



MINUTES OF MEETING
PLAYGROUND ADVISORY COMMITTEE
HELD THURSDAY 10th March 2016

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

PRESENT:

Councillors

Clr Jean Hay AM, Mayor Manly Council (Chair)

Other Representatives

David Morrisey Northern Sydney Health
Maryann Novakovic Community Member
David Murphy Community Member

Council Staff

Katherine Navin Parks Officer Open Space
Fenton Beatty Manager Parks & Reserves

TO THE MAYOR AND COUNCILLORS OF THE COUNCIL

The Playground Committee met on 10th March 2016, to consider the matters referred to it and now provides the following advice to Council.

OPEN	The meeting commenced at 10.00am.	ACTION
ITEM 1	APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE Lisa Waugh - Parks Officer Open Space	
ITEM 2	DECLARATION OF INTEREST There were no declarations of Interest.	
ITEM 3	CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES The meeting notes of the Committee meeting held 10 th December 2015 are confirmed.	

ITEM 4	Update on Weeroona Reserve refurbishment progress	ACTION
	The committee discussed the refurbishment proposals for the Weeroona reserve and the concept plan tabled, which was supported. The information signs installed and consultation had been carried out by Parks Officers at the playground. Council website advertising and letter box drops to immediate residents, neighbouring Childcare Centre, Manly West Public School and Precinct was undertaken. Feedback from the community consultation was limited in numbers but majority supportive, with the only objection received relating to the proposal to use mulch as a surface, as a replacement to the degraded synthetic grass. Ivanhoe Park Precinct responded that they liked the idea of utilising the slopes for slides and climbing and the change to natural play areas. They also requested the proposed tee-pee to have shade included in its structure and to be positioned under the canopy of existing trees, with new tree planting provided for additional shade. Quotes have been received from both playground companies and landscape contractors for the project upgrade, cost outcomes means the project will need to be staged. <u>Stage 1:</u> To remove and relocate the 'space-net' to the North Steyne Minor playground, remove the worn synthetic turf and existing playground equipment that has reached usable lifespan at Weeroona Reserve. Undertake refurbishment works to install 2 new slides on existing mounds at Weeroona reserve, with softfall landings and climbing elements as different access experiences. <u>Stage 2:</u> To install natural play elements such as tree trunks, balancing logs, tee-pee structure and soft landscaping. It was stated that a Project sheet has been drafted by the Parks Officers on this basis for internal managers' review and approval, prior to works proceeding. the RECOMMENDATION The committee recommend to the General Manager and Council, that Council Officers progress the Weeroona Reserve refurbishment project in these 2 stages, in accordance with available funding.	
ITEM 5	General Business for Consideration	
	1. North Steyne Minor Playground – upgrade The 'Proposed Upgrade Concept Plan' was tabled at the Playground and refurbished sail-boat spring rocker to North Steyne Minor playground was supported. The option of using mulch in the fall zones instead of soft-fall was discussed, but not supported by the Committee at this beachfront location. Therefore infill soft-fall to match existing will be installed to cover the fall zones of the 2 additional elements, as shown on the Concept Plan. The Ocean Beach Precinct was consulted and had thanked Council for the proposed upgrade.	

meeting. The relocation of the spatial net from Weeroona

RECOMMENDATION

The committee recommend to the General Manager and Council, that Council Officers proceed with the proposed works based on the North Steyne Minor Playground 'Proposed Upgrade Concept Plan' tabled at the meeting and available funding.

2. Forty Baskets Beach and West Manly Swings upgrade

The proposed refurbishment of these swings was reiterated to Committee Members who were absent at the previous meeting. The proposal to replace the corroded vertical poles with new poles and retain the horizontal bars and swings, together with replacing the splitting soft-fall and synthetic grass with mulch to correct depths to meet the standards in the fall zones, was supported.

RECOMMENDATION

The committee recommend to the General Manager and Council that Council Officers proceed with these proposed works, which have been programmed for the end of April 2016.

3. North Harbour Reserve

It was raised by Cllr Jean Hay AM, Mayor, that the parents of children who played at North Harbour Reserve playground had requested that a fence be installed, to prevent conflict with dogs.

Any proposal to install a fence would need public consultation, and would need to allow access along the path on the southern edge of the playground and maintain the positive play experience created by the adjacent rock face.

The Manager Parks & Reserves outlined that public consultation would be required prior to any decision to move forward with such a proposal, and any proposal would be subject to funding.

RECOMMENDATION

The committee recommend to the General Manager and Council that Council Officers proceed with community consultation to obtain feedback from the community on the request to install a fence.

4. Bower Street

It was raised by Cllr Jean Hay AM, Mayor, that the large mature fig trees at Bower Street reserve were creating safety issues, from the dense network of low branches forming hidey holes.

The Manager of Parks & Reserves took this on notice and outlined he would assess the trees in light of the issues raised.

The projected outcome for the trees would be addressed in that process.

Any consideration of relocation of the swing would be considered through the Playground advisory Committee.

RECOMMENDATION

The committee recommend to the General Manager and Council that the tree issues raised be investigated by the Manager Parks & Reserves and outcome actioned accordingly.

5. Budget Bids for 2017

It was discussed that budget bids had been submitted internally by Council's Parks Officers for playground upgrades at:

The Corso - which requires sub-base investigation, equipment foundation and shade structure refurbishments;
Tania Park - which requires soft-fall and equipment replacement due to deterioration;
JAF Fenwick - soft-fall replacement due to deterioration;
Baranbali - soft-fall replacement due to deterioration.

6. Playground and Play-space Strategy 2016-2025

The Playground and Play-space Strategy 2016-2025 had been finalised by Council's Parks Officers for internal circulation and review before release for community consultation. A copy was tabled at the meeting and would also be available to email the Playground Committee Members for their review and comment.

7. North Steyne – wheelchair 'I-swing' issues

The Parks Officer outlined that the wheelchair swing at North Steyne Major Playground had been removed because, Regular inspections of the swing revealed manufacturing and malfunction issues. Council will investigate the installation of an MLAK key on the gate to restrict usage to wheelchair users only and address any safety concerns before re-installation of the 'I-swing'.

RECOMMENDATION

The report is received and noted by the Committee

**ITEM 6 Next Meeting 12th May 2016,
10 am at Manly Council Chambers, Town Hall
– to be confirmed.**

Meeting closed at 12:00am