MINUTES OF MEETING

PUBLIC DOMAINS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

HELD WEDNESDAY 19th JUNE 2013

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

PRESENT:

Councillors

Clr Barbara Aird	Manly Council (Chair)
Clr Hugh Burns	Manly Council
Clr Cathy Griffin	Manly Council
Clr Alan LeSurf	Manly Council
Clr Adele Heasman	Manly Council

Community Members

Evelyn Shervington	Community member
Mark Baxter	Community member
Peter Monckton	Community member
Kyeema Doyle	Community member
Doug Sewell	Community member
Nicolas Ewald	Community member

Council Staff

Beth Lawsen	Deputy General Manager, People Place and Infrastructure
Kara Nunan	Office Manager, Civic & Urban Services

TO THE MAYOR AND COUNCILLORS OF THE COUNCIL

The **Public Domains Advisory Committee** met on Wednesday 19th June 2013, to consider the matters referred to it and now provides the following advice to Council.

OPEN The meeting commenced at 6.10pm

ITEM 1 APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Mayor Jean Hay, Clr Candy Bingham, Clr Steve Pickering, Mr Phil Jacombs

ITEM 2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

NIL

ITEM 3 Confirmation of Minutes of 17th April 2013 was confirmed.

MATTERS ARISING **ACTION**

Mr Mark Baxter reported he was not recorded in the minutes accurately. He reported that he had asked for the plans of Little Manly Reserve park to be presented to the meeting of 19th June 2013. A report, Item 10 on 19/6/13 Agenda advised the Committee of status of these plans.

Resignation **ACTION**

Mr Nick Ewald resigned from the Public Domains Advisory Committee. He expressed that he had lost faith in the current Council, citing the decision regarding Little Manly as a factor. He believes Council needs to engage with expert people and outlay less money. He does not think Council operates with reasonable regard for the Committee and Community, and he is ashamed of what is being done.

Clr Aird responded to Nick, that he is welcome to return to the committee, if he ever wishes.
He has made a valuable contribution to the Committee over the years as a member.

Clr Burns gave a formal thank you to Nick for his time and for his contributions.

ITEM 4 **Raglan and Short Street Plaza presentation**
- MrTai Rophai, Chrofi

Tai Rophai presented an overview of the history of Short Street Plaza, showing photos of the original 1970's streetscape, the construction of the car park portal in the 1980's, the modern day view and designs for its future development as the north quarter of Manly 2015. The 'Spatial Strategy' was explained and includes the following concepts:

- Utilisation of the northern end of Short Street. This part of the street is currently not very welcoming to pedestrians and is a mix of car parking on street and unused spaces. It is proposed that part of the road is paved to become a shared vehicle / pedestrian zone with a possible bike hub / parking area on the eastern side.
- The light grey colour paving will feature in a smaller paver module to be used.
- Possible to use some temporary seating to determine best and most popular use of the plaza space could be trialled.
- Flexible short term use of southern end – e.g. for organic markets, possible for pop up coffee cart etc.
- Long term use of plaza can include – featured areas of outdoor dining.
- Utilise space under the National Building – bring retail out further to view from the street (currently under the cantilevered edge is away from street view).
- Concepts to place a mural image onto the National Building to create interest and to 'lighten' the facade.

- Pop-up cafe on western side in the middle of the plaza, as a point of activity to draw people into the central area, and also direct them to the walkway through the buildings.

- Removal of the car park portal to give a clean view of the whole street through to the historic church and grounds and to utilise current ‘dead’ spaces.
- Exit ramp at northern end of plaza is redundant, considering this area to be utilised as a bike hub.
- Existing trees in the plaza will support the area in summer.
- $1M budget has been approved by Council for the project.
- Landscape architects working with Chrofi - McGregor Coxall.
- Mr Tai Rophai was thanked and he left the meeting.

Comments received from various members of the Committee:

- Enquiry and low support re use of light grey cobble stones. Suggestion made to install water fountains as per The Corso to attract people and give a feeling of relaxation.
- Enquiry and suggestion of low level pole lighting be installed similar to European village centres, and whether catenery lighting could be installed.
- Concern regarding the street’s climate being cold and windy. Tai Rophai mentioned that new businesses would bring in their own climate controls such as outdoor heating.
- Concern that $1M budget would not cover the whole development and if this was the case; ensure to focus on the key change; such as the car park portal removal.
- The Committee requested that the General Manager hold another meeting to discuss Short Street Plaza with the construction plans and story boards, and to include the tree selection.
- That the briefing is to be provided, prior to work commencing and that the plans are uploaded onto Council’s website.
- The Committee expressed its concerns regarding Council undertaking the project, its accountability for performance and cost and that the Executive Manager Major Projects / Project Manager makes decisions to change plans without external checks and balances.
- The Committee recorded that it is not consulted early enough in the decision making process for projects such as Short Street.
- Member has advised that the most effective committees that he has been on have sub committees, and called for reactivation on Public Domains Advisory Committee matters.
- The Committee requested that they be provided with a timeline / flowchart of Council’s current projects being undertaken at part of 2015, to assist in prioritising their work.

Recommendation 1:

The Committee recommended to the General Manager that the detailed construction plans for Short Street are provided to the Committee. **GM**

	The Committee recommended to the General Manager that all projects be put out to tender and for Council to lodge an in-house tender bid if they want the work. If accepted, have an external person monitor the work and process.	**GM**

ITEM 5 **Presentation – East and West Esplanade Infrastructure report dated May 2013**

The Committee recommended to the General Manager that this item be brought back for discussion at the August meeting, after they have had a chance to walk East / West Esplanade and inspect the street furniture.

Feedback from the Committee included:

- ‘Circular emblems’ to be reinstalled on the East West Esplanade onto the concrete light pole bases as part of the concrete plinth, fixed in a way that prevents removal.
- The toilets on East and the West Esplanade are at capacity, not well lit and closed at sunset. It is recommended that they are reviewed for an upgrade, the number of toilets increased and opening times extended during daylight saving hours.
- Recommend that hoop signs be made with stainless steel. Higher upfront cost but longer durability, stainless steel on Manly Beachfront as the benchmark for the harbour foreshore.
- Ensure that signage is consistent with Wayfinder signs along East / West Esplanade.
- The surfboard seating on Council’s public area at Manly Wharf forecourt to be renewed / replaced with appropriate style seating.
- The Committee requests information regarding the painting of street furniture – it may be necessary to look at more frequent painting.
- The Committee requests a ‘walk through’ East West Esplanade programmed in September, when the scheduled maintenance of items will be completed.
- Table – in Sydney Road opposite the New Brighton area, requires cleaning and maintenance.

Recommendation 3:

1. The Committee recommended to the General Manager that they have endorsed the report and the maintenance regime to end of summer 2014, for the infrastructure on East / West Esplanade. **GM**
2. The Committee recommended to the General Manager that the Committee and Council, monitor the performance of the painted furniture and its longevity, consider all opportunities and grants by the end of summer 2014 for infrastructure replacement, as may be required.
3. That the Council’s current catalogue of street furniture showing style and models be presented to the Committee.
4. It is recommended that the East and West Esplanade toilets be reviewed and upgraded, the number of toilets increased and the opening times, extended during daylight saving hours.

ITEM 6 **Grant Opportunities – Marine Parade Master Plan**

- Committee has received and noted the list of grants.

ITEM 7 Management and Conservation Plan of Coastal Norfolk Island Pines within Manly Council LGA

- The Committee received and noted the Management and Conservation Plan of Coastal Norfolk Island Pines report and will respond to next meeting, following their review of the report.

ITEM 8 Tree Management Strategy and Tree Management Policy – Manly Council's

- A working group; Clr. Hugh Burns, Clr. Cathy Griffin and Evelyn Shervington to complete an inspection of the street trees and then, discuss and report their findings at the August meeting of the Committee.
- The Committee requested a copy of Ausgrid's guidelines for pruning street trees. **ACTION**

ITEM 9 Lighting in the Manly CBD as reported by Community Safety & Place Management Committee – Update

- The Committee were advised that this area has been reviewed and repaired due to a trip in the system. Reports will be received of late night lighting issues via CS & PM Committee for action.

ITEM 10 Little Manly Reserve – Submission **ACTION**

Recommendation 4:

If there was no other alternative then the Committee recommends to the General Manager;

"As Council owns both lots, it therefore has the capacity to subdivide each of the lots such that:

1. The reduced area of each of the two residential lots meets the DCP density requirements for residential allotments on the Eastern Hill and to enable their adequate development.
2. The heritage listed corner house be retained with suitable curtilage.
3. The remainder of the subdivided allotments adjacent to the foreshore be maximised in area and kept as Council owned Open Space land for public use.

There is no reason to rush this important decision which needs full investigation to find the best way forward."

ITEM 11 Manly 2015

Recommendation 5: **GM**

- The Committee recommended to the General Manager that a Communication Plan for Manly 2015 - Consultation & Information (*understood as being drafted*) is made available to the community generally, and on the Council's website.
- The Committee recommends to the General Manager that Council provide the Committee with the detailed plans for Manly 2015 including, the report from KPMG.

ITEM 12 General Business brought to the attention of the Chair prior to the meeting and approved for consideration

The Chair asked whether committee members would be available and willing commence the meetings at 5.30pm.

- The Committee agreed that meetings be held to commence at 5.30pm.

ITEM 13 NEXT MEETING DATE:

Date: **Wednesday 21st August 2013**
Time: **5.30pm**
Venue: **Training Room, Manly Town Hall**
1 Belgrave Street, Manly

Meeting closed at 8.40pm.