



MINUTES OF MEETING

COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

HELD WEDNESDAY, 9TH MARCH 2011

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

Keelah Lam

Community Member

Rosie Lempriere

Community Member

Jacqueline French

Community Member

David Thomas

Community Member

Neil Ohlbach

Community Member

Richard Hewitt

Community Member

Terry Metherell

Community Member

Council Staff

Judy Reizes

Manager, Manly Environment Centre

Ed McPeake

Manager, Community Environmental Partnerships

TO THE MAYOR AND COUNCILLORS OF THE COUNCIL

The Community Environment Committee met on Wednesday, 9th March, 2011 to consider the matters referred to it and now provides the following advice to Council.

OPEN The meeting commenced at 6.40pm.

ITEM 1 APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Angelika Treichler, Julie Taylor-Mill and Eira Battaglia.

ACTION

ITEM 2 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Nil

ITEM 3 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

The minutes of the Committee meeting held 9th February 2011 are confirmed.

MATTERS ARISING

ACTION

It was resolved at Council's Planning & Strategy Meeting held on 7th February 2011 that the minutes of the Community Environment Committee be adopted.

TREE POLICY

A committee member noted that the following item had been omitted from last meeting's minutes.

The committee is disappointed that the canopy of the large trees in the Council Chamber forecourt were significantly pruned by Council to provide more sunlight for the grass.

Recommendation:

The committee members feel very strongly that large shade trees in public spaces are not trimmed or pruned just to prevent shading of grassed areas.

ITEM 4 REPORT

MEC and CURRENT LOCAL ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES REPORT

The report was accepted.

Recommendation:

This item is included as an Item For Brief Mention to Planning and Strategy Committee.

**ACTION
IBM**

ITEM 5 ENVIRONMENT LEVY BIDS PRESENTATION BY ED MCPEAKE

During the presentation of all the bids to the committee, the following items were discussed:

a. MEC International Conference Bid

Councillor Griffin advised that at the Planning and Strategy meeting of 7th March, Council supported this Committee's recommendation for an allocation of \$40,000 for the conference in September. Ed McPeake will amend the bid allocation presented from \$30,000 to \$40,000.

b. MEC Ocean Care Day Bid for \$22,000

The committee pointed out that this is a hugely successful grassroots event and a massive tourist attraction. It involves hundreds of volunteer hours and was lauded by Ian Kiernan as "an impressive event with such a strong community feel to it."

Recommendation:

In order to maintain the high standard of this hugely successful event, the bid allocation should be increased from \$18,000 to the full bid amount of \$22,000.

c. Community Gardens

One of the bids includes an allocation for new community gardens.

The Community Garden Policy has been adopted by Council. There was a lot of interest in the policy during the exhibition period including both comments and people inquiring about new garden sites.

The committee requests that applications and the approval process for new gardens come to the committee for advice and input.

d. Presentation by Michael Galloway at the next Meeting

The committee is very interested in the water projects covered by the levy bids and Ed McPeake will arrange for Michael Galloway to present them to the next meeting.

ITEM 6 UNDERWATER SYDNEY.COM.AU – A MARINE WEBSITE FOR SYDNEY COASTAL COUNCILS

Councillor Griffin explained the new not-for-profit concept for this website and how it varied from the original presentation to this committee last year.

Each one of the fifteen coastal councils will contribute \$2,000 and be able to select thirteen key species and an icon species to be featured on their Council's website. Each council will be able to nominate preferred snorkelling/diving areas.

Staff will send the proposed list of key species prepared by Ed McPeake to committee members for comment.

ITEM 7 COMMITTEE SUBMISSION TO MANLY COVE PLAN OF MANAGEMENT

Cheryl Rose has prepared a comprehensive submission including all of the items discussed at previous meetings.

The committee asked that the item on Penguins include Federation Point boardwalk fencing, new dog regulations, Protocol for Dead Penguins, the need to ensure that Critical Habitat signage is in good repair, ie it was noted that the signage at the private beach at the end of Oyama Street, needs to be replaced.

Dave Thomas noted that Maritime is closed to finalising change to anchoring regulations.

ITEM 8 LITTLE PENGUINS

Penguin Warden was unable to attend the meeting and a report will be provided for the next meeting. Julie Nettleton, penguin warden, will attend the committee meetings for the next two months whilst Angelika is on leave.

ITEM 9 SYDNEY WATER ODOUR ISSUES

Two committee members expressed concern about the unsatisfactory responses from Sydney Water and DECCW Pollution Line to their reporting separate odour incidents.

ITEM 10

RESULTS FROM CLEAN UP AUSTRALIA DAY EVENTS

Dave Thomas from Eco Divers reported that approx. 60 volunteers collected almost a tonne, most of which was recyclable, from various sites in North Harbour.

The break up of the sites was as follows:

East Esplanade – 10 kg of general rubbish
10kg of recyclables
2000 butts

Manly Wharf – 28kg of general rubbish -8 bags
6 kg recyclables

Little Manly Point – Little Manly Beach & part of Collins Beach
93 kg general rubbish
83kg recyclables
5,000 butts

Oceanworld, Manly Dive and Pro-dive collected about 50kg
underwater near Oceanworld, most of it was recyclable.

ITEM 11 COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

RESIGNATION OF LONGSTANDING COMMITTEE MEMBER

With great regret the committee accepted the resignation of Terry
Metherell who has been played a part in this committee and the
Environment Levy Committee for almost 10 years.

CHANGE OF NAME OF COMMITTEE MEMBER

Cheryl Rose advised that as from 2nd March 2011, her name has
been legally changed to Rosie Lempriere. Staff will arrange for
changes to be made to committee records.

Secretariat

ITEM 12 NEXT MEETING DATE:

Date: Wednesday, 13th April, 2011
Time: 6.30pm
Venue: Councillors Room, Manly Council

Meeting closed at 8.45pm