



MINUTES OF MEETING
COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE
HELD WEDNESDAY, 13TH JULY, 2011

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

Councillors

Cathy Griffin
Hugh Burns

Manly Council (Chair)
Manly Council

Other Representatives

Susan Buchan
Diana Deeley
Richard Hewitt
Keelah Lam
David Thomas
Lloyd Keen
Angelika Treichler

Community Member
Community Member
Community Member
Community Member
Community Member
Community Member
Penguin Warden Representative

Council Staff

Judy Reizes
Robynne Millward

Manager, Manly Environment Centre
MEC Project Officer & Conference Organiser

TO THE MAYOR AND COUNCILLORS OF THE COUNCIL

The Community Environment Committee met on 13th July, 2011, to consider the matters referred to it and now provides the following advice to Council.

OPEN The meeting commenced at 6.30pm.

ITEM 1 APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Eira Battaglia, Jacqueline French, Rosie Lempriere, Neil Ohlbach,
Julie Taylor Mills.

ITEM 2 DECLARATION OF INTEREST
Nil

ITEM 3 WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

The Chair welcomed new community member, Lloyd Keen to the Committee and Robynne Millward.

ITEM 4 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

The minutes of the Committee meeting held 8th June, 2011 are confirmed.

ITEM 5 MATTERS ARISING

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Nil

ITEM 6 MEC AND CURRENT LOCAL ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES REPORT

Conference Update -

Robynne Millward, MEC Project Officer and Conference Organiser updated the committee on the following aspects:

- . Registrations
- . Speakers
- . Weekend Activities
- . 1st Media shot sent

Artwork approval has been sent to Communications and we are awaiting graphics,

We have a small team of volunteers who are providing invaluable assistance but there is a tremendous amount to be done.

Recommendation:

The Committee seeks the support of Council to fund a part time casual employee to assist with the organisation of the Conference until the closure of the conference.”

ITEM 7 LITTLE PENGUINS

Penguin warden, Angelika Treichler reported as follows:

This last month has been very eventful and our Penguins have had admiration and support from every direction.

- The Environment Minister, the Mayor and the local Member publicly emphasised their importance.
- The 750 children from local primary and high schools displayed their work about them all around Taronga Zoo at their Grand Expo Day. On behalf of the penguins, Sue Mathews and I would like to thank the MEC, Taronga Zoo and NPWS for organising yet another great opportunity for educating our future citizens. Many of them have visited the penguins in the evenings and brought their families.
- Also the parents and children from the Royal Far West are regular visitors.
- The children’s work from Project Penguin is on display at many businesses.
- **Media:** the opening of the 2011/12 breeding season was announced with a prominent article on the 1st July in the Manly Daily and on the Council website
Channel Nine’s Breakfast Show listed visiting Manly Penguins amongst activities for the school holidays.
- **OEH brochure for letterboxing:** Angelika tabled these brochures, “**Help Save Manly’s Little Penguin Colony**”. *The breeding season for the Manly little penguin colony officially begins on 1 July. Dogs are a major threat to the penguins’ survival. This brochure contains some facts about the colony*

and information on areas where dogs are restricted or not permitted.”.

- **New Volunteers:** Mel Tyas, Kylie McClelland and I have been interviewing old and new Penguin Wardens; we will have a good group of 32 volunteers on our roster.
- **Development affecting penguins:** We are very concerned about the proposal by the Manly Wharf management to add four new licensed restaurants on a second storey on top of the existing east wing. The intensification of the area around the wharf where we spend a lot of time and where families visit the penguins at night will impact on our work. We are already troubled by antisocial behaviour especially by intoxicated patrons from the numerous alcohol outlets in Manly.

ITEM 8

REMOVAL OF PIPES FROM THE BEACH AT NORTH STEYNE

At the Council meeting of 20th June 2011, Council unanimously resolved that:

1. Any works on the North Steyne stormwater outfall pipes be deferred pending further consultation with the surfing community.
2. Following the consultation process with the surfing community, Council seek the opinion of Manly Hydraulics Laboratory and the matter be brought back to Council for consideration.

Richard Hewitt has requested a copy of Cardno Report.

ITEM 9

LONGNOSED BANDICOOTS

Judy Reizes gave feedback on matters discussed at the Recovery Team Meeting on 22nd June 2011:

a. Proposed ARC Linkage Grant

Peter Banks advised that an ARC linkage grant application (University of Sydney, Manly Council and OEH) was submitted on 11 May 2011 to investigate what is going on with bandicoots in the urban areas at Manly, to investigate the processes of how to engage the local community and to investigate the genetics (in collaboration with UNSW). The grant would fund a two-year project to investigate whether the urban area is part of the effective population. Peter Banks will likely receive feedback around August.

b. Significant Increases in Road Kills on North Head.

Roadkills for 6 months to end June 2011 have reached 10, which is the equivalent of the whole of 2010. The annual average had been approx. 8.

Traffic counters have been installed near the archway, on Bluefish Drive and North Head Scenic Drive (past the roundabout and up towards North Fort and the lookouts). The timing of the traffic is very important and OEH will be installing new car counters that collect information on the date, time and vehicle speed and type in July, October December and April. This will provide information regarding

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the levels of evening/night time road activity.

OEH is also organizing the installation of two speed humps and will be approaching other stakeholders to contribute funds to install additional speed humps.

OEH is writing to Council regarding mortality hotspots on Darley Road, seeking trimming of trees to provide more lighting. A new light was installed just after Park Hill Arch and on Darley Road (between St. Patrick's Estate and St. Paul's where the bandicoots run out between parked cars.

National Parks and AWC staff will be investigating the environmental factors contributing to road deaths. It was suggested that the gates to the national parks should be closed earlier.

The committee expressed its concern and Councillor Burns wondered whether consideration had been given to building tunnels under roadways to reduce mortality.

Recommendation:

1. This committee expressed its extreme concern about the large increase in deaths.
2. Councillor Burns wishes to attend the next Recovery Team meeting
3. Manly Council consider writing to the stakeholders on North Head to encourage them to assist the Recovery Team.

ITEM 10

MANLY COUNCIL COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN "BEYOND 2021"

Council resolved that Chapter 8 – Environment should be rewritten.

Recommendation: To fulfill this resolution of the Council the Committee recommends the following be included:

- "The environmental heritage of the municipality of Manly is of particular significance, locally, regionally and nationally due to the area's exceptional landscape, its role as a resort from the nineteenth century until the present and because of its relative isolation until the 1920s. The combination of these three factors makes Manly's heritage unique within the Sydney region given its relative proximity to the city.

Nestled into the southern tip of the Northern Beaches peninsula, Manly is almost entirely bounded by almost every kind of heritage-listed water habitat, ocean and harbour coastline, bays and surf beaches, coves, lagoon, creeks, waterfalls, wetlands, mangroves and seagrass. It has Sydney Harbour's only Ecologically Sensitive Zone and Aquatic Reserve and Sydney's only Marine Sanctuary in Cabbage Tree Bay. It is surrounded by three areas of National Park at North Head, Dobroyd and Bantry Bay. These habitats are home to hundreds of species, including threatened species and populations. As no point in Manly is more than 500 metres from a waterway, these waterways receive enormous pressure from urbanization and, as such, present a major area of environmental sensitivity.

The natural resources of water, beaches, the native bushland vegetation in Council's reserves, private land and the lands within National Parks are considered as regional resources in the stewardship of community and Council and other government agencies." and:

- A double-sided A3 insert be provided within each plan consisting of the program for the Manly Art Gallery's Nature of Manly exhibition as it covers environment, social and economic issues.

ITEM 11

GENERAL BUSINESS BROUGHT TO THE ATTENTION OF THE CHAIR PRIOR TO THE MEETING AND APPROVED FOR CONSIDERATION

a. MANLY COVE WEST ISSUES

Anchoring over the seagrass off the swimming enclosure is still occurring regularly.

Given that this seagrass includes the threatened *Posidonia Australis*, and there is a high risk that the weed *Caluierpa* will be spread by anchors, there is a need to remind the Department of NSW Industry and Investment of their undertaking of 22nd April 2010 to support Council's proposal to ban anchoring.

Recommendation:

That Council write to Minister Robyn Parker, with a copy to local member, Mike Baird, and request an update from her Department on:

- Progress to date in excluding boats anchoring off the swimming enclosure in Manly Cove West. Copy of their letter of 22nd April 2010 and an up to date map of seagrass and *Caluierpa* should be attached and
 - ensuring fisheries compliance in Cabbage Tree Bay
- b. MANLY COVE PLAN OF MANAGEMENT is on exhibition until 16th September.
A copy of the committee's submission written by Rosie Lempriere was provided to Anthony Hewton prior to the Plan going to Council.
- c. SYDNEY WATER ISSUES
Susan Buchan reported that Sydney Water have provided the Health Study on Sydney Water's Workers which we requested last year. Susan will arrange for it to be circulated to the committee.

ITEM 12 NEXT MEETING DATE:

Date: Wednesday, 10th August, 2011.

Time: 6.30pm

Venue: Councillors' Room, Manly Council Chambers

Meeting closed at 8.40pm