



MINUTES OF MEETING

COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

HELD WEDNESDAY 13 AUGUST, 2014

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

Other Representatives

Karen Pitt	Penguin Warden
Diana Deeley	Community Member
Jacqueline French	Community Member
Lloyd Keen	Community Member
Keelah Lam	Community Member
Jan Ritchie	Community Member

Council Staff

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

The **Community Environment Advisory Committee** met on 13 August, 2014, to consider the matters referred to it and now provides the following advice to Council.

OPEN The meeting commenced at 7.10pm.

ITEM 1 APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE
Michella Burgers, Natasha Hammond, David Thomas.

ACTION

ITEM 2 DECLARATION OF INTEREST
Nil

ITEM 3 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES
The minutes of the Committee meeting held 9 July, 2014 are confirmed.

ACTION

MATTERS ARISING

It was resolved at Council's Ordinary Meeting held on 11 August, 2014 that the minutes of the Community Environment Advisory Committee be adopted.

ITEM 4	MEC REPORT and MANLY ENVIRONMENT CENTRE ISSUES	IBM
	That the monthly MEC Report as tabled be accepted.	
ITEM 5	“Becoming Social” – Launch of Sydney Coastal Councils Social Media Program.	
	Recommendation: That Council support the concept that Manly Council becomes adept at using social media in a positive and informative way in the life of this Council.	
ITEM 6	ENVIRONMENTAL LEVY – WORKSHOP WITH SENIOR STAFF	
	This committee is interested to be able to discuss a ten year plan for the Environmental Levy to synchronize with the Community Strategic Plan the four year delivery plan and the one year plan, with the view of the process agreed upon starting with next year’s bids. The committee confirms that it would like an independently facilitated workshop starting in October.	
ITEM 7	MANLY 2015	
	This committee does not support the demolition of a valuable community asset, i.e. Manly Library and the Whistler Car Park and expresses strong concern about the negative environmental impacts that will result from the digging up of the Village Green, including the exhaust stack, the emissions that will arise from the concrete structure and the ongoing emissions from the airconditioning, lighting and other building/mechanical services of the carpark as well as lack of definitive information on the improvement of stormwater management and the continued flooding of the area and the pollution still flowing into the ocean and harbour. This committee notes that there are other valid concerns that in the area there are many other resources that will be used that could be better utilized on sustainable projects.	
ITEM 8	PENGUINS	
	a. Manly Wharf Penguin Habitat	
	Karen Pitt reported that there is now a “penguin couple” involved in nest building activities under the Wharf. The committee would like to request National Parks that a member of the Little Penguin Recovery Team give a presentation to this committee on the latest Penguin count of 70 pairs. It was noted that this is the highest count recorded to date and is a pleasing result given that there were only 17 pairs at the time of listing as a threatened colony in Manly.	
	b. Critical Habitat in the Residential Area	
	i. 10/10A Addison Road, Manly	
	This Committee supports Council and NPWS position in protecting the cliff face in Penguin Habitat B, that there should be no steps/staircases from the residence to the shoreline as this passes through significant penguin nesting habitat. Some members of the Committee recall that this issue was raised at a number of years ago at the Penguin D/A Committee, which was a sub-committee of the Community Environment Committee.	

This property was the former home of Governor of NSW, Sir Roden Cutler and at that time there were 12 penguin nests on this site.

ii. **Department of Environment and Heritage Community Information Night for Residents adjoining Critical Habitat B**

The committee would like to know when the Department plans to organise **this** valuable evening to clarify significant issues and potential impacts by residents on penguin habitat.

ITEM 9 CABBAGE TREE BAY ISSUES UPDATES

a. Designated Swimming Area

This committee commends Council for the excellent letter it has written to Maritime in this matter.

Councillor Griffin tabled a letter to her from Department of Primary Industry Minister Katrina Hodgkinson, advising that the draft Plan of Management for Cabbage Tree Bay Aquatic Reserve recommends provision of public moorings with identified proposed locations.

The committee suggests that Council write to the Minister asking her to take on board in this matter that there were over 200 submissions from the community opposing moorings and boats in Cabbage Tree Bay.

IBM

b. Report from Friends of Cabbage Tree Bay Working Group Meeting of 7 August, 2014.

FoCTB Working Group
Meeting Minutes

Date 7 August 2014

Attendees: Robynne Millward, MEC; Judy Reizes, MEC; George Mannah, NSW Fisheries; Cathy Griffin, Manly Councillor; Belinda Curley, SIMS; Jacqueline French, Community.

Apologies: None.

Minutes Seconded by: Cathy Griffin.

General Business:

- Quote for 2nd run of hoodies – accepted. RM to go ahead and order ready for the 19 August.
- FoCTB volunteers have won the NSW Community Actions & Partnerships Award for Keep Australia Beautiful Sustainable Cities. A plaque was received by the Mayor.
- The Mayor has promised a morning tea for the volunteers. Working Group suggested a picnic as an alternative on a Sunday. JR to check this in with the Mayor.
- Volunteers were praised from ORRCA and National Parks for their assistance with an underweight seal with a bad eye that was washed up on the rocks at the Bower. Seal was monitored overnight and then when Taronga Zoo came to collect it – it had been shooed back into the water. One week later it was washed up dead on the beach at Shelly. The seal was retrieved by NPWS. The seal was identified as a New Zealand Fur Seal.
- Need a protocol around dead and sick animals ...Who is our best contact at National Parks – lets invite along to next meeting and put them on our call list – Mel Tyas.

DIARY NOTES there is a trip hazard on Marine Parade, outside the café and opposite where the FoCTB volunteers set up. In one shift – 2.5hrs over 15 people tripped over the uneven pavement, going to Shelly and tripping always come from the opposite side on the way back. Small children on scooters hit the uneven surface and go over top over handles. Could Council please investigate this matter as well as the possibility of re-tarsealing this section of the pathway before someone older lands flat on their face or seriously injures themselves. More trips were noted again in afternoon shift.

- Marine colouring-in books very popular with the kids. GM to find out about Fisheries printing up a supply and get a quote.
 - Bumper Stickers always popular.
 - Power boat moored over the weekend. As it was not a stormy weekend and boat needing shelter, is it allowed to park over weekend until Monday (3 days). This is the first time that a power boat has done this – this boat is a regular visitor. How can they be discouraged so that they don't get into a weekend habit of parking and then others joining. Travelling by tender into beach to get coffees with small motor. People in the water and under the water – accident waiting to happen.
 - Volunteer – 7 new volunteers signed up last month including our youngest 8yr old Maya O'Neill. Great to have some young kids onboard. Volunteers a mixture of locals and new international residents.
 - What's happening to the Pump House?
 - Collecting & Gathering.
 - 1st Group of 3 Asian people intercepted from gathering sea urchins by volunteer – had a bucket full. Were told of large fine and not welcome here to fish, photo taken and they walked back to FoCTB station to explain what is done in protecting the bay.
 - 2nd group of 12 Asian tourists on the rocks at the Manly point, gathering from rocks were stopped by volunteer returning home from shift – approximate 12 in the group. Were very sorry and left, looked very embarrassed.
 - Suggestion - that there is a sign at this spot on fence and or on the flip side of the fence so can be read from the rocks.
 - 3rd group spotted by locals who reported to MC Surf Life Saver – Dave Boardman. A group of 3 were gathering on the rocks. 2 ran off and older one was asked to accompany back to Surf Club. Had 25 turbine snails in hessian bag – seriously gathering. Snails were returned to the water. Dave called the Manly Ranger who then took all the details. NSW Fisheries were contacted by Manly Ranger. The man was later charged.
 - 4th incident – off duty FoCTB vols spotted fisher people with lines – someone swam out and told them had to stop; which they did.
 - These incidents seem to be increasing – and this was only over a one week period!
- We need to draw up an Observation Sheet/Surveillance sheet around:-
1. Fishing & Collecting and 2. Sick and dead animals. GM to get Fisheries Form.
- Binoculars are fantastic and used every shift. Thank you Fisheries.

- Can we get Beach Manager to be accredited by Fisheries to issue fines – GM.

SIGNAGE

- Gyoyeon An and Judy working on Regulatory Signs. Belinda will select images from SIMS database. Need to have signs ready for the start of summer.
- **2 variations of the signs** to look at – one portrait - map top and rules underneath & fish running vertical; Other design – landscape map & rules across top with fish photos underneath.
- Use same image for DL flyer + include pic of volunteers for Hello Manly. GM will get flyer translated into Asian languages.

DESIGNATED SWIM ZONE

This is going along with Councils support quite positively. Stephen has written to RMS. Working Group agreed would be good to have this in place before summer starts and new restaurant opens, which may drive more boats into the area!

ACTIONS:

- RM to order 2nd run of hoodies & some teardrop banners.
- RM to organize vols for Tuesday 14 (Asian Media) and Thursday 19 Inaugural Walk.
- RM to confirm speaker for Science at the Steyne – Microplastics – Jennifer Sinclair/Inneke.
- BC – to source fish high res images for regulatory signs in conjunction with Judy– 40.
- GM to get Reporting form from Fisheries.
- GM – organising media for Tuesday 14, and Asian Women's Network.
- RM - Need to draw up a protocol around sick and dead animals? Ask NPWS if they have form.
- Need to draw up protocol/Observation Sheet around fishing and gathering.
- RM Find out who our best contact at National Parks & Wildlife is and invite along to next session.
- JR & Gyoyeon make up 2 layouts of sign – landscape and portrait.
- JR to finalise list of images for signs – need high res images.
- JR use same signage in a DL flyer which GM can then translate into other languages – VIC/Hello Manly et al.
- CG – Report trip hazard to Domains Committee for re tarsealing before someone falls really badly.
- JR – check on date for picnic morning tea on grass at CTB on a Sunday in Sept.
- RM Autopsy on seal – Taronga – what did they find – volunteers interested – plastics.

UPCOMING DATES

- 14 August – Asian Media day with Fisheries at the Bower.
- 19 August – Inaugural Walk – Meet & Greet at the Bower & BBQ at Shelly.
- 31 August Morning tea picnic with Mayor – TBC.
- 7 Sept - Shark Net/Cull Protest – Manly Beach.
- Tentative – 9 Sept Science at Steyne.
- Tentative - 13 Sept Breakfast meeting/Summer Season Launch for volunteers update on rules etc.
- 17 November NPA Conference, Bondi.

The committee discussed the various issues raised at the CTBAR volunteer meeting group. The volunteers acknowledge the support of the Rangers however there is an urgent need to review and install new the signage, both interpretive and compliance, in the area.

ITEM 10 RURAL FIRE SERVICE 10/50 VEGETATION CLEARING CODE OF PRACTICE FOR NEW SOUTH WALES

This new Code for Practice is causing great concern as residents could use it to remove trees within 10 metres of their houses even though the trees could be on a council reserve or a neighbouring property.

This committee seeks advice from Stephen Clements and the LEP Review Committee on the possible implications for the Manly LGA.

ITEM 11 ANTI-SHARK CULLING RALLY

This will be held on Sunday 7 September at 11am on Manly Beach.

This committee fully supports this rally and draws attention to “Sharkwater” – Rob Stewart & Paul Watson (Sea Shepherd).

View movie trailer at their website at:

<http://www.sharkwater.com/>

ITEM 12 SQUID FISHING IN NORTH HARBOUR AQUATIC RESERVE

NSW Fisheries will be carrying out community consultation on a proposal to allow recreational fishers to fish for squid in the Reserve.

ITEM 13 PROPOSED HOUSING DEVELOPMENT ADJOINING BARINGA BUSH, SEAFORTH

The Department of Housing plans to build approximately 34 houses on what they claim is vacant land which will have an impact on this bushland reserve. The Committee considers that this land is not vacant land waiting to be developed. It has great value as bushland habitat which provides habitat for over 100 species of flora and fauna. Its value is represented in its bushland habitat and it plays a critical role at the top of the catchment as well as a wildlife corridor in the Manly LGA.

This committee requests that Council write to the Department of Housing to ensure that an integrated environmental assessment by a consultant is completed prior to their Development Application being submitted.

We also believe that the Department of Housing should set an example by reducing the scale of the development to:

- Maintain the wildlife corridor
- Retain communal bushland at the top of the catchment
- Produce a sustainable development including best practice sustainable design.
- Seek assurances that the Burnt Bridge Creek will not be impacted on as a result of increased sediment flowing into the stream.

ITEM 14 NEXT MEETING DATE:
Date: Wednesday 8 October, 2014
Time: 7.00pm.
Venue: Manly Council Chambers.

Meeting closed at 9.10pm.