



MINUTES OF MEETING

COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

HELD WEDNESDAY 12 MAY 2010

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

PRESENT:

Councillors

Cllr Cathy Griffin
Cllr Hugh Burns

Manly Council
Manly Council

Other Representatives

Susan Buchan (late)	Community member
Jacqueline French	Community member
Richard Hewitt	Community member
Keelah Lam	Community member
Cheryl Rose	Community member
Angelika Treichler	Penguin Warden Representative
Neil Ohlback	Community member
Dave Thomas	Community member
Mark Mills	Community member

Staff Representatives

Judy Reizes	Manager, Manly Environment Centre
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TO THE MAYOR AND COUNCILLORS OF THE COUNCIL

The **Community Environment Committee** met on 12th May, 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 6.35 pm.	
ITEM 1	APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE Terry Metherell, Rachel Miller, Diana Deeley on leave. The resignation of Eira Battaglia was accepted with regret.	ACTION
ITEM 2	DECLARATION OF INTEREST Nil.	
ITEM 3	WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS The chair welcomed Mark Mills who is an alternate for Julie Taylor Mills.	
ITEM 4	CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES The Minutes of the Committee meeting held 14 th April 2010 were confirmed with Cheryl Rose's amendment, see first item in matters	

arising.

ITEM 5

MATTERS ARISING

5.1

Companion Animals Legislation

Community member, Cheryl Rose submitted that the Minutes of the Meeting of 14th April 2010 were not accurate as the wording does not appropriately reference the topic discussed or the nature of the comments from the committee at the meeting. Her recommendation for rewording of this item was accepted by the Committee as follows:
The committee noted that all the feedback and suggested amendments to the draft Council Cat Owners' Brochure have been ignored. The idea for the brochure came from Eira Battaglia, a committee member and member of Sydney Wildlife Rescue, and was endorsed by the Committee to help protect our local native wildlife. The committee does not support the brochure that has been produced. The design and wording of the brochure does not address the issue and purpose of the brochure appropriately. An example provided is that the text and visuals do not match up: the text states cats should wear collars with three bells but the brochure has pictures of cats not wearing collars.

Recommendation:

The Committee recommends to the General Manager that this item be resubmitted to Council to take on board the Committee's comments before the brochures are printed.

GM

ITEM 6

MANLY ENVIRONMENT CENTRE REPORT

The Manly Environment Centre Current and Local Issues Report.

Recommendation:

This report was tabled and accepted.

ITEM 6.1

PENGUIN REPORT

Angelika Treichler, Penguin Warden reported as follows:

- Penguins are back already at Manly Wharf, almost a month early.
- Project Penguin with Taronga Zoo will commence in 2 weeks and Judy and Angelika will give short talks to hundreds of local schoolchildren near the Manly Wharf site
- 18 local businesses have joined Project Penguin as partners who will display children's work.
- Nearly 20 new penguin wardens have joined the program and will be attending a NPWS training course soon.
- **Manly Wharf Site:** As requested Council has written to the wharf management about replacing the bars and installing a gate. However, It was noted that the bent bars need to be replaced by iron bars.
- **Federation Point Site:** The temporary wire fencing on the boardwalk and steps at Federation Point has toppled over and needs to be reinstated to prevent access from the boardwalk and steps to the breeding area below. Councillor Griffin will follow up with Stephen Clements.
As discussed at previous meetings, the boardwalk will need to be repaired and permanent high fencing installed after this year's breeding season. Meanwhile the committee hopes that the Council will prepare a development application for consideration and discussion as soon as possible.
- **CCTV External to Bathers Pavilion:** The committee strongly supports last meeting's request for the developer to install CCTV external to the Bathers Pavilion on the Council -leased walkway to cover the southern and western access and address their DA's

smoking area requirements.

ITEM 6.2 NORTH HEAD ISSUES

a. BANDICOOT RESEARCH PROJECT IN MANLY LGA'S URBAN AREAS ON NORTH HEAD

The committee requests a Council update on progress of the ARC grant application with University of NSW.

b. QUARANTINE STATION VISIT

Committee members expressed their appreciation to Sian Waite, Environmental manager from QS site for the informative tour of the site before this meeting. Sian indicated that she is happy to provide further information to committee members and she can be contacted through Judy Reizes.

c. NORTH HEAD SEWAGE TREATMENT PLANT ISSUES

i. Visit to North Head Sewage Treatment Plant on Tuesday 25th May from 10am to 12noon

Susan Buchan circulated a list of participants and information. Further information from Judy Reizes.

ii. Offensive odours from North Head Sewage Treatment Plant to be discussed at the North Head Sanctuary Foundation's meeting on 2nd June, 6.30 pm in the Gatehouse Education Centre

At the North Head Sanctuary Foundation's February meeting attended by 30 people, including the CEO of the Harbourtrust, offensive odours were experienced. As a result the Foundation will invite a representative from Sydney Water to attend to explain the actions which will be taken to prevent this in future. All are invited to attend.

iii. Submissions to 5 year review of EPA Licence for North Head Sewage Treatment Plant System

Information about the Licence was circulated and submissions close on 30th June. The public and members are encouraged to make their own submissions. Cheryl Rose will prepare a submission from this committee.

d. NORTH HEAD RANGER'S REPORT

Community Member, Rachel Miller will report at the next meeting.

ITEM 7 PROPOSED PROGRAM OF TOPICS FOR 2010 COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Community Member, Cheryl Rose presented her recommendations as follows:

May	North Head STP and licence renewal priority 1 (note that the presentation by the EPA last year on this topic was cancelled.
June	Manly Lagoon Dredging project and long term vision (priorities 4 and 6)
July	MEC 20 th anniversary celebration March 2011 (priority 5)
August	NPWS Sydney Harbour Management Plan and Bandicoot Recovery Plan (priorities 6 and 7)
September	North Harbour Marine Reserve Extension /Sydney Harbour Marine Park campaign (priority 2) note that the presentation by the National Parks Association scheduled for June meeting last year was cancelled)

October Community vision (priority 6)
November Environmental Levy Projects (Priority 3)

Recommendation:

The Committee endorsed these suggestions and suggested that Tom Hazell be invited to the next meeting.

Judy Reizes

ITEM 8 “ DAY AT THE BAY” ON SATURDAY 24TH APRIL: A Highly Successful Event

The Committee would like to congratulate the Manly Environment Centre and the various groups who provided free activities and the volunteers. This highly successful day resulted in the collection of over 200 submissions, many of which were opposed to boats in the Cabbage Tree Bay Marine Sanctuary.

The temporary Interpretative Panels were very popular and many people commented that they should be permanent.

Jacqueline French will prepare a survey to identify user groups and their level of knowledge about the need to protect the marine environment and bring it back to the next meeting.

Recommendation:

That the information be received and noted.

ITEM 9 SEAGRASS ISSUES

9.1 Boat Anchoring in Manly Cove West

Subsequent to the meeting, Council received a letter from the Deputy Director-General of Primary Industries, Industries & Investment, about seagrass damage due to boat anchoring in the Manly Cove West area.

The letter states that this Department is pleased to support Council's proposal to NSW Maritime for an anchoring ban in Manly Cove West and their officers are currently liaising with Maritime to determine the optimal size and location of the area. Council and other stakeholders will be consulted during the process.

Recommendation:

The Committee requests that the General Manager, write to NSW Maritime, to reinforce enforcement, request no mooring signage to be added to the pool enclosure structure.

GM

9.2 Seagrass Mapping

Dave Thomas from Eco Divers suggested that up to date mapping of sea grass in North Harbour, particularly in Manly Cove West should be carried out. NSW Fisheries have appropriate grant applications.

Recommendation:

The Committee recommends that Council consider submitting a grant application to NSW Fisheries for the mapping of sea grass beds in Manly Cove West in the first instance and later the whole of North Harbour.

IBM

ITEM 10 NEXT MEETING DATE:

Date: 9th June, 2010

Time: 8.30 pm

Venue: Manly Town Hall, 1 Belgrave Street, Manly

Meeting closed at 8.45 pm