



MINUTES OF MEETING

COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

HELD WEDNESDAY 11 JUNE, 2014

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

PRESENT:

Councillors

Cllr Cathy Griffin

Manly Council (Chair)

Cllr Hugh Burns

Manly Council

Other Representatives

Michella Burgers

Community Member

Diana Deeley

Community Member

Jacqueline French

Community Member

Natasha Hammond-Deakin

Community Member

Lloyd Keen

Community Member

Keelah Lam

Community Member

David Thomas

Community Member

Council Staff

Christina Femia

Team Leader, Water Cycle Management Team.

Patrick Stuart

Catchment Project Officer

TO THE MAYOR AND COUNCILLORS OF THE COUNCIL

The **Community Environment Advisory Committee** met on 11 June, 2014, to consider the matters referred to it and now provides the following advice to Council.

OPEN	The meeting commenced at 7.10pm.	
ITEM 1	APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE Karen Pitt, Jan Ritchie, Judy Reizes.	ACTION
ITEM 2	DECLARATION OF INTEREST Nil	
ITEM 3	CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES The minutes of the Committee meeting held 14 May, 2014 are confirmed.	ACTION

ITEM 4	MEC REPORT and MANLY ENVIRONMENT CENTRE ISSUES	ACTION
	That the monthly MEC Report as tabled be accepted.	
ITEM 5	PRESENTATION OF WATER SENSITIVE URBAN DESIGN	
	Council staff updated the committee on Water Sensitive Urban Design (WSUD) features in the Manly LGA. The staff updated the committee on the recent cleaning of the ‘duck pond’ along Burnt Bridge Creek where the golf club previously drew water for their course. The staff discussed in detail the proposal for the slowing of the silt flow into Manly Lagoon at Manly West oval. The Committee agrees that this a is necessary project to prevent further silting up of the lagoon. The committee thanked the staff for their time and the interesting and thorough presentation. Recommendation: The Committee recommends to the General Manager that the Council Water Cycle Management staff be invited to contribute to other projects to ensure good WSUD outcomes on other Council projects, including the work on the Fairlight Scenic Walkway area near the harbour pool and the Ivanhoe Park Masterplan.	
ITEM 6	PENGUIN REPORT	
	The representative from the Penguin Wardens was not available, however there is apparently little activity at the Wharf nests. The Committee requests an update on the outcomes of the Penguin Recovery Team count for the immediate past season.	
ITEM 7	SYDNEY WATER ISSUES	
	The Committee was pleased to hear from the member who attended the recent NHWWTP Open Day. A new manager has been appointed to the plant and brings his experience to the plant from managing the Christchurch WWTP in New Zealand. However, the Committee is still concerned at the inadequacy of the current proposal for odour management, as outlined in the Decisions Report, to reduce the impact of odours emanating from the plant on the Manly community and tourists alike. Further the Committee was concerned to hear that the ‘life of the plant’ is expected to be 100 years. This means there is little hope of ending deep ocean outfalls from Sydney. It was reported that a one third increase in outflow is expected in the next 10 years with obviously no serious plans for reuse. This will mean the dumping of 5,400,000 tonnes of grease and solids onto the rocky reef of North Head, whereas the long term goal should be an end to treating the environment as an infinite sink.	

ITEM 8 NSW MARITIME MOORING REVIEW

The Committee was advised that the due date for submission is 20 June 2014.

The Committee expressed concern that the installation of courtesy buoys at Manly Wharf has increased boating activity in the area. More boats are anchoring in the seagrass and causing damage than prior to the installation of these moorings. In addition a consequent increase in the number of tenders landing on the beach to the detriment of the penguin habitat and the safety of swimmers has been noticed between the wharf and the swimming enclosure.

The Committee also expressed concern that some boats appeared to be permanently inhabited with people remaining moored in the area for extended periods of time. Fisheries have advised that 'travelling' boats with passengers can remain moored for 28 days. This is of concern given the potential for pollution from these boats.

The Committee acknowledged that this issue is also being address in the Harbour Foreshore and Ocean Beach Committee.

ITEM 9 CABBAGE TREE BAY ISSUES - Updates From Friends of Cabbage Tree Bay (FOCTB) Working Group

- a. **Illegal Fishing Issues Update** - Letter received from Mike Baird will be attached to minutes.

b. **CSIRO National Marine Debris Study**

Although this report will not be available until August, some of its major findings were recently highlighted in various media, eg that the largest concentration of marine debris on any Australian beach was to be found on Shelly Beach.

The Committee expressed concern that perhaps Shelly Beach Manly might have been confused with a Shelly Beach elsewhere and questioned the method of data collection which determined the concentration of marine debris on beaches.

Recommendation:

The Committee recommends to the General Manager that given that the CSIRO final report will not be released until August, that Council write to CSIRO to request written clarification that:

- Shelly Beach Manly is the beach with the most marine debris
- And a brief extract of the method of data collection and results as it relates to Shelly Beach,

c. **Mechanical beach cleaning:**

The Committee confirmed that not having the mechanical beach cleaner scrape the top of the sand from the beach was

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having a positive effect on the health of the beach and its micro biodiversity.

Recommendation:

That mechanical beach cleaning of Shelly Beach not be recommenced.

d. BBQ area at Shelly Beach:

The Committee discussed the BBQs, their location and the litter that is left by some parties after a BBQ. The Committee considers that changes to the rear of the beach be made to enhance the environment and recreational value of the area.

It was agreed that the temporary hessian fence and the garden beds did not appear to be working at preventing the dune from naturally and it was suggested that this method of landscaping be reconsidered.

The Committee enquires as to whether the International School pay for the use of the area.

Recommendation:

The Committee recommends to the General Manager that a masterplan be developed in consultation with the Environment Committee members and community who are interested in improving the area.

That Council consider the health of the Coral Flame tree adjacent to the BBQ area.

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ITEM 10 INAUGURAL SYDNEY HARBOUR & COASTAL WALK

The members of the Coastal walk being undertaken by Phil Jenkins and his colleagues as part of Walk21 will be taking a rest day in Manly on Tuesday 19 August. It is proposed that the group be welcomed by the Friends of Cabbage Tree Bay volunteers along the Marine Pde walkway. This is to showcase the Aquatic Reserve and celebrate its environmental biodiversity and importance to the area. Volunteers will meet and greet the walkers at Bower Lane then walk with the group around Shelly Beach.

ITEM 11 MANLY COUNCIL COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE 25th YEAR

The Committee discussed options regarding the celebration of the 25th Year of operation of the Manly Council Community Environment Committee. Some ideas were canvassed such a civic reception and dinner inviting previous members and Chairs to such an event, creating a book etc and it was decided to discuss in detail at the next meeting.

Recommendation:

The Committee recommends to the General Manager that the information be noted.

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ITEM 12 COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

The Committee supports the applications of Jon Panic and Janne Seletto and welcomes them to the next meeting.

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Recommendation:

The Committee recommends to the General Manager that Council write to the applicants and advise them of their successful applications.

ITEM 13 NEXT MEETING DATE:

Date: Wednesday 9 July, 2014

Time: 7.00pm.

Venue: Manly Council Chambers.

Meeting closed at 9.10pm.