk from stops to a venue.

There are no proposals to investigate the provision of a Council bus service to support improved public transport access to recreational venues on weekends at this stage. Council's preference is to work with Transport for New South Wales to improve its services rather than a new bus service involving Council. Also, any proposed new bus service involving Council would need to be thoroughly investigated to understand the costs and benefits. Information on the Transport for New South Wales with Sutherland Shire Council partnering initiative would be investigated to understand the problems, need and partnering arrangements in place between both parties for this service.

Full response re query on clearways

The Traffic and Transport Team Leader has advised that approaching the RMS is appropriate in obtaining the correct position on the current and proposed future street parking and traffic management arrangements in Millwood Avenue between Fullers Road and Lady Game Drive. Notwithstanding, the view is that the street parking along Millwood Avenue is managed by street parking restriction signposting. The following is provided as comments to the questions posed:

What is the difference between a Clearway and a white line control?

Clearway restrictions manage parking along a road including the ability to tow a vehicle from the road, the existing continuous white edge line is provided to support safe movement along a road.

- No Stopping and No Parking signs are typically used now to restrict parking along a length of road, there is limited use of these street parking restrictions along Millwood Avenue, north side of road.
- Clearway restrictions are in addition to and complementary with No Stopping and No Parking signs.

- NSW Road Rules 169 and 176 apply to Millwood Avenue. Please note that clearway signs will be implemented and potentially with broken yellow longitudinal line marking.
- It appears that drivers do not park along Millwood Avenue along the single lane sections as there is an understanding that this is always required for traffic movement.
- The existing continuous white edge line is provided for driver guidance to improve traffic safety and movement.
- The existing continuous white edge line can be crossed to enter and leave the shoulder parking areas (refer to NSW Road Rules 2014 Rule 150).

Will people still be able to park off the road on its northern side?

It is considered that the current parking and bus stop operations will be permissible with the clearway restrictions implemented.

- It is considered that the areas along Millwood Avenue, north side of road, where parking of a vehicle or a bus stop exist (and parking and picking up/ setting down of goods and people can occur in a safe manner) would be considered shoulders (a road related area as defined in NSW Road Rule 2014 Rule 13).
- Clearway restrictions do not apply to shoulders (Rule 176)

I hope this assists.

COMMITTEE MEETING

Meeting commenced at 9:20 PM

Present: Committee members as per general meeting.

Confirmation of memberships:

The following membership applications and renewals were confirmed: Marina Ilic; Kerry Owens, Jake Owens, Harriet Owens, Madeline Owens.

The following rules were adopted by the Committee:

Proof of membership eligibility

If requested by the Committee, members or applicants must present a photo ID confirming their current residential address..

Matters requiring a decision by the Committee between meetings

Consistent with a face to face meeting a no response in regard to an issue determination will be tallied as an abstention (and treated as a not in agreement with the proposal). The matter will be determined based on 50% plus 1 of elected committee numbers.