



NOTICE OF MEETING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that of a meeting of **Community Environment Committee** will be held:

DATE: WEDNESDAY 11 SEPTEMBER, 2013

TIME: 7.00pm – 9.00pm.

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

COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Councillors

Cllr Jean Hay AM, Mayor (ex officio)	Manly Council
Cllr Cathy Griffin	Manly Council (Chair)
Cllr Hugh Burns	Manly Council

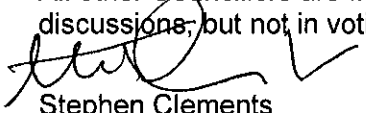
Other Representatives

Karen Pitt	Penguin Warden Representative
Michella Burgers	Community Representative
Susan Buchan	Community Representative
Diana Deeley	Community Representative
Jacqueline French	Community Representative
Natasha Hammond-Deakin	Community Representative
Lloyd Keen	Community Representative
Keelah Lam	Community Representative
Neil Ohlbach	Community Representative
Jan Ritchie	Community Representative
David Thomas	Community Representative
Lee DeGail	National Parks & Wildlife Representative

Council Staff

Judy Reizes	Manager, Manly Environment Centre
-------------	-----------------------------------

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.


Stephen Clements

Deputy General Manager

Executive Manager – Land Use and Sustainability

Date: 3 September, 2013.



AGENDA

COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

MEETING TO BE HELD ON Thursday 11 September, 2013

at 7.00pm.

**THE COUNCILLORS' ROOM, MANLY TOWN HALL,
1 BELGRAVE ST, MANLY**

- ITEM 1** Apologies and leave of absence.
- ITEM 2** Declarations of Interest – Pecuniary
Non - Pecuniary
- ITEM 3** Discussion on Meeting Notes from 15 August, 2013.
- ITEM 4** MEC Report & Current Local Environmental Issues Report
- ITEM 5** 7.15pm One Hour Presentation By Sydney Water On Review of
Environmental Factors (REF) For NSOOS Scrubber by Consultants from
Sydney Water's Odour Management Project
- ITEM 6** Penguin Warden Report
- ITEM 7** Cabbage Tree Bay Issues
- ITEM 8** Seagrass Issues and signage in North Harbour
- ITEM 9** General Business brought to the Attention of the Chair Prior to the Meeting
and Approved for Consideration.
- ITEM 10** Next Meeting: Wednesday 9 October, 2013 at 7.00pm.



NOTES OF MEETING

COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

HELD THURSDAY 15 AUGUST, 2013

Members of the Community Environment Committee gathered on Thursday, 15 August, 2013 to consider the matters referred to it, however there was no quorum at the meeting. Notes of the discussions held are contained here. The items listed on the Agenda for this meeting will be included on the Agenda for the next scheduled meeting on Wednesday, 11 September, 2013.

PRESENT:

Councillors

Councillor Cathy Griffin

Manly Council

Other Representatives

Karen Pitt

Michella Burgers

Natasha Hammond-Deakin

Jan Ritchie

Penguin Warden

Community Member

Community Member

Community Member

Council Staff

Judy Reizes

Manager, Manly Environment Centre

ABSENT:

Councillor Hugh Burns, Susan Buchan, Diana Deeley, Jacqueline French, Lloyd Keen, Keelah Lam, Neil Ohlbach and David Thomas.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

The minutes of the Committee meeting held 10th July 2013 were discussed.

REPORT - MANLY ENVIRONMENT CENTRE REPORT ON CURRENT ACTIVITIES AND LOCAL ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

The report circulated with the Agenda was spoken to by the Manager of the MEC.

Councillor Griffin reported that a report on the Relocation of MEC was presented to the Council Planning and Strategy Meeting of 5th August. The report concluded that Council is endeavouring to negotiate a long term lease with the owner of the existing building in Belgrave Street which would provide additional time to investigate options for the future of the MEC.

It was resolved that:

- i. the report be received and noted
- ii. Council further explore the possibility of the MEC occupying the Raglan Street site and
- iii. A budget bid be prepared for 2014/5 to formally catalogue information held at the MEC to make the titles catalogued available on line.

Committee members attended the Science at the Steyne evening last night to see the movie "Shark Harbour" and heard Scientist Amy Smoothie talk about her research and answer questions. Local filmmaker Jon Shaw also joined in Q and A. This night which was held as part of the enrichment program for the Cabbage Tree Bay Volunteers was a fantastic success and the evening was booked out. Thanks to the MEC for organising the event.

Through the Virtual Excursions Australia program which operates through the Australian Museum, MEC staff showed the MEC Cabbage Tree Bay video to 110 students from Ballarat and another country school. SIMS Marine Scientist and the MEC staff answered student questions via video conferencing facilities at the Museum.

BURNT BRIDGE CREEK TOUR WITH CHRIS KRAUS

The Committee preferred the date of 14 October proposed by Chris Kraus for this tour. Judy Reizes to liaise with Chris and the Committee.

PENGUINS AT MANLY WHARF

The penguin representative reported on the two pairs of penguins currently at the Wharf habitat area, with at least one pair is sitting on eggs.

There may be a fifth penguin prospecting in the area.

Since the stormwater system was repaired, this will be the first season without the stormwater 'creek' running under the wharf.

Dogs off leash continue to remain a problem. A dog was reported to have been running along the bush on Saturday night.

CABBAGE TREE BAY

a. Sand Migration at Shelly Beach

One of the Professors from UTS made a site visit to Shelly Beach with members of the Friends of Cabbage Tree Bay Working Group to suggest monitoring ideas.

The MEC has been approached by Macquarie University for a 10 week student project and three experienced students will investigate the causes of the sand migration at Shelly Beach. It is hoped that during this time Council will cease using the mechanical beach rake so that its impacts can be monitored.

b.. Designated Swimming Zone

The Committee requests that Council investigate creating a 'designated swimming zone' in Cabbage Tree Bay between Shelly Beach and Bower Beach. This would be adjacent to the International Surfing Reserve. The Swimming area off Balmoral Beach and Chinaman's Beach have been designated by the RMS as "designated swimming zones" and therefore prohibiting vessels using the area.

c. Dogs

The committee would like the rangers to ensure that there are no dogs going into the water or on the rocks because it is an Aquatic Reserve.

SYDNEY WATER NORTH HEAD SEWAGE TREATMENT PLANT ODOUR MANAGEMENT PROJECT

a. Community Report on Presentation by Consultants at Community Consultative Meeting of 14th August, 2013

Long-term Community Member of the North Head Sewage Treatment Plant Community Consultative Committee, Bev Trevenan submitted the following notes from their meeting of 14 August, 2013:

"Just a few points from the North Head Plant Community Consultative Committee meeting yesterday on plant odours as there was no Council person present.

Modelling and odour contour discussed, and some temporary monitoring results shown. Members of the Alliance (six or seven) and Sydney Water outnumbered the community.

Biotrickling to reduce odours will be installed at North Head plant, a process that eliminates the use of chemicals with scrubbers. The REF will be available in September. Biotrickling was introduced in 1960 in North America – New Zealand Manukau about 25 years ago. It was also an option in the Water board/NSW Government 1991-92 Options for Coastal Sewage Treatment Plant Upgrade.

Sydney Water said they had advised Sydney Harbour Federation Trust not to allow a hotel to operate on the sanctuary site and went on to say that if a hotel was operating there and encountered odour problems from the plant, they would have to pay for any odour mitigation. Also, there was an odour at the plant yesterday and it was described as being minimally worse than what can occur one kilometre from the plant. I realise that the Alliance contract is to 'reduce'

Odours at the plant but smelling the odour yesterday and the statement above, my reaction was shock horror.

At the meeting of North Head Wastewater Treatment Plant Community Consultative Committee on 24 July 2013, Sydney Water's Managing Director informed the meeting that Sydney Water was comfortable operating the plant to EPA's licence standards for concentration of pollutants, solids, oil and grease to the ocean that have not changed since 1976. Though 70% of solids and 75% of oil and grease inflow to the plant for the year ended 2011 went to the ocean there was no need for an upgrade or secondary treatment as the East Australian current disperses the pollutants. It was commented that Sydney Water does not have authority for an upgrade at the plant, the NSW Government's EPA has that authority."

b. Presentation on REF for Replacement of North Head Scrubbers by Odour Management Consultants at the next meeting.

Further to representations on behalf of this Committee, Sydney Water has agreed for the Consultants to make a comprehensive presentation followed by questions, at our next meeting on Wednesday 11 September at 7.15pm.

Other stakeholders will be invited to attend.

NEXT MEETING DATE:

Date: Wednesday 11 September, 2013

Time: 7 pm

Venue: Councillors' Room, Manly Town Hall, 1 Belgrave Street, Manly.

This discussion closed at 8.55pm.



TO: Manly Community Environment Committee
MEETING DATE: 11 September, 2013
AUTHOR: Judy Reizes, Community Environment Committee Co-ordinator
SUBJECT: **MEC and Current Local Environmental Issues Report**

Manly Environment Centre Report

The MEC has worked on the following initiatives:-

INTERNSHIPS AND VOLUNTEERS:

South Korean Intern Seonho has now left us after being with us for 4 months.
Work Experience Student Charlie from Stella Maris was with us for a week.
We continue to receive more Intern and Volunteer applications every month.

MEETINGS:

Meetings attended in August included:-

- 1 August** – Art of Communication Workshop run by Sydney Coastal Councils.
- 3 August** – Public meeting to Save Manly Hospital.
- 5 August** – North Head Sanctuary Foundation meeting at MEC.
- 6 August** – “Food-Water-Life” meeting about Coal Seam Gas campaign meeting at UTS.
- 6 August** – FOCTB working group meeting.
- 7 August** – Meeting with OOSH and community members in regard to postponing Mosaic Project until upgrade of Marine Parade closer.
- 7 August** - Meeting with Manly Community Centre and community members for community craft project for Bike Life Festival – Bike Rack Wraps.
- 7 August** – Presentation to Fairy Bower Precinct – FOCTB video and Q&A.
- 10 August** – Talk by author of Manly Penguin book at Berkelouw Books Balgowlah with Tula and NPWS.
- 15 August** – Sydney Coastal Council ‘Becoming Social’ steering committee meeting.
- 17 August** – AGM of North Head Sanctuary Foundation and Judy was re-elected to Committee.
- 20 August** – Bike Life Festival meeting at Library/across Council event and including NSW Northern Sydney Local Health District - NSW Bike Week event.
- 20 August** – Better Planning Network Meet the Member Day at Parliament House.
- 22 August** - Meeting with Macquarie Uni student researchers on Sand Migration Project.
- 29 August** – August presentation to Divisional Meeting of videos of FOCTB and Guringai Festival.

VISITS/EVENTS/LAUNCHES:

Science Week – ‘Science at the Steyne’ over 100 people attended highly successful event showing documentary Shark Harbour with guest speakers Dr Amy Smoothey & Jon Shaw. Event also promoted FOCTB and MEC.

Guringai Festival – Weaving Bridges

The exhibition on Stuart Sommerville Bridge continues to attract a lot of interest from locals, travelers and tourists alike.

VIDEO CONFERENCING TO SCHOOLS AS PART OF THE VIRTUAL EXCURSIONS AUSTRALIA PARTNERSHIP

Two presentations this month were made from the Australian Museum to two schools. The MEC Video on Cabbage Tree Bay No-take Aquatic Reserve was presented to 110 primary students who watched the videos and then asked questions on line from Robynne Millward MEC and Marine Scientist, Belinda Curley.

RECOMMENDATION:

Report be received and noted.

Judy Reizes
Manly Community Environment Committee Co-ordinator
3 September, 2013