



MINUTES OF MEETING

COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

HELD WEDNESDAY, 11TH MAY, 2011

NOTE: All minutes are subject to confirmation at a subsequent Council or Planning and strategy committee meeting

Councillors

Hugh Burns

Manly Council (Chair)

Other Representatives

Susan Buchan

Community Member

Diana Deeley

Community Member

Richard Hewitt

Community Member

Keelah Lam

Community Member

Julie Taylor Mills

Community Member

David Thomas

Community Member

Neil Ohlbach

Community Member

Eira Battaglia

Community Member

Julie Nettleton

Penguin Warden Representative

Council Staff

Judy Reizes

Manager, Manly Environment Centre

TO THE MAYOR AND COUNCILLORS OF THE COUNCIL

The Community Environment Committee met on 11th May, 2011, to consider the matters referred to it and now provides the following advice to Council.

OPEN	The meeting commenced at 6.40pm	ACTION
ITEM 1	APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE Councillor Cathy Griffin, Jacqueline French, Rosie Lempriere, and Angelika Treichler.	
ITEM 2	DECLARATION OF INTEREST Nil	
ITEM 3	WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS In the absence of Cllr Griffin, Cllr Burns chaired the meeting. Michael Galloway, Water Cycle Manager, was to present to this meeting, but due to a conference commitment in Adelaide, he will now present to our June meeting. This has given the Committee the opportunity to focus on ideas for the conference program & input to Council's Draft Community Strategic Plan Beyond 2021.	
ITEM 4	CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES The minutes of the Committee meeting held 13 th April, 2011 are confirmed.	

ITEM 5 GENERAL BUSINESS BROUGHT TO THE ATTENTION OF THE CHAIR PRIOR TO THE MEETING AND APPROVED FOR CONSIDERATION

a. Manly Environment Centre and current Local Environmental Issues Report

The report was accepted.

b. Manly Environment Centre Staffing

Questions were raised about MEC staffing as a number of community volunteers had applied for the position of the Information and Administration Officer advertised some months ago but had not been advised of the outcome. The MEC manager advised that the position had been placed on hold pending budget outcomes.

The committee expressed the view that a minimum of three people is critical to the operation of the Manly Environment Centre.

Recommendation:

The Committee deplores the continuing unwillingness of Council to appoint a permanent replacement for the Information and Administration Office and requests the General Manager to explain the delay in filling the staff vacancy.

c. Manly Environment Centre Conference Ideas Session

Julie Taylor-Mills gave an update on the conference to the Committee and provided a list of conference themes and proposed speakers for the purpose of seeking committee input to both.

She briefed the group on all of the speakers confirmed to date, and on the conference program. The committee then put a range of suggestions in relation to potential topics – this list included:

- The economics of sustainability.
- Successful initiatives to reduce road kill.

The Committee also discussed the proposed movie program to be screened in the gymnasium at North Head and the arts program which will form part of the conference.

A range of excursions in the near vicinity of North Head and field trips for the community weekend component were discussed with the aim of showcasing the unique biodiversity of North Head and Manly Council and the community's many sustainability initiatives.

**ITEM 6 DRAFT MANLY COUNCIL COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN
"BEYOND 2021" SUBMISSIONS CLOSE 5pm 2ND JUNE, 2011.**

This Plan is on exhibition at Council facilities and on their website and submissions are invited from the community until close of business on 2nd June 2011. A Council report, including budget implications will go up to Council for approval on Monday 6th June.

Hard copies of extracts of the environmental section of this plan were provided to each committee member to facilitate a joint submission to Council of the plan by close of business on 2nd June. A considerable time was spent discussing various aspects of this plan, previous

plans, objectives and key performance indicators. Further individual views will be shared by email and individual/group submissions are encouraged.

Recommendation:

Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) of the **DRAFT MANLY COUNCIL COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN “BEYOND 2021”** need to be measurable and comparable. There are no targets under KPIs for any of the goals under “environment”. It was noted actions in the environmental sections had been downgraded from previous strategic plans (eg on climate change). The committee found the “Action Plan” completely ineffectual because of the paucity of any measurable and assessable data under the KPIs and this needs to be rectified in the final (non-draft) version.

ITEM 7

NEXT MEETING DATE:

Date: Wednesday, 8th June, 2011

Time: 6.30pm

Venue: Councillors’ Room, Manly Council Chambers

Meeting closed at 8.40pm