



MINUTES OF MEETING
COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE
HELD WEDNESDAY, 11th APRIL, 2012

Councillors

Cathy Griffin	Manly Council (Chair)
Hugh Burns	Manly Council

Other Representatives

Jacqueline French	Community Member
Susan Buchan	Community Member
Diana Deeley	Community Member
Dave Thomas	Community Member
Keelah Lam	Community Member
Neil Ohlbach	Community Member
Lloyd Keen	Community Member
Angelika Treichler (left early)	Penguin Warden Representative

Council Staff

Judy Reizes	Manager, Manly Environment Centre
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Observers:

Lily Serna	Australian Conservation Foundation
Natasha Hammond-Deakin	Community Member
Miriam Pitre	Permaculture North
Peter White	Permaculture North

TO THE MAYOR AND COUNCILLORS OF THE COUNCIL

The Community Environment Committee met on 11th April, 2012, to consider the matters referred to it and now provides the following advice to Council.

OPEN	The meeting commenced at 6.45pm	ACTION
ITEM 1	APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE Richard Hewitt, Eira Battaglia and Rosie Lempriere	
ITEM 2	DECLARATION OF INTEREST Nil	

ITEM 3	CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES The minutes of the Committee meeting held on 14 th March, 2012 were confirmed.	ACTION
ITEM 4	ENVIRONMENTAL LEVY BIDS 2012-13 Eduard McPeake tabled the schedule of Environmental Levy Bids at the meeting and briefly described the line items as the individual bids were not provided to committee members. A discussion took place and committee members raised a number of concerns. Recommendation: a. As in previous years, committee members should receive this information in a timely fashion, at least two weeks prior to the meeting, including the individual bids. b. The environmental levy budget summary should be updated quarterly with expenditure. c. An environmental levy action strategy which includes quarterly reporting and outcomes of the levy bids be provided. d. As a stakeholder in both NPWS Recovery Teams, the amount allocated to threatened populations of penguins and bandicoots should be increased from \$10,000 to \$20,000 e. That the Chair have a meeting with staff and Rafiq Islam to discuss the various Coastline Management bids to ensure that the seagrass mapping is fit for purpose, as well as the Middle Harbour, Clontarf and Manly Ocean Beach updated plans.	
ITEM 5	MEC REPORT That the report as tabled be accepted.	
ITEM 6	PENGUINS The committee continues to be concerned at the fact that Council has yet to install the signs about the wildlife habitat/dogs prohibited zone and hopes that this matter will be expedited and resolved before the next meeting.	
ITEM 7	CABBAGE TREE BAY a. The Committee expressed support for the agreement between Fisheries and Council to establish a voluntary group, Friends of Cabbage Tree Bay. A notice of motion will go before Council at the May meeting to resolve that Council and Fisheries establish such a group. b. Local Member of Parliament, Mike Baird has suggested that the Manly Environment Centre co-ordinate submissions to the NSW Government's Marine Parks Parliamentary Enquiry. c. "A Day at the Bay" Event on 31st March at Cabbage Tree Bay to celebrate 10 years since its Listing as an Aquatic Reserve This was a very successful day with great participation and support from a number of volunteer groups and speakers. The NSW Fisheries trailer was very popular and their three staff were kept busy all day answering questions. This Committee's recommendations for the proposed upgrade of Marine Parade and Friends of Cabbage Tree Bay were exhibited and attracted excellent feedback.	

Recommendation:

The committee commends the staff and volunteers of the Manly Environment Centre on the highly successful "Day at the Bay" event held on 31st March.

d. Proposal to Install an Underwater Camera

A representative from the Australian Conservation Foundation (ACF) described the proposal by ACF to install a permanent underwater camera in Cabbage Tree Bay at no cost to Council. Ecodivers advised that the installation could use existing facilities for power and communication without any visual impacts on the terrestrial environment. This will enable real time images of the Bay's marine life to be streamed via the internet. Various locations including coffee shops, surf clubs, Council Chambers and other venues could stream the images live on large screens in the windows of these premises. Very positive feedback has been received in this regard.

ACF has already done something similar in the Murray Darling by recording the effect of the increased input of water which they had bought back with donations.

Recommendation:

The committee

- strongly supports the proposal by Australian Conservation Foundation to install a permanent underwater camera in Cabbage Tree Bay at no cost to Council.
- Suggests that ACF work closely with NSW Fisheries, Precincts, MEC and Friends of Cabbage Tree Bay
- Looks forward to the camera's early installation.

ITEM 8 ANCHORING OVER SEAGRASS BEDS IN MANLY COVE WEST

It is two years since the Deputy Director-General of Primary Industries advised that they were pleased to support our proposal to NSW Maritime for an anchoring ban in Manly Cove West, without a positive result.

This committee requests that the Local Member and Council convene a meeting with Council staff and representatives, MEC staff, Ecodivers, staff of Maritime and members of the committee to discuss the continuous concern about boats anchoring over seagrass in Manly Cove West.

Recommendation:

In view of the lack of progress by NSW Fisheries and Maritime, the committee requests that the Local Member and Council convene a meeting to discuss the continuous concern about boats anchoring over seagrass in Manly Cove West. The meeting should include Council staff and representatives, MEC staff, Ecodivers, staff of Maritime and Fisheries and members of the Community Environment Committee.

ITEM 9	WATER SENSITIVE URBAN DESIGN AND STORMWATER MANAGEMENT	ACTION
	The committee requests that Michael Galloway be invited to give a presentation to the committee and arrange for this Committee to have a tour of Willoughby Council's large scale stormwater project in the context of Manly 2015.	
ITEM 10	NEXT MEETING DATE: Date: Wednesday, 9 th May, 2012. Time: 6.30pm Venue: Councillors' Room, Manly Council Chambers Meeting closed at 8.45pm.	