



NOTICE OF MEETING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that of a meeting of **HARBOUR FORESHORES & COASTLINE MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE** will be held:

DATE: TUESDAY 12 NOVEMBER 2013

TIME: From 4.00pm to 6.00pm – maximum 2 hours

PLACE: Councillors' Room, Manly Town Hall, 1 Belgrave Street, Manly

COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Councillors

Clr Heasman
Clr Bingham
Clr Griffin
Clr Pickering

Manly Council
Manly Council
Manly Council
Manly Council

Other Representatives

Raymond Mathieson
Carlo Bongarzoni
Ian Littlemore
Richard Hewitt
Rodney Childs
Vic Levett
Ross Thirmyn
Marc Manion
Marcus Cahill
Craig Susans
Mark Moratti
Michael Treanor
Paul Schuetrumpf
Rodney James

Community member
Community member
Community member
Community member
Community member
Community member
Community member
Manly SLSC
NSW Roads & maritime Services
Queenscliff SLSC
Office of Environment & Heritage
NSW Parks & Wildlife Services (OEH)
Dept. Primary Industries
Dept. Primary Industries

Council Staff

Ed McPeake

Manager Natural Resources, Community and
Environmental Partnerships

Jacqui McLeod

Senior Coastal Management Officer

All other Councillors are free to attend as observers and are invited to do so and to engage in discussions, but not in voting, on any matter before the Committee.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Stephen Clements', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Stephen Clements
Deputy General Manager, Executive Manager, Landuse & Sustainability

Date: 7th November 2013



**MEETING TO BE HELD ON TUESDAY 12 NOVEMBER, 2013
AT 4.00PM – 6.00PM**

- | | |
|---------------|---|
| ITEM 1 | Apologies and leave of absence |
| ITEM 2 | Declarations of Interest – Pecuniary
Non- Pecuniary |
| ITEM 3 | Confirmation of Minutes of Meeting 10 September 2013 and Matters Arising |
| ITEM 4 | Report: Sea horse friendly netting at Little Manly saltwater pool |
| ITEM 5 | Updates and status on projects & reports |
| ITEM 6 | General Business brought to the Attention of the Chair Prior to the Meeting and Approved for Consideration |
| ITEM 7 | Date for Next Meeting: - TBC |



TO: Harbour Foreshore & Coastline Management Committee

MEETING DATE: 12 November 2013

AUTHOR: Jacqui McLeod, Senior Coastal Management Officer

SUBJECT: Sea horse friendly netting at Little Manly saltwater pool

1. INTRODUCTION

This report is provided for information of the committee. It presents an overview of the background and assessment process which were undertaken prior to commissioning of the trial of sea horse friendly netting at Little Manly saltwater pool. The report includes an overview of:

- Heritage report;
- Manly Council Heritage Advisor assessment;
- Environmental impact assessment, provided by NSW Fisheries with respect to potential impacts on fish and fish habitats; and
- Council's assessment of the community and economic benefits.

2. INFORMATION

As part of Council's regular maintenance assessments, Little Manly saltwater pool was assessed as requiring emergency safety works, due to a large number of unstable and potentially unsafe shark bars. Also, oyster growth resulted in a child needing sixteen stitches to her leg. The maintenance costs for the shark bars are considerably high compared to a more contemporary netting treatment which has the added benefits of providing shark protection and being sea horse friendly. Sea horse friendly netting has been trialed successfully over a period of 4 years at the swimming enclosure along West Esplanade. The netting is proving to be sustainable across the triple bottom line and is considered appropriate for Little Manly saltwater pool.

Council undertook appropriate heritage and environmental assessments at the proposal stage. A comprehensive study of the heritage aspects of the pool is presented in an article in the Bulletin of the Australasian Institute for Marine Archaeology (2005), 29: 44-52, entitled 'Baths at Little Manly in Sydney Harbour' (see Attachment). The Baths were first constructed in 1879. The southern and western boundaries were then delineated by timber pilings and palisade shark proofing. The sandy beach to the north and the rocky platform to the east have provided the other boundaries for the Baths. The archives show that since this time, there has been a constant process of structural renewal of the Baths being undertaken by Manly Council, due to deterioration of the wooden piles and storm and boat damage to the

shark proof enclosure. The heritage study concluded that due to the long existence of the Baths, it is highly unlikely that any of the original fabric remains.

The heritage study further concluded that the most important thing that Manly Council could do to acknowledge the heritage value of the Baths is to continue to keep the swimming enclosure, beach and grassy reserve maintained in order to encourage continued public participation in recreational activities at Little Manly. Manly Council recognizes the important community benefits of the Little Manly saltwater pool.

Manly Council Heritage Advisor's assessment concluded that there were no issues with the proposal, as it was clearly for maintenance of a place within curtilage of a heritage item (that item being the Foreshore). The mesh/bars and other elements were considered to be substantially the same as existing deteriorated elements and in that context, details of meshing were not of heritage concern. Consent was deemed to not be required from a heritage perspective, as maintenance works are exempt from consent under the LEP 2013 Clause 5.10.3.

NSW Fisheries were consulted in relation to any potential impacts on fish and fish habitats in relation to the Little Manly proposed trial and did not have any objections to the proposal. It is important to note that during the 4 year period of the sea horse friendly netting trial for the swimming enclosure along West Esplanade, algae has grown and soft corals have settled on the netting, providing habitat and attracting sea horses (refer photos as tabled).

Installation of the sea horse friendly netting and other repair work to Little Manly saltwater pool was completed on 1 November 2013. Care was taken during the works to ensure that both parts of the upper white timber whaler remained ie. the main beam & the backing strip which holds the bars in place. This has been raised as an important community concern (See Figures 1 & 2). The netting has been secured as tightly as possible on the seabed so that there is no extra net dragging across the seabed, affecting the seagrasses.



Figure 1. Little Manly saltwater pool during installation of sea horse friendly netting.



Figure 2. Little Manly saltwater pool following installation of sea horse friendly netting.

RECOMMENDATION:

The report is received and noted.

Harbour Foreshore & Coastline Management Committee

12 November 2013

ATTACHMENT:

Copy of article entitled, 'Baths at Little Manly in Sydney Harbour' Bulletin of the Australasian Institute for Marine Archaeology (2005), **29**: 44-52.