

Agenda for meeting on 6th October 2021 by email

1	Presentation	None possible				
2	Apologies	None necessary				
3	Minutes	of meeting of 1 st September and matters arising; see pp. 11-15				
4	Comments	If you wish to comment on, or object to, any of the recommendations in this agenda, please respond before the meeting date.				
5	Responses	5.1	Details on Foleys Road awaited			
		5.2	Meeting with Director of Planning – no response.			
6	Reports	6.1 6.2 6.3 6.4 6.5 6.6 6.7	Welcoming Parks: see rec p.2fc Walking & Cycling Participation Survey 2021: see rec p.3 Port Kembla Cumulative Road Transport Impacts: see rec p.4 Commitments from Candidates: see p.4 Community Satisfaction Survey: see rec p.5 Community Strategic Plan: see p.5 Crown St Markets Tenders: see p.6			
7	Priorities	7.1-7.3 See p.6				
8	Planning	8.1-7	DAs: see recs pp.7-8			
9	General Busin	eral Business				
10	Snippets	see p.10.				

Next Meeting/Agenda: on Wed 3rd November 2021.

Current active membership of Neighbourhood Forum 5 : 402 households

5 Responses

5.1 Cycleway at Smith St Wollongong Awaited

6 **Reports** 6.1 Welcoming Parks

When visiting cities it is not just accommodation that is sought, but also a clean, green, welcoming environment. Looking at cities like New York and London, a feature of these cities is their parks. In New York, many are the size of a building block. However, even with basically a hard surface, there are trees, sometimes vertical gardens, often climbing equipment and MANY, MANY seats.

With the increase of high rise in the city, open space where residents can enjoy fresh air, company and/or a quiet place to read a paper/book are essential. On a sunny day, people venture outside to enjoy our wonderful climate. Evidence of this can been seen at Brighton Lawn. On a sunny day, tables and seats are scare. The new sandstone walls (what a beautiful addition to the park) provide seating for many people and in Osborne Park passive use has "exploded".

Recommendation

That Council be requested, as a matter of urgency, for the benefit of both residents and visitors, to review and reinforce the provision of appropriate greening, adequate facilities, increased seating and welcoming spaces in parks near the CBD including McCabe, Lang and Stuart Parks.

6.2 Walking & Cycling Participation Survey 2021 for WCC

The Walking & Cycling Participation Survey for WCC lga has recently been posted on Council's website in the Cycling section under Planning for Cycling, link: <u>https://wollongong.nsw.gov.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0028/143</u> <u>857/National-Walking-and-Cycling-Participation-Survey-</u> <u>2021.PDF</u>

The phone survey of 558 households (with 1,389 individuals) was conducted between March and June 2021, it is statistically reliable with a 95% confidence interval, and is line with the format of the annual National survey. The survey results indicate that over 40,000 Wollongong lga residents (20%) ride a bike at least once a week, mostly (90%) for recreation. Cycling participation rates for all age groups, except 18-29 yo, have increased since last year.

Children up to 17 years have the highest rates (av 44%), with 30-40 yo next (18%), followed by over 50s (10%) and lowest 18-29 yo (8%). Participation increased across both men and women, although the gap between males (25%) and females (14%) continues to increase.2021 was the first year Walking has been included in the survey. The survey shows that almost all residents (97%) walked during a typical week, on average for 4 hours/week, mostly (86%) for recreation & exercise, and more often than last year.

The effects of Covid restrictions during the year surveyed could have been a significant influence towards increasing participation rates for cycling and walking. Halfway through the period Council adopted the 2030 Cycling Strategy and were awarded UCI Bike City status, resulting in extensive publicity, which may also have contributed.

Recommendation

Council be congratulated for commissioning the annual Walking & Cycling Participation Survey, the increases in participation rates be publicised, and community awareness campaigns be implemented on the many advantages of walking and cycling, including for health, recreation, wellbeing, environmentally and socially.

6.3 Port Kembla Cumulative Road Transport Impacts

Two new development proposals have been noted:

- I Manildra Ethanol Storage Facility to temporarily store beverage grade ethanol prior to exporting. The ethanol is manufactured at the Manildra facility in Nowra;
- 2 Simosa Bitumen Storage Facility to temporarily store imported bitumen prior to distribution for use in infrastructure projects.

Whilst each proposal has merit there is a concern about the reliance on road transport, as opposed to rail, to service the new developments, and, the way the developments must undertake environmental assessment "as part of their application to Wollongong City Council for development certification and the NSW Environment Protection Authority (EPA) for an environmental licence."

This environmental assessment appears to be under the provisions of a Three Ports State Environmental Planning Planning Policy with complying development provisions and little or no scope for public input with the normal process of a development application placed on public exhibition and submissions invited by the consent authority. Port Kembla receives millions of tonnes of coal moved to the port by large trucks using public roads, with past approvals allowing for road haulage of some grain to the port. This road haulage also makes use of the Mt Ousley road which along with large volumes of quarry products (that used to move from Bass Straight to Glebe by ship) and other general freight on road – leading to, on most days, over 8000 truck movements on Mt Ousley.

Accordingly, there is a question for each to the two proposed port developments as to what extent, if any, cummulative road transport impacts will taken into account. These impacts include increased road wear and tear, increased road crash risk, air pollution, noise, emissions and road congestion. Theses external costs were noted by the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal of New South Wales in its 2012 Review of Access Pricing for the NSW Grain Line Network as potentially being one cent per net tonne kilometre for unrecovered road system costs from articulated trucks and over two cents per net tonne kilometre for the other external costs in urban areas.

If road transport must be used, there are questions as which roads will be permitted for use by the heavy trucks and what contributions, if any, will be made for any necessary road upgrades, or additional road maintenance needed for the use of heavy road tankers. Further questions include hours of truck operation, and whether, as has been the case for other bulk transport such as coal, as to whether a code of conduct for truck drivers is to be included.

Recommendation

The Forum raise the above concerns with Wollongong City Council and the NSW Government via local MPs with a request as to the procedures to be followed in environmental impact assessment, and to what extent the option of using rail transport is considered by both the proponents and consent authority, and where road transport is to be used, how cumulative road transport impacts are taken into account, and how are funds raised to accommodate the extra truck numbers or to expedite works such as the Mt Ousley interchange to handle the extra truck numbers.

6.4 Commitments from Candidates

After input from members the commitments for urgent action in the first year of the new Council from Ward candidates at the December election are:

i **city centre**:

survey and address strengths and weaknesses and improve appearance and activities to improve usage significantly ii **planning**:

protect residential neighbourhoods and improve controls, DA notifications, assessment and enforcement procedures;

- iii traffic and parking:
 calm traffic near the city centre and make public parking free but time limited enforced;
 iv economic development:
 - target opportunities to stimulate the economyand vigorously promote them;
- v **local open space and parks**: provide more in Smiths Hill and activate McCabe Park;

vi **place management**: reinstitute place management with managers also relating to Neighbourhood Forums and their communities.

6.5 Community Satisfaction Survey

As previously mentioned in NF5 Agendas, Council's Community Satisfaction Surveys have been conducted by IRIS for almost 30 years, usually at two-yearly intervals. They provide statistically reliable results from a representative sample of residents. The Satisfaction Surveys "track Council's performance in service delivery, identify priority areas and evaluate community attitudes towards customer services, communication and Council as an organisation"

In March NF5 requested Council to conduct the 2021 Satisfaction Survey so that results would be available before the Council election, which has since been deferred until December. IRIS is conducting the survey during September, and this year Council recently initiated the opportunity for other residents to complete the survey questions online, closing on 27th. It is understood that IRIS will then analyse the information and provide a summary in their Report, which is expected to be available by early November.

Recommendation

Council be congratulated on enabling online responses to the 2021 Community Satisfaction Survey and be requested to make the IRIS Survey Report available early November, before the Council elections due 4 December 2021

6.6 Community Strategic Plan

The NSW Government through the Office of Local Government (OLG) requires Councils to have a Community Strategic Plan (CSP) "which describes the community's vision and aspirations for a period of 10 or more years". The OLG says "the creation of the CSP is led by the Mayor and Councillors and through engagement with the community" so that "This is the community's plan for the future". The CSP is required to adopt a quadruple bottom line approach addressing Social, Environmental, Economic and Civic Leadership criteria.

These were included in Council's first 20 year Strategic Plan "Focus on the Future" adopted in 1992, that was subsequently reviewed from time to time. After 2009 the OLG required CSPs and Council's 10 year CSP was adopted in 2012, but replaced 6 years later in 2018. Now, 3 years later, Council has commenced conducting very detailed processes to review the CSP and a Discussion Paper of 44 pages, 100Mb with beautiful photographs can be found on Council's website. Whilst it is not clear why the project needs to consume significant resources and community time to replace the current 10 year CSP so soon, it is recommended that residents refer to Council's website for details and participate in the various opportunities to review the "Our Wollongong Our Future" CSP.

6.7 Crown St Mall Market Tenders

Council invited tenders closing 16 September for a hire agreement of Crown St Mall to operate weekly outdoor markets for either Thursday evening "foodies" market from 5 pm to 9pm, or Friday Produce and Creative market from 8am to 3pm, or for both, starting 1 November 2021. The Term is 2 years plus 2 x 1 year optional extension, exercisable at the sole discretion of Council.

The Specification includes nominated fees based on a minimum 25 stalls weekly for the Thursday evening market and minimum 30 stalls weekly for the Friday market. Service levels and key performance indicators are listed, including minimum 60% of stalls to come from defined local area, minimum 30% of stallholders to be start-up operators or home-based businesses, minimum of 4 hours entertainment provided on each market day, minimum 2 marketing promotions per week (eg social media posts), 80% customer satisfaction rate by annual community survey and by annual stallholder survey.

In August 2019 following community representations about reduced numbers of stalls, NF5 advised Council about concerns in the gradual demise of the Crown Street Markets and requested the issues be resolved and an independent confidential survey be conducted of stallholders and a sample of patrons, to establish satisfaction, concerns and attitudes. Stall numbers then picked up, but obviously since early 2020 the effects of Covid-19 have been devastating. It is expected the community will welcome the return of vibrant, busy, sustainable Thursday and Friday markets to the Crown St Mall.

7 **Priorities 7.1 Liveability, City Centre, Stormwater.** These issues have not been progressed this month

8 Planning 8.1 Please note that whilst this review, and the recommendation based on it has been prepared with all due care and objectivity, no legal responsibility is accepted for errors, omissions or inadvertent misrepresentations, nor for any outcomes which might result from the assessments. As this review has only been made with the information available, members are encouraged to make their own submissions with any additional comments to the Secretary of NF5 well before the closing date.

8.2 RD – 2020/632/A 14-16 Acacia Avenue Gwynneville

21st Sept

This is an application for a review of the determination by the Regional Planning Panel to refuse the proposal to which we objected. Essentially it seems that the only change is to the street frontage which is a major improvement. However, the refusal to reveal floor plans makes it impossible to judge the impact on neighbours. Quadruplicating the density means it does not comply with our Locality Plan.



Recommendation

That the submission of objection be endorsed,

8.2 DA21/957 WIN Grand Development

1st October

As noted in outline in the September minutes this proposal is for the whole of the block surrounded by Crown, Keira. Burelli and Atchison Streets. Members were requested to respond so that the executive could make an informed submission.



Generally the proposal has support in principle but two issues have been raised – the height of the tower and car parking.

As noted in the minutes the 120m high tower on the corner of Burelli/Atchison is within Council's height limit controls. These vary across the site and other towers do not comply, however are considered acceptable.

Car parking requirements are very complex partly because credit can be claimed for the deficiency in existing parking provision for commercial development. However, it would appear that there is a significant deficiency in provision for both commercial and recreation development – perhaps as many as 100 spaces in all, although much of the demand for recreation parking will be in the evenings when there will be significant surplus nearby.

Submission

a submission has been made to Council which:

- 1 indicates strong support for the proposal in principle;
- 2 requests Council to review in detail the car parking provision;
- 3 requests urgent action on the significant implications for the structure of the city centre outlined in the September minutes.

Recommendations

- I that the submission be endorsed;
- 2 Council be requested to review height limits in the city centre to lower them.

8.7 DA determinations

DA no.	Suburb	Address	Proposal	Forum	Result
20/				Rec	Authority
Re- zoning	Figtree	Terrie Ave	Subdivision	Object	Withdrawn
20/645	W.W'gon g	39 Rosemount St	Dual Occupancy	Support	Approved Delegated
20/339	Figtree	103 Murray Pk rd	Dual Occupancy	Object	Approved Delegated
19/748	W'gong	264-268 Keira St & 23 Kenny Street	Mixed develop 15 stories	Object	Refused Regional P.
19/980	W'gong	82A Cliff Road	4 Storey Dual Occupancy	Object	Refused Panel
20/241	W'gong	93-95 Kembla St	7 storey residential	Object	Approved Panel
20/632	Gwynnevi lle	14-16 Acacia Ave	8 townhouses	Object	Refused Panel
20/860	Figtree	6 Mallangong Close	Dual Occupancy	Support	Approved Delegated
20/4	Keiraville	14 Cosgrove Ave	Subdivision 47 dwellings	Object	Refused Regional P.
19/1356	W'gong	9-11 Park St	8 storey residential	Object	Approved Panel
20/913	West W'gong	11 Alkera Cc	Dual Occupancy	Support	Approved Panel
20/528	W'gong	359 Crown St	Storey hotel	Support concept Object details	Approved Regional P.
20/307	Figtree	5-7 Truscott Pl	Multi dwelling housing	Object	Refused Panel
20/1098	Keiraville	147 Gipps Road	Dual occupancy		Approved Delegated
20/620	W'gong	JJ Kelly Park	Major events	Support	Approved Panel
20/622	W'gong	102/3 Springhill Rd	Major events	Support	Approved Panel
20/614	W'gong	16-18 Market Pl	4 storey units	Object	Refused Panel
21/45	Gwynnevi lle	12 Gwynne St	Boarding House	Object	Refused Delegated
20/1159	W'gong	197-199 Keira St	Regent Theatre additions	Support	Approved Delegated
20/1465	W'gong	15-19 Crown St	Mixed use 13 stories		Approved Panel

9 General Business

10 Snippets Sand in the City – child-friendly place-making

As cities seek new attractions to draw in summer visitors, from festivals to water fountains and city beaches, a large and robust sandpit was placed for several weeks at a central location in five Netherland city centres, in which children could play to their heart's content during the day. The sand, which was deposited on a tarpaulin or simply on the street, was always framed by heavy tree trunks, providing sturdiness and security and giving the whole thing a robust look.

It has long been known that playing in public spaces has positive effects on children: it contributes to their physical and mental development, health, and creativity. There were organised additional activities like using sand, building sand sculptures, and animation for the youngest children. Seats and beach chairs were placed around the sandpit so that parents could keep an eye on the children.

Children and their parents can help to make cities attractive and vibrant, while all city residents benefit from low traffic and safe streets and spaces that invite play, exercise, and relaxation. As Enrique Peñalosa, former Mayor of Bogotá, puts it: 'Children are a kind of indicator species. If we can build a successful city for children, we will have a successful city for all people'. Gert-Jan Hospers



"A GRASS BOX FOR THE CHILDREN IS A WONDERFUL IDEA."



Minutes of meeting on 1st September 2021 by email

- 1 Presentation None possible
- 2 Apologies None necessary
- 3 Comments Incorporated into these minutes
- 4 Responses **5.1 Cycleway at Smith St Wollongong**: It was agreed that Council be thanked for responding to community concerns about the cycleway and request them to negotiate with TfNSW to implement reducing the speed limit in the one-way Smith St between Keira and Harbour Streets to 30km/h to improve safety, and to implement intersection upgrades to improve safety for pedestrians and cyclists as soon as possible.
 - **5.2** Safety around Schools: It was agreed that Council be thanked for their comprehensive response to safety around schools.
 - 5.3 **Outstanding submission**: noted
- 5 Reports
 6.1 Community preferences: It was agreed that

 members indicate their support or otherwise for the 6 issues in need of improvement to which we seek commitment for urgent action in the first year of the new Council from Ward candidates at the December election, and add amendments or others that may have been omitted;
 the executive prepare a recommendation to be determined at the October meeting.

Current active membership of Neighbourhood Forum 5 : 405 households

6.2 Beaton Park Tennis Courts:

It was agreed that Council be complimented by successfully achieving funding and that the Forum supports the proposals.

6.3 Landscape in the City Centre:

It was agreed that Council be complimented on the upgraded landscape in the city centre - it is clear that a green and clean environment will attract people and add to economic vitality.

6.4 Sustainable apartments:

It was agreed that Council be requested to provide advice and support to those living in apartments similar to that offered by the City of Sydney.

6.5 Illawarra-Shoalhaven Regional Transport Plan:

It was agreed that our State and Federal MPs be asked to make representations to establish the delivery time frames for the Mt Ousley interchange, and for investigations for Faster Rail works for the South Coast line.

6.6 Planning Procedures

It was agreed that Council be requested, as a way of leveling the playing field between developers and longstanding residents, to make changes to practices and procedures relating to Development Applications, and that the executive seek a meeting with the Director of Planning to discuss this and other planning related issues.

6.7 Meeting with WCC executives:

It was agreed that the General Manager be thanked for arranging a productive meeting between Council's executive and NF5 representatives

6.8 Covid issues:

It was agreed that that our local MPs be advised of our support for their proposal that Wollongong be classified as "regional" for the purposes of covid restrictions.

6.9 Cosgrove Avenue Court Case:

It was agreed that Council be requested to make representations to the court that the only acceptable proposal for this site would be so substantially different from the original that a new Development Application would be required and no further compromise should take place.

7 Priorities **7.1 Liveability:** noted

- 7.2 City Centre: noted;
- 7.3 Stormwater: noted;

- 8 Planning 8.2 DA 21/845 Dual occupancy 42, Robsons Rd Keiraville It was agreed that the submission of objection be endorsed,
 - **8.3** DA/2019/1356A, 14 units 9-11 Park St Wollongong It was agreed that the submission of objection be endorsed.
 - 8.4 DA 21/858 Dual occupancy 19, Northcote St Wollongong It was agreed that the submission of objection be endorsed.
 - 8.5 DA 21/890 9 storey mixed use 7-15 Gladstone Ave W'gong
 - 8.6 DA 21/901 15 storey mixed use 2-8 Belmore St W'gong It was agreed that:
 - 1 following substantial concerns from residents on the east side of Belmore St,. no submission be made;
 - 2 Council be requested to amend section 5.12 of Chapter B1 of the DCP so that overshadowing be applied to all affected dwellings not just those adjacent.
 - 8.7 DA determinations: noted

9

Business

General 9.1 DA21/957 WIN Grand Development

1st October

A development Application has been lodged for the whole of the block surrounded by Crown, Keira. Burelli and Atchison Streets after a five year process and the developers have presented the proposals to the executive via Zoom.



This probably the most significant and imaginative proposal ever to have come to Council. Basically the \$400 million development, with a 3 year construction period, on the 13,000 m² site, is proposed to achieve Wollongong's first carbon neutral certified major building, and comprises:

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- i 402 residential units;
- ii 56,000 m² of development or 3 times that existing;
- iii with $22,00 \text{ m}^2$ of this commercial;
- iv a third of the site devoted to public areas, including a pathway diagonally across the site to link the railway station to the mall;
- v 469 parking spaces and 288 cycle places;
- vi retention of heritage and near heritage buildings with mostly two storey small scale shops with 4m setback on Crown Street;
- vii residential/commercial towers on Burelli Street;
- viii a number of community/recreation buildings, including a restaurant, cinema, pool and live music venue.

The only jarring feature is a 120m high tower on the corner of Burelli/Atchison although this is within Council's height limit controls. These vary across the site and other towers do not comply, however are considered acceptable.

However, the proposal will have significant implications for the structure of the city centre. In particular it could:

- i downgrade the mall to secondary retail/services;
- ii dilute the entertainment precinct focussed on the performing arts centre;
- iii reinforce the need for a public transport spine through the centre from the hospitals in the west to the foreshore, perhaps using 20 seater buses;
- iv complicate the Crown/Keira Streets intersection;
- v prompt the development and implementation of a Masterplan for McCabe Park;
- vi highlight the need for upgrading the streetscape and traffic arrangements in the surrounding streets in line with the completion of the project;
- vii provide an opportunity for Council to review its plans for the city centre and to respond to the implications of the proposal.

Recommendations

- 1 members check out details on Council's web site;
- 2 members send any comments, objections or support to the secretary by Wednesday 22nd September;
- 3 the executive compile responses and make a submission on the Development Application;

9.2 McCabe Park

It is noted that the WIN Grand proposal could breathe new life into the city centre generally, and its west end in particular, and there is an urgent and critical need to re-invigorate McCabe Park, not least to complement this initiative. For over ten years there have been a series of proposals and platitudes from Council but a manifest failure of resolve to adopt a Master Plan and implement its provisions.

Recommendation

That Council be requested, as a matter of urgency, to prepare in association with stakeholders, exhibit and adopt a Master Plan for McCabe Park and implement its provisions.

9.3 Community Strategic Plan

Council is anxious to make a presentation to the October meeting on this, which is available on their website.

Recommendation

That if Covid restrictions allow, Council be invited to present the Community Strategic Plan to our meeting on 6th October. If not they may be able to organise a Zoom meeting for which registration will be essential.

9.4 University Liaison

At the quarterly liaison meeting there was a presentation on the revised plans for the Health and Well-Being precinct.at Campus East. They are an improvement on the previous plans and are more closely aligned to the DCP Master Plan, notably the pedestrian spine although there still remains a conflict where this intersects with the access road off Squires Way.

On the Mount Ousley Interchange the University is working closely with Transport for NSW to expedite the project. UOW has had several meetings with the project team in relation to property acquisition and impacts on the University during construction and once operational. The University as a firm supporter of this project will do its best to ensure the project issues are resolved quickly and collaboratively between the University and Transport for NSW.

The University are also working closely with Wollongong Council on cycleways in the vicinity and the Planning Agreement for the oval.

Plans are proceeding to provide a medical clinic on site

All classes are now accessed remotely and expected to remain so until the new term in March 2022. Enquiries for places at UOW from potential domestic students for next year are strong.

10 Snippets noted

Next Meeting/Agenda: on Wed. 6th October 2021