



MINUTES OF MEETING

COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

HELD WEDNESDAY 9 MARCH, 2016

NOTE: All minutes are subject to confirmation at a subsequent Council or Planning and Strategy Committee meeting.

PRESENT:

Councillors
Cllr Hugh Burns

Other Representatives

Sue Matthews	Penguin Warden
Michella Burgers	Community Member
Jacqueline French	Community Member
Lloyd Keen	Community Member
Keelah Lam	Community Member
Rosie Lempriere	Community Member
Rosanna Perillo-Boutin	Community Member
Jan Ritchie	Community Member
Janne Seletto	Community Member

Council Staff

Judy Reizes	Manager, Manly Environment Centre
Eduard McPeake	Manager, Natural Resources

Lars Ljung	MEC Intern
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Visitor:

Mia Dalby-Ball	Environmental Consultant
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TO THE MAYOR AND COUNCILLORS OF THE COUNCIL

The **Community Environment Advisory Committee** met on 9 March, 2016, to consider the matters referred to it and now provides the following advice to Council.

OPEN The meeting commenced at 7.05pm.

ITEM 1 APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE
Natasha Hammond-Deakin, David Thomas.

ITEM 2 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

ACTION

ACTION

Nil

ITEM 3 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

The minutes of the Committee meeting held 10 February, 2016 are confirmed.

ITEM 4 Presentation - Environmental Levy Bids - Ed McPeake, Manager Natural Resources.

Eduard McPeake presented the Environmental Levy Bids for 2016/17 which were accepted.

It was noted that due to staff problems with ticks, Bush Regeneration has been reduced from \$484,600 for previous 12 months to \$250,000.

Recommendation:

The Committee supports the Environmental Levy as presented by Eduard McPeake subject to confirmation of staff being used for bushland restoration actually being available not restricted to Parks and Gardens activity.

ITEM 5 Presentation by Mia Dalby-Ball, Ecological Consultant on 'Chemical Free Weeding and Bush Regeneration' as requested by a member of this Committee.

The relevance of this presentation relates to the following recent changes:

- **Glyphosate was deemed a probable carcinogen by the World Health Organisation in 2015.**
- **State Cover issued a letter requesting feedback from local Councils in relation to the use of Glyphosate**

The following documents were referred to in the presentation, tabled and provided to this Committee for later reference:

- A comprehensive draft document was presented, "Review of Glyphosate Use Including Alternatives to Chemical Use" by Mia Dalby-Ball on behalf of Ecological Consultants Australia. The document was prepared for an unnamed Council.
- "Chem Free Ecological Restoration Techniques" a paper presented to the Sydney Weeds Conference in 2015" was also shown to demonstrate the three main common sources of chemical free weed management, ie heat treatment (steam) thermal (flame) and hot water), mechanical (hand removal and high pressure gurney) and 'organic' chemical such as natural oils (clove, pine) or salts and sugars and vinegar.

- Because Pittwater Council (like Manly) has a tick problem a number of successful practices are being used such as soaking overalls in Permethrin. These are covered in the following documents provided:
- Letter from Dragonfly Environmental to Environmental Staff
- “Changes due to Tick WH&S Review
- “Ticks and Tick-borne Diseases Protecting Yourself”
- “Equip Health Systems Pty. Ltd. Material Safety Data Sheet on Permethrin Soak Solution”
- “Repellent Clothing Protects You from Ticks”

Recommendation:

In view of the latest research on the negative health impacts of Glyphosate on human health, the Committee recommends that Mia-Dalby Ball give a presentation on Chemical Free Weeding to Manly Council Technical Staff.

ITEM 6 MEC REPORT and MANLY ENVIRONMENT CENTRE ISSUES

That the monthly MEC Report as tabled be accepted.

ITEM 7 MEC Annual Eco Awards

This year the MEC received 23 nominations.
The Award presentation will be held at Sea Life Sanctuary on Thursday 17 March, 2016. Members of this Committee are invited to attend.

ITEM 8 PENGUIN WARDEN REPORT

Staff will expedite the works under the wharf including gate funding from Roads and Maritime Services to prevent access under Manly Wharf.
The Committee supports use of uncommitted funds from last year.

ITEM 9 SUSTAINABLE WATER PROGRAM AND WATER SAVINGS ACTION PLAN

Eduard McPeake advised that significant savings have been made over the last 10 years since the water saving devices were installed at all Council facilities.

These devices are now reaching the end of their life cycle and Council will need to identify a suitable budget to replace them.

Recommendation:

- a. This Committee applauds the achievements of the water saving devices around the municipality over the last 10 years and supports the renewal of them.
- b. When the new water saving devices are installed that Council consider installing prominent signage at every facility advertising the water savings over the last 10 years. A good model is the signage around every Bubbler along the Manly Beachfront.

ITEM 10 25 Year Celebration of Community Environment Advisory Committee and Manly Environment Centre

Following discussions at the last meeting, Judy Reizes suggested that the celebration for this Committee be held on Sunday 15 May. This would commemorate the 25th anniversary of the Listing of Manly Beach and The Pines on the National Estate and the Presentation by the Minister for Environment of a commemorative Pine tree. (Manly Beach was the first beach to be listed).

This Committee instigated the first successful replanting of the Pines and sourcing successful funding by the planting of the Turnaround Tree by Peter Garrett in March 1991 to mark the opening of the MEC. The Turnaround Tree was watered and monitored by the children from the Royal Far West Home and the MEC has a book of stories written by many children from all over NSW about THEIR tree.

Recommendation:

- a. That this Committee's celebration for over 25 years be held on Sunday 15 May, 2016 to coincide with the Listing of Manly Beach and the Pines on the National Estate.
- b. The event be celebrated with a Parade starting at the Turnaround Tree on the promenade, near the Royal Far West Home.
- c. The Parade will then proceed down The Corso to the Council Chambers where there will be displays and films in the foyer of the Committee's many successful projects.
- d. Afternoon tea will be served upstairs to invited guests, including former Committee members, Councillors and Mayors.

ITEM 11 Sydney Marine Park Campaign

John Turnbull from Marine Explorer will show his underwater films of Manly's marine environments and tell the Eco Awards' audience all about many of our local marine species.

ITEM 12 Sydney Water Progress of NHWWTP Odour Forum Issues

Members of the Committee are aware that residents are being surveyed by Sydney Water about plant performance and other issues.

Sydney Water Community Relations Officer has proposed that Cllr Hugh Burns and Judy Reizes meet with Sydney Water technical staff at their City office so that they can explain how the budgets are allocated to their major Sewage Treatment Plants. They have also suggested that we prepare a list of questions we want answers to.

The Committee was unanimous that as the purpose of the Odour Forums was ongoing, inclusion/participation of the community towards solutions and that these issues be discussed at the next Forum.

Staff will meet with Sydney Water to discuss a suitable date and format and agenda for the next Odour Forum including Sydney Water technical staff from their head office.

ITEM 13 Submissions Closing on 31 March on Draft 2016 Joint Management Agreement for NSW Shark Meshing (Bather

Protection) Program

The document can be viewed at

<http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/Fisheries/info/sharksmart/meshing>

It was noted that submissions close on 31 March, 2016.

Recommendation:

That Manly Council and MEC make submissions to Management of Sharks in NSW.

ITEM 14 Quarantine Station Review and Redevelopment

The MEC put in a submission supporting the excellent submissions by North Head Sanctuary Foundation and Penguin Wardens.

Submissions can be viewed at:

www.planning.nsw.gov.au/majorprojects

An article appeared in the Sydney Morning Herald outlining the impacts on the Little Penguins.

ITEM 15 Manly Vale Residents Action Group and Expansion of Manly Vale Public School.

Warringah Council staff have expressed concern about the proposed clearing of bushland in Manly Dam Reserve to provide a bushfire buffer zone for the proposed extensions to Manly Vale Public School.

NEXT MEETING DATE:

Date: Wednesday 13 April, 2016

Time: 7.00pm.

Venue: Manly Council Chambers.

Meeting closed at 9.30pm.