



MINUTES OF MEETING

COMMUNITY GARDEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE

HELD THURSDAY 21 FEBRUARY 2013

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

PRESENT:

Councillors

Cllr Cathy Griffin

Manly Council (Chair)

Other Representatives

Libby Bubb

Community Member

Patricia Griffen

Community Member

Myriam Pitre

Community Member

Leah McKenzie

Community Member

Council Staff

Ed McPeake

Manager, Natural Resources and Community &
Environmental Partnerships

Celia Cameron-Smith

Climate Change Education & Special Projects Officer

TO THE MAYOR AND COUNCILLORS OF THE COUNCIL

The **Community Gardens Advisory Committee** met on Thursday 21 February, 2013, to consider the matters referred to it and now provides the following advice to Council.

OPEN	The meeting commenced at 6:30pm.	
ITEM 1	APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE	ACTION
	Cllr Jean Hay AM, Mayor Keelah Lam, Community Member	
ITEM 2	DECLARATION OF INTEREST	
	None declared.	
ITEM 3	WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION TO COMMITTEE MEMBERS	
	The Chair welcomed the new committee members. Each member was introduced and gave a background to their existing roles, interest in community gardens and reasons for joining the committee.	

ITEM 5	REPORT: CONFIRMATION OF PROPOSED MEETING DATES AND TERMS OF REFERENCE	
	It was resolved by the committee that membership would remain open in the public domain until member numbers are finalised. Meetings will be held every six weeks instead of every three months in this initial year and will now be held on Thursday mornings from 8:30am-10:30am in the Councillors' Room, Manly Council Chambers. The Terms of Reference were also discussed. Recommendation The Committee requests that the General Manager approve the change to the meeting dates and times and that it take effect from the next committee meeting.	GM
ITEM 5	WORKSHOP PRIORITIES, AIMS AND OUTCOMES FOR THE COMMITTEE	
	Council staff led a discussion on the aims and outcomes of the Committee via a roundtable discussion. It was agreed that the main aim of the group would be: • To provide community input to Council and increase the number of community and verge gardens in Manly. This would be achieved by: • the identification and pre-approval of suitable sites for community and verge gardens in the Manly area; • Improved communication between Council and community groups with respect to approval processes, requirements and time-frames; and • Increased efficiency in approval processes as a result of assistance with obstacles in garden design, approval and development. Recommendation The Committee requests that the General Manager approve the aims and objectives of the Community Gardens Advisory Committee for 2013.	GM
ITEM 6	GENERAL BUSINESS	
6.1	Pre-approved sites for community and verge gardens The Committee discussed past community garden applications and identified obstacles and barriers to progress. It was agreed that having pre-approved parcels of land would remove some limitations to garden approval and improve efficiency in processing applications. Potential sites discussed include: 1. North Harbour Reserve 2. Ivanhoe Park 3. Manly West Park 4. LM Graham Reserve 5. Water tank, Fairlight (Sydney Water site) 6. Keirle Park Recommendation The Committee resolved that the Climate Change Education Officer would review six potential garden sites and report at the next meeting	Climate Change Education Officer

	with a completed matrix showing analysis against the Community Gardens Policy criteria. Prior discussion to be held with Urban Services regarding sporting group usage of Manly West Park, LM Graham Reserve and Keirle Park.	
6.2	Keirle Park Council staff provided an update on an application made for a community garden in Keirle Park, Manly. The Committee discussed potential obstacles to garden approval and agreed that opposition to this site from sporting clubs would be significant. Recommendation The Committee resolved that the Climate Change Education Officer should contact the applicant to advise them of the outcome of this discussion and invite them to the next meeting to discuss alternative sites.	Climate Change Education Officer
6.3	Possible verge garden in Short Street, Manly The Committee discussed the possibility of establishing an edible garden in Short Street, Manly. It was agreed that this could be possible on the community understanding that it would be a short-term garden and could be removed at any time. Recommendation The Committee recommends that Short Street is made available for edible verge garden space and referred to the Public Domains Committee. Council staff to discuss the placement of portable garden beds with Parks and Gardens and liaise with interested residents and the strata boards of nearby residences that will be responsible for establishing and maintaining the garden. That Council staff discuss the issue of liability for this verge garden with Council's Risk Management Officer. That community gardens are discussed during the design phase of the 2015 Masterplan for possible inclusion final design for Short Street.	Climate Change Education Officer
ITEM 7	NEXT MEETING DATE:	
	Date: to be confirmed Time: 8:30am – 10:30am Venue: Councillor's Room, Council Chambers, Manly.	

Meeting closed at 8:10pm