



MINUTES OF MEETING

MANLY COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE HELD WEDNESDAY 11TH MARCH 2009

PRESENT:

Councillors

Cllr Cathy Griffin

Chair

Community Representatives

Richard Hewitt

Angelika Treichler

Louise Bochner

Eira Battaglia

Cheryl Rose

Peter White

Community Representative

Penguin Warden Representative

Community Representative

Community Representative

Community Representative

Community Representative

Council Staff

Anthony Hewton

Judy Reizes

Divisional Manager, Corporate Planning & Strategy
Manager, Manly Environment Centre

TO THE MAYOR AND COUNCILLORS OF THE COUNCIL

The Manly Community Environment Committee met on 11th March, 2009 and now reports having reached the decisions taken and recommendations stated hereunder:

OPEN		ACTION
ITEM 1	APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE Apologies were received from Diana Deeley. It was noted that Councillors Elder and Norek were attending a Seaforth precinct event.	
ITEM 2	DECLARATION OF INTEREST There were no declarations of interest.	
ITEM 3	WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS Anthony Hewton, Divisional Manager, Corporate Planning and Strategy, opened the meeting and welcomed the new members.	
ITEM 4	ELECTION OF CHAIRPERSON Councillor Griffin was elected as Chairperson.	

ITEM 5**REPORT ON STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK FOR THE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE INCLUDING TERMS OF REFERENCE AND PRIORITIES**

A presentation (attached) was made by The Divisional Manager Corporate Planning and Strategy concerning the strategic framework for the work of the Committee.

The Committee considered its objectives, meeting schedule and membership.

It was noted that Council has appointed Councillor Lauren Elder to the Committee.

Recommendations:

The Committee recommends to the General Manager and Council:

ACTION

Item for Brief
Mention

a) Committee Membership

Councillor Lauren Elder be added.

That Carole Douglas and Jacqueline French be appointed to fill the two vacancies on the Committee.

A representative from the National Parks and Wildlife Service in the local area be invited to be a member of this Committee.

b) Meeting Schedule

The meeting schedule for 2009 was agreed as follows:

Wednesday, with the time changed to 6.30 pm:

11 March, 8 April, 13 May, 10 June, 8 July, 12 August, 9 September, 14 October, 11 November, 9 December.

c) Objectives of the Committee

That a change be made to the Objectives as follows:

Strike through indicating deletions and underlining indicating new objectives recommended by the Committee to Council.

- Promote environmental best practice
- Receive information and provide advice on key environmental and natural resource programs, services and facilities planned to be, or, currently being, provided by Council.
- Advise on environmentally related matters pertinent to the environment and or issues of climate change.
- The Committee may also provide assistance and support to other Committees of Council concerning environmental issues.
- ~~Advise the General Manager on priority projects to be considered for funding from the Environmental Levy each year~~
- ~~Review the effectiveness of projects funded on an annual basis following advice provided by Council staff.~~

Advise the General Manager and Councillors on both

allocation and expenditure of funds consistent with Levy criteria, i.e. by

- Reviewing a draft budget each year and providing advice on priorities for expenditure;
- Monitoring environmental outcomes of Levy projects;
- Ensuring that such funds are used for new works and environmental initiatives over and above Council's normal operational and capital expenditure budgets; and
- Reviewing draft Levy newsletter reports to residents on new projects and the progress of prior projects relative to budget forecasts.

ITEM 6 MEC REPORT ON CURRENT ACTIVITIES AND LOCAL ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

ITEM 6.1 NORTH (SYDNEY) HARBOUR AQUATIC RESERVE EXTENSION AND MARINE PARK PROCESS

As Councillor Elder presented this matter to Council last year, this item will be deferred for discussion to the next meeting.

Recommendation:

That the matter be deferred to the next (April) meeting of the Committee.

ITEM 6.2 PENGUINS AT MANLY WHARF AND FEDERATION POINT

The penguin warden representative reported that the new fencing and gates which Council has erected have enhanced summer crowd control. Council Rangers are providing better dog control and Manly Police have been very helpful.

Recommendation:

That Council be thanked for the barriers and their support as it is greatly appreciated by the wardens and the community.

ITEM 6.3 EXTENSION OF CRITICAL HABITAT AT FEDERATION POINT AS PART OF THE FIVE YEAR REVIEW PROCESS

In spite of earlier concurrence between Maritime and NPWS, the NSW Scientific Committee has advised that they do not believe it is necessary. However, advice to the community from the Environmental Defenders Office recommends providing as much evidence as possible in support of the extension to the NSW Department of Environment and Climate Change (DECC).

Recommendation:

It is recommended that Council considers providing as much evidence as possible in support of the extension of Critical Habitat to include Federation Point in the Critical Habitat Area to the DECC. A copy of the advice from the EDO will be provided to Council.

ITEM 6.4 AUSTRALIAN INSTITUTE OF POLICE MANAGEMENT

In response to Council's request for a public meeting, the AIPM held an open day, advertised only 3 days before. The Chair reported that a number of people in the community who have

ACTION

Lead Officer to place item on April Agenda

ACTION

Council to note

ACTION

Item for Brief Mention

This matter to be referred to the Natural Resource's sustainability team for consideration and advice if action approved by Council.

ACTION

No further action

spoken to her are still of the view that there should be no new buildings on this sensitive site above the largest colony of penguins in the National Park.

Recommendation:

That the information be received and noted.

ITEM 6.5 BANDICOOT ROAD DEATHS

A number of dead bandicoots have been observed in the harbour end of Wood Street.

Recommendation:

That the information be received and noted.

ACTION

Information referred to Natural Resource's sustainability team to note

ITEM 6.6 ODOURS FROM TRUCKING OF BIOSOLIDS TO AND FROM NORTH HEAD SEWAGE TREATMENT PLANT

The latest communication on this issue from the Minister for Water, Phillip Costa was tabled at the meeting and is attached to the minutes. It states that "Sydney Water is satisfied that the covers used on trucks at North Head are effective in minimising odours. Minor biosolids odours may occur if some material becomes ingrained in truck bodies and tyres, even though all trucks are washed down after biosolids delivery and prior to leaving the plant".

Recommendation:

That the information be received and noted.

ACTION

Council to note

ITEM 7 GENERAL BUSINESS BROUGHT TO THE ATTENTION OF THE CHAIR PRIOR TO THE MEETING

ITEM 7.1 REDEVELOPMENT OF BATHERS PAVILION (FEDERATION POINT)

The Penguin Warden advised the Committee on issues relating to Penguins on the above mentioned site during recent development works. She also advised a new Development Application for the site has subsequently been lodged for a restaurant/ bar/ live music complex that would seat 530 people. She is concerned to ensure that issues pertaining to Penguins nesting on the site are properly addressed in the Development Application process. These issues were noted by staff present for referral to the appropriate staff within Council.

Recommendation:

That the information be received and noted.

ACTION

Item for Brief Mention

This matter to be referred to Environmental Services Division Manager for his attention and action as appropriate if approved by Council.

ITEM 7.2 POSSIBLE FUTURE ISSUES FOR THE COMMITTEE

- **Trapping of cats**
The management of feral cats in the Manly LGA.
- **Indian Mynahs**
The management of this issue in the Manly LGA.

Recommendation:

That the committee receive a brief report from staff on these two issues later this year.

ACTION

Referred to the Council's Bushland Coordinator for brief background report covering both issues for May Meeting

Meeting closed at 8.45pm

NEXT MEETING: Wednesday 8th April 2009 at 6.30pm



Community Environment Committee

3 Year Plan
2009-12

Strategic Framework for Council

- A new Integrated Strategic Planning and Reporting Framework is being introduced
- Councils plans and activities generally will need to show:
 - Clear links with Federal and State and regional plans
 - Planning must be integrated (no silo planning any more)
 - Committees input will be sought

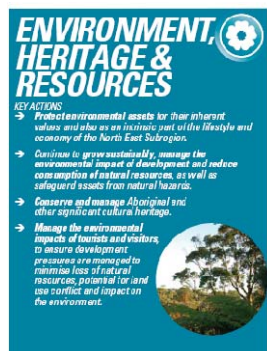
Strategic Framework for Committee:

- External factors affecting Committee work (e.g State & federal govt influences)
- State Plan
- State Agency Plans
- North East Subregional Strategy
- SHOROC
- Manly Strategic & Management Plan objectives
- Community Partnerships

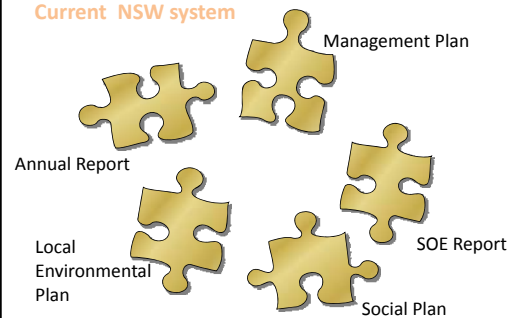
NSW 2006 State Plan

- Rights, Respect and Responsibility:
 - Keeping People Safe
 - Building Harmonious Communities
- Delivering Better Services:
 - Healthy Communities
 - High quality Transport system
 - Customer friendly services
- Fairness and Opportunity
 - Strengthening aboriginal communities
 - Opportunity and support for most vulnerable
 - Tackling disadvantage
- Growing prosperity in NSW:
 - NSW Open for Business
 - Increase business investment
 - Maintain and invest in infrastructure
 - Cut red tape
 - More people in education and training for life
 - AAA rating maintained
- Environment for Living
 - Securing our supply of water and energy
 - Practical environmental solutions
 - Improved urban environments

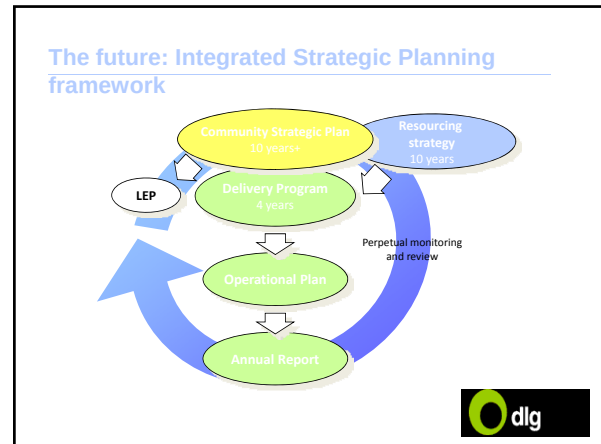
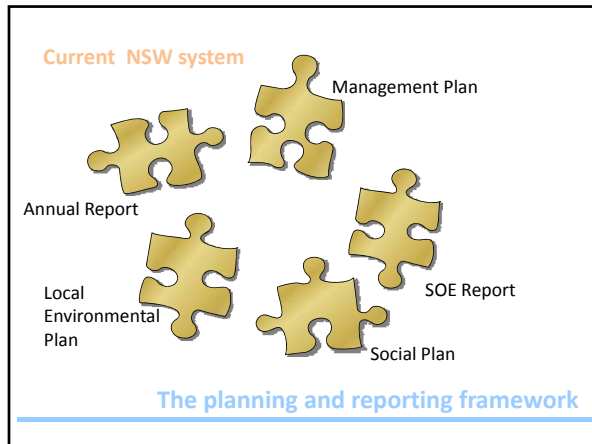
North East Subregional Strategy (2007)



Current NSW system



The planning and reporting framework



The Community Strategic Plan

- reflect the social justice principles of access, equity, participation and rights
- be adequately informed by relevant information and research
- give due regard to relevant State, regional and catchment plans and strategies
- be developed in consultation with the community



Community Environment Committee's Role

- The role of this Committee is purely advisory and may not commit Council resources.
- The Committee is to work within the framework of the Community Strategic Plan and does not deal with day to day operational matters.
- It should be noted that employees of the Council are not subject to the direction of the Advisory Committee or any of its members.

Community Environment Committee's Objectives

- Advise Council regarding Manly's special natural landscapes, biodiversity and aquatic environments to conserve a sustainable, healthy and safe environment for future generations of the Manly community. Key functions of the Committee will be to:
- Promote environmental best practice
- Advise the General Manager on priority projects to be considered for funding from the Environmental Levy each year
- Review the effectiveness of projects funded on an annual basis following advice provided by Council staff.

Community Environment Committee's Objectives (Continued)

- Receive information and provide advice on key environmental and natural resource programs, services and facilities planned to be, or, currently being, provided by Council.
- Advise on environmentally related matters pertinent to the environment and or issues of climate change.
- The Committee may also provide assistance and support to other Committees of Council concerning environmental issues.

Objectives of Committee

- Are these aims & objectives adequate?
- Should changes be made?
- Recommendations to the General Manager and Council?
- Changes to membership
- Agree meetings schedule

Committee's Membership

- Councillor representatives (and the Mayor ex officio):
- Councillor Cathy Griffin
- Councillor Mark Norek
- 1 Little Penguin Warden
- 11 Community representatives (2 Vacancies)

Q: Is this adequate should additional local stakeholders be invited to join to ensure Committee can meet its objectives ?

Council Management Plan Objective related to Environmental Issues

Objective(s)

- To provide a range of integrated programs and actions that act to protect and enhance our local environment, provide opportunities for reestablishment of natural processes and manage potentially damaging activity.

Council Management Plan Principles related to Environmental Issues

Principles

- A shared long-term vision for Manly based on: sustainability, intergenerational, social, economic and political equity; and our individuality.
- Recognise the intrinsic value of Manly's geodiversity, biodiversity and natural ecosystems, and protect and restore them.
- Enable Manly's community to minimise our ecological footprint.
- Promote sustainable production and consumption, through appropriate use of environmentally sound technologies and effective demand management.
- Build on the characteristics of ecosystems in the development and nurturing of a healthy and sustainable Manly.
- Recognise and build on the distinctive characteristics of Manly, including its human and cultural values, history and natural systems.
- Empower people and foster participation.
- Expand and enable cooperative networks to work towards a common, sustainable future.
- Enable continual improvement, based on accountability, transparency and good governance.

Committee Priorities

- What do we want to achieve by 2012?
- What are our priorities?
- What can be achieved in next 6-12 months
- What should we tackle first?
- Revenue impacts/neutrality?