



MINUTES OF MEETING

COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

HELD WEDNESDAY 11TH NOVEMBER 2009

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

PRESENT:

Councillors

Cllr Cathy Griffin

Manly Council

Other Representatives

Susan Buchan

Community Member

Diana Deeley

Community Member

Jacqueline French

Community Member

Richard Hewitt

Community Member

Keelah Lam

Community Member

Terry Metherell

Community Member

Angelika Treichler

Penguin Warden Representative

Rachel Miller

National Parks and Wildlife Representative

Staff Representatives

Anthony Hewton

Divisional Manager, Corporate Planning and Strategy

Dalene Amm

Sustainability Team Leader

Judy Reizes

Manager, Manly Environment Centre

TO THE MAYOR AND COUNCILLORS OF THE COUNCIL

The **Community Environment Committee** met on 11th November, 2009, to consider the matters referred to it and now reports having reached the decisions taken and recommendations stated hereunder:

OPEN The meeting commenced at 6:30pm in the Training Room.

ITEM 1 APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Carole Douglas, Louise Bochner, Peter White, Cheryl Rose, and Eira Battaglia.

ACTION

ITEM 2 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Nil.

ITEM 3 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

The Committee confirmed the minutes of the meeting held 14th October, 2009.

MATTERS ARISING

The minutes of the the meeting of 14th October 2009 will be referred to Council's Planning and Strategy Meeting on 7th December 2009 for adoption by Council.

ITEM 4	Environment Levy Annual Report 2008/09 The draft Environment Levy Annual Report was circulated to the committee for review prior to the meeting in order to provide staff with feedback at the meeting. The Sustainability Team Leader gave a presentation covering the 2008/09 reporting year. The report has been prepared following outcomes of the Ten Year Environment Levy review. The report provided an overview of budget, implementation and expenditure progress of the Environment Levy for the 2008/09 financial year and more broadly reported on overall expenditure over the life of the Environment Levy. An informative discussion took place after the presentation. Recommendation: The Committee resolved to receive and adopt the report.	ACTION All to note
ITEM 4.1	Environment Levy Community Newsletter – 2008/09 A draft of the newsletter was circulated for comment and a number of suggestions made for staffs consideration prior to finalising. Recommendation: That the information be received and noted.	All to note
ITEM 5	SUBMISSIONS TO SYDNEY HARBOUR NATIONAL PARK REVIEW OF PLAN OF MANAGEMENT The Committee was informed that the Planning Officer, Sydney Region, National Parks and Wildlife will attend the next meeting on 9th December. The Committee is requested to prepare for this meeting by reading Council's submission, a summary of issues raised at the last meeting, and the North Head Sanctuary Statement of Support for Stakeholders (24/02/05) already circulated to the Committee. It was noted that an Interpretative Strategy for the whole of North Head should be encouraged. Rachel Miller reported that training has been conducted in NPWS new signage policy. Recommendation: That the information be received and noted.	All to note All to note
ITEM 6	MEC REPORT The Manly Environment Centre Report on Current Activities and Local Environmental Issues was tabled. Recommendation: The Committee resolved to receive and note the report.	
ITEM 6.1	Penguin Warden Report Filming by Channel 2 Catalyst Program ABC TV's Catalyst Program spent an evening filming penguins down at the wharf. Their theme was a small penguin family being protected by a big family of community people in the middle of a big city. Next	

day, the crew went out on a boat with NPWS staff.

ACTION

Penguin Breeding Update

Successful breeding at Federation Point with four confirmed active nests.

Marine Issues

Yellow marker buoys for critical habitat in front of Store Beach /Quarantine have been moved. Rachel Millar from NPWS to follow up.

Dog Issues

Dog control continues to be a problem, with a number of owners ignoring signage and exhibiting aggressive behaviour. Recently a Penguin Warden was attacked by such a dog owner at Federation Point when requested to leash his dog.

In addition, a community member has reported a penguin chick wandering across the Scenic Walkway.

The Committee suggests that signage needs to be more prominent and that a stencilled message would assist, if it is of the same size as that used on the bike path.

Recommendation

The Committee recommends to the General Manager that:

GM

- (i) Ranger activity be increased to address dog control issues in the vicinity of Federation Point.
- (ii) "Dog on Leash" signage needs to be more prominent;
- (iii) A penguin graphic with the message "leashed dog zone ahead" be stencilled on the footpath, and of a similar size to the bike path stencils.

ITEM 6.2

North Head Issues

North Head Sanctuary

Nelika Hughes from Australian Wildlife Conservancy is now on site to manage the environment. Nelika's research involved monitoring Longnosed Bandicoots on North Head in past years, in conjunction with Dr. Peter Banks from University of NSW.

Nelika is giving a talk at the North Head Sanctuary Foundation on Saturday, 21st November at 2pm.

Reference was made to the huge Festival of Surfing concert held in the evening on the oval at the Sanctuary. Concern was expressed about the environmental impact of the concert/film activities. The Committee considers that this is not an appropriate site to hold such an activity because of the increased vehicular traffic, noise and its impacts on bandicoots.

Quarantine Station

Reply received from DECC providing information on the issues raised and inviting the Committee for a tour of the site. The Committee requests that we thank them for the invitation and suggest that the Committee would be pleased to have a tour in March next year.

ACTION

Resolved:

The Committee resolved to receive and note the report.

ITEM 7 GENERAL BUSINESS**Meeting Dates for 2010**

The following table sets out the proposed meeting dates for the Community Environment Committee meetings for 2010. The meetings have been scheduled for second 2nd Wednesday of the month, to commence at 6.30pm, Manly Town Hall, 1 Belgrave Street, Manly and will run for a maximum of 2 hours, as per the current meeting schedule.

Feb 2010	Mar 2010	April 2010	May 2010	June 2010	July 2010	Aug 2010	Sept 2010	Oct 2010	Nov 2010	Dec 2010
10	10	14	12	9	14	11	8	13	10	8

Recommendation

The Committee recommends to Council that, the proposed dates for 2010 be approved.

ITEM 8 NEXT MEETING DATE:

Date: Wednesday 9th December, 2009

Time: 6:30pm

Venue: Councillors' Room, Manly Council

Meeting closed at 9.00pm