



MINUTES OF MEETING

COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

HELD WEDNESDAY 20 FEBRUARY 2013

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

PRESENT:

Councillors

Cathy Griffin
Hugh Burns

Manly Council (Chair)
Manly Council

Other Representatives

Susan Buchan
Jacqueline French
Natasha Hammond-Deakin
Lloyd Keen
Neil Ohlback
Dr Jan Ritchie
Karen Pitt

Community Member
Community Member
Community Member
Community Member
Community Member
Community Member
Community Member

Council Staff

Judy Reizes

Manager, Manly Environment Centre

TO THE MAYOR AND COUNCILLORS OF THE COUNCIL

The **Community Environment Advisory Committee** met on **20th February 2013** consider the matters referred to it and now provides the following advice to Council.

OPEN The meeting commenced at 7.05pm.

ITEM 1 APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Michella Burgers, Diana Deeley, Keelah Lam, Dave Thomas

ITEM 2 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Nil.

ACTION

ITEM 3	CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES The minutes of the Committee meeting held 12 December 2012 are confirmed. MATTERS ARISING It was resolved at Council's Planning and Strategy meeting held on 4 February 2013 that the minutes of the Community Environment Advisory Committee be adopted.	ACTION
ITEM 4	REPORT – MEC REPORT AND CURRENT LOCAL ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES REPORT Received and noted.	
ITEM 5	MEC ECO AWARDS - CLOSING DATE FOR NOMINATIONS FRIDAY 1 MARCH...8th ANNUAL MEC ECO AWARD PRESENTATION TO BE HELD AT MANLY SEA LIFE SANCTUARY ON THURSDAY 7th MARCH AT 6PM. Committee members are encouraged to nominate an unsung hero for this award.	
ITEM 6	ENVIRONMENTAL LEVY BIDS The MEC has submitted bids for the 20 th Ocean Care Day and the Bike Life Festival. It is anticipated that Eduard McPeake will present this year's bids to the Committee at the next meeting. The Committee's ideas from their December meeting have been passed on to him.	
ITEM 7	NOSEY LITTLE NEIGHBOURS - LONG-NOSED BANDICOOT COMMUNITY EDUCATION, ENGAGEMENT, MONITORING AND RESEARCH PROJECT This item was attended by Aleisa Lamanna, Council Environment Officer and Catherine Price, Researcher from Sydney University. Catherine gave a presentation on progress of this collaborative research project funded by Manly Council and spoke to the two reports she provided "Summary Report on Survey and Social Media Experience and Summary Report on Long-nosed Bandicoot Trapping Across Eastern Hill" (see Attachments). Stage 1 of the project commenced in November 2012 and consists of three main components: i) An online survey of residents of Eastern Hill to gather Information on bandicoot activity, biophysical characteristics of the urban environment and residents attitudes to bandicoots. ii) Launch of social media. Facebook and Twitter to raise awareness and engage the community with bandicoots; and iii) Trapping survey across Eastern Hill to develop a demographic profile of the animals using the urban environment.	

This report provides a summary of the initial results of the online survey and social media experience, as required by the Research Agreement between Manly Council and Sydney University.

The Committee thanked Catherine for her excellent presentation and Aleisa Lamanna and Rachel Miller.

Recommendations:

- a. The committee supports the Environmental Levy Bid for the continued monitoring of the urban population on Eastern Hill each year at an approximate costing of \$10,000 per financial year.**

Council review the processing of dog and cat registrations and the collection of data by project officers and its use in conjunction with the Mortality Register.

ITEM 8 PENGUIN WARDEN'S REPORT ON MANLY WHARF PENGUINS BY PENGUIN WARDEN KAREN PITT

The 5 chicks fledged from Manly Wharf habitat have left. Both pairs are molting and this may affect Clean Up Australia Day activities under Manly Wharf.

Penguin wardens have finished for this season as penguin activity at the wharf has decreased with the advent of the moulting season.

Since fishing line continues to be a problem for penguins, it is suggested that Council consider placing the recent photo of the Penguin entangled in fishing line on the Tangler Bins for fishing line that Council has installed.

ITEM 9 UPDATE ON NORTH HEAD SEWAGE TREATMENT PLANT –

a. Odour Issues

The General Manager has written to Sydney Water and the Local Member requesting that a funding announcement be made for replacement of the North Head odour scrubbers and that this matter be placed on the Agenda of the North Head Sewage Treatment Plant Consultative Group on Wednesday 27th February.

b. Removal of North Head Ocean Outfall

On 11th February, 2013, Council resolved:

“That Manly Council calls on the Premier of NSW to:

1. Acknowledge the adverse impacts (particularly odours, health concerns and sludge trucks) and concerns of the Manly community and Manly council over many decades in regard to the North Head Sewage Treatment Plant.
2. Urgently begin the planning process to remove the ocean outfall and close the North Head Sewage Treatment Plant.
3. Immediately take steps to implement at the North Head Sewage Treatment Plant, the “ultimate aim” of Section 27(1) of the Sydney Water Act 1994, which states, inter alia “the corporation is to adopt as an ultimate aim the

prevention of all dry weather discharges of sewage to waters, including from ocean outfalls, except to the extent that this is necessary to safeguard public health or prevent environmental degradation or both.”

4. Explain why despite continual licence breaches at North Head Sewage Treatment Plant there have been no prosecutions.

(cc to Ministers and Shadow Ministers for environment and Heritage, and Health, Local Member for Manly, Sydney Coastal Council Group, LG.S.A.)

ITEM 10 CABBAGE TREE BAY

ACTION

a. Friends of Cabbage Tree Bay Volunteer Group

Councillor Griffin reported that 15 volunteers attended the second training session.

b. Day at the Bay – Sunday 21 April, Celebrating Earth Day

a. Event Format

The third Day at the Bay to be held at Shelly Beach will showcase the Friends of Cabbage Tree Bay Volunteer Group.

The event was discussed and it was suggested that a number of info stations could be set up in the grassed side bays along Marine Parade featuring different themes and manned by the volunteers.

This event will be discussed further at the Cabbage Tree Bay Working Group meeting on 5th March and an event form completed.

b. Event Publicity

The committee endorses and supports this year's Day at the Bay and notes the need for better publicity.

Recommendation:

This Committee hopes that this event will be extensively promoted.

ITEM 11 CLIMATE ACTION SUMMIT 2013

The Climate Action Summit has been since 2009, at a number of Universities in different states including the University of Western Sydney last year. The organising group is interested in holding this year's Summit on the Northern Beaches.

ITEM 12 BEACH LITTER OF CHEAP PLASTIC TOYS

The issue of small plastic toys sold by Manly \$2.00 shops left littering the beach was discussed. These items consist of moulds, spades, etc. This matter will be referred to Council's Litterguards and Waste Committee for further discussion.

ITEM 13 COLLINS BEACH ISSUES**ACTION****a. Toilet Facilities at Collins Beach**

Lack of toilet facilities at Collins Beach was discussed. This results in visitors using the environment as a toilet and littering bushland areas.

Recommendation:

Council write to National Parks to determine whether they are considering installing toilet facilities at the end of Collins Beach Road, (near the gateway to the Police College) and offering to work with them.

b. Issues for Proposed Master Plan to Protect Biodiversity and Habitat

It was noted that the Lend Lease and St. Pauls College developments upstream of the Collins Beach foreshore have disrupted the water flow. The resulting impact on seepage has resulted in the ferns growing in the foreshore rocky undercroft dying off.

This matter should be referred to staff for investigation.

ITEM 14 NEXT MEETING DATE:

Date: Wednesday, 13th March, 2013.

Time: 7.00pm.

Venue: Councillors' Room, Manly Council Chambers

Meeting closed at 8.40pm.