

DAPTO NEIGHBOURHOOD FORUM
NF8 AGENDA
13th September 2023

1. WELCOME & ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

RON COOPER (CONVENOR)

"I would like to show my respect and acknowledge the Traditional Owners of the land on which this meeting takes place, and elders past & present and extend that respect to other aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people present.

2. APOLOGIES: Ian Fitzgibbon, Elisha Aitkin

3. ATTENDING: Cr. Dom Figliomeni, Cr. Linda Campbell, Cr. Ann Martin, Ron Cooper, Dennis Couley, Brett Morrissey (WCC), Heather Boardman, Rebecca Daly, Crann Martin, Steve McGartland, Peter Northey, Steven O'Neill, Romeo Cecchele, Jenni Francis, Chris Francis, Warren Southwell, Liz Webster.

4. MINUTES: 9th August 2023

Change April to August

Change Agenda to Minutes.

Moved : Dennis Couley

Seconded: Cr. Ann Martin

Ron Cooper: Update - Nathan McBriarty will support Ron in implementing zoom.

Nathan will bring update on West Dapto at November meeting.

Peter Northey will be Facebook coordinator & Steve McGartland will be outstanding items facilitator.

Seeking an assistant secretary.

5. PRESENTATION BY COUNCIL OFFICERS:

Council Officers Brett Morrissey- Environmental Planning Team, City Strategy @ WCC.

Council is preparing for the public exhibition of the **West Dapto Urban Release Area – Biodiversity Certification Strategy**

This is a project council has been working on for more than 10 years.

See attachments **ITEM 10** for details of the presentation.

7. COUNCILLOR'S REPORTS:

Introduction: Ron Cooper expressed appreciation for all councillors attendance, interest and support for whole of community and particularly issues raised through NF8.

Cr. Ann Martin - Lake Illawarra Estuary Management Committee (a committee of 25-30 people) update:

Several major studies have now been received by council and are available on councils website.

12 Monitoring stations to monitor water quality- there is evidence that many areas of the lake have good quality water and are & now swimmable.

A Bathymetric Survey- depth of lake- also map of water movement in and out of lake. It is clear that depths and movement rates vary dramatically.

Engineers are now looking at realistic methods to manage speed of water movement in & out of lake especially at Windang.

With positive results in the recent reports increased use of lake can now be encouraged.

Council has recently adopted policies including state of Industrial Lands in West Dapto and Social Infrastructure Needs Assessment.

It has been noted that there had been an initial underestimation of social infrastructure needs..this has been recognised and new facilities included (IPART). The push is to change strategy- plan is preference multi use facilities to meet needs of various community groups and members- eg sports fields and common community facilities (similar to Ribbonwood Centre) . This is a blueprint for strategy of what needs to be provided- however these big ticket items outline long term plans.

Cr. Linda Campbell - Mens Shed at Kananhoka- supporting the group as they looking for new space (current facility is likely to be sold.)

Public Transport: State Government Public Bus Consultation coming up.

Concern is to consider lack of transport in West Dapto - need to engage in this process..

Note: Ron Cooper attended the consultation & raised need for transport from West Dapto - Stream Hill into the CBD - train etc.

Consider synchronising services.

Cr. Dom Figliomeni - Council policy regarding vertebrate pest management is now redundant as this issue is currently managed under state policies.

Steve McGartland - raised concerns over infrastructure development. It was noted that East Maitland- Waterford has been developed with sporting fields, shopping centre, schools etc. in place. These facilities need to be planned and included along with residential development. Concerns raised that this is not evident in West Dapto

Romeo - highlighted the need to campaign for shuttle bus to west Dapto.

It was noted that information about Wollongong Demographics - on website Profile.

Discussion followed regarding:
Draft Industrial Lands Review; Avondale Road roadworks;

Letter from Council responding to questions sent in August was presented to the meeting.

This included updates on council work done - further updates to follow.

6. CORRESPONDENCE (SEE ATTACHMENTS)

IN : as listed below

OUT:

i) Notice of September Meeting emailed Monday 11.9.23

8. GENERAL BUSINESS:

Warren- traffic lights Cleveland Road & Marshall Street intersection are faulty- this has been reported.

Also damaged pavement causing problems. Councillors will follow up on these issues.

Recent work on railway crossing at Kembbla Grange caused traffic disruption and highlighted the heavy use of this crossing.

Plan to follow up w state rail & local member ask her to make representations regarding infrastructure and coordination of works.

Schools - the need for additional schools in our growing residential areas.

MEETING CLOSE: 8.45pm

NEXT MEETING: 7PM WEDNESDAY 11TH OCTOBER 2023

ATTACHMENTS: CORRESPONDENCE IN :

Item 1:



WOLLONGONG CITY COUNCIL

Address 41 Burelli Street Wollongong • Post Locked Bag 8821 Wollongong DC NSW 2500
Phone (02) 4227 7111 • Fax (02) 4227 7277 • Email council@wollongong.nsw.gov.au
Web www.wollongong.nsw.gov.au • ABN 63 139 525 939 - GST Registered

Our Ref
Date

24496046
24 August 2022

Dear Ian Fitzgibbon, Convenor of Neighbourhood Forum 8,

KOALA FOOD FOREST FOR ELEEBANA RESERVE KOONAWARRA

As part of Council's Urban Greening Program and wider conservation efforts, Wollongong City Council is excited to be partnering with Symbio Wildlife Park to develop a Koala Food Forest.

This conservation project involves planting up at 900 specially selected eucalyptus tree species in a vineyard style planting at Eleebana Reserve in Koonawarra. Once the trees are established, the leaves will be sustainably harvested in sections from time to time to help feed the growing family of koalas who are part of Symbio's conservation breeding program. The leaves will also serve as a potential food source for koalas outside of Symbio who are in emergency care as a result of a natural disaster like the bushfires of 2019-20.

In addition to providing a food source, these trees will also offer the benefits of more shade, help to cool the area, restore local biodiversity, and absorb harmful emissions. It is estimated that each mature tree planted on this site will offset 21 kgs of CO2 per year. This site will also provide an educational opportunity for local students.

Key Facts about the Koala Food Forest

- A vineyard-style planting consisting of carefully selected eucalyptus tree species.
- It will be made up of up to 900 tube stock which will be planted in a selected area (see map) within Eleebana Reserve
- The Koala Food Forest will grow on a part of Eleebana Reserve. A large space in front of the Koala Food Forest will remain open for community recreation and there will be a dog walking area around the perimeter.
- The established trees are expected to reach approximately three metres high and two metres wide in 18-24 months after planting, with maturity size managed up to 4 metres high and three metres wide.
- Once the trees are established, Symbio will sustainably harvest the leaves to feed the koalas in their care. Only 25-100 small branches (or approximately a ute-load) will be collected every 1-2 weeks. This will ensure there will be a constant supply of leaves throughout the year while also maintaining the forest's aesthetics. Secateurs or pole tree pruners will be used to remove the leaves.
- In the event of large-scale natural disasters, such as the 2019-20 bushfires, this site will potentially be utilised as an emergency food source supply for koalas in emergency care.
- For more information about this project, visit <https://wollongong.nsw.gov.au/koala-food-forest>
- For more information on Symbio Wildlife Park's Koala Conservation project, visit <https://symbiozoo.com.au/purchase-a-tree-to-save-koalas/>

Item 2:

From: Louise Harding <lharding@wollongong.nsw.gov.au>

Sent: Wednesday, August 23, 2023 2:30 PM

To: ian.fitzgibbon@outlook.com

Subject: September 13 Neighbourhood Forum 8 meeting

Good afternoon,

Council is preparing for the public exhibition of the West Dapto Urban Release Area – Biodiversity Certification Strategy, and are hoping that 2 Officers (Brett and Julia) can attend and present at the **September 13th** meeting.

Could we please request you add some time to your agenda for this and advise to confirm by return email?

Regards

Item 3:

From: Sile Crowe <scrowe@wollongong.nsw.gov.au> **On Behalf Of** Nathan McBriarty

Sent: Tuesday, August 15, 2023 1:53 PM

Subject: Wollongong City Council - Matters regarding West Dapto – Neighbourhood Forum 8 - CR0212598

Good afternoon Mr Fitzgibbon

Please find attached a response to the matters raised by Neighbourhood Forum 8 regarding West Dapto.

Sincerely yours



Nathan McBriarty | Manager Infrastructure Strategy and Planning (Acting)

Phone +61242277798

Email nmcabriarty@wollongong.nsw.gov.au | wollongong.nsw.gov.au

Item 4:

On Tue, 12 Sep. 2023,
From : Elizabeth Webster,

Re Proposed Wind Farm Project:

Questions for meeting

1. Is council in favour of the proposed offshore wind farm project?
2. If yes, how does that impact the possibility of a navy base and or submarine base at Port Kembla ?
3. How does the proposed floating foundations of these towers impact current port movements and any further increases in those movements?
4. What on land infrastructure is proposed? This was mentioned in a survey but no detail was given as to what or where the infrastructure would be.

Item 5:**Re: Integral Energy Park**

From: Kristy Rowlands <krowlands@wollongong.nsw.gov.au>

Sent: Wednesday, August 30, 2023 12:28 PM

To: ian.fitzgibbon@outlook.com

Cc: Cr Ann Martin <cr.amartin@wollongong.nsw.gov.au>

Subject: Response to Ian Fitzgibbon Neighbourhood Forum 8 - RE Integral Energy Park - CR0217523

Good Afternoon Mr Fitzgibbon

Please find attached a response for Neighbourhood Forum 8 regarding the future use of Integral Energy Park as requested by Councillor A Martin.

Should you require any further information, please do not hesitate to let us know.

Kind regards

Kristy Rowlands (on behalf of)
Lucielle Power
Manager Property and Recreation

Item 6:

From: Will Coote <WCoote@wollongong.nsw.gov.au>

Sent: Wednesday, September 6, 2023 4:40 PM

To: ian.fitzgibbon@outlook.com <ian.fitzgibbon@outlook.com>

Subject: Notification of Public Exhibition of Planning Proposal - Review of large R2 zoned lots in the Illawarra Escarpment Foothills

To Neighbourhood Forum 8
C/o Ian Fitzgibbon

Public Exhibition of Planning Proposal – Review of large R2 zoned lots in the Illawarra Escarpment Foothills

Council is seeking feedback on a Planning Proposal to rezone certain large R2 zoned lots in proximity to the Illawarra Escarpment. This follows the 3 April 2023 resolution of Council and the 17 August 2023 Gateway Determination by the NSW Department of Planning and Environment to progress the Planning Proposal to Public exhibition.

The Proposal seeks to amend the Wollongong Local Environmental Plan 2009 zones and controls for certain land connecting to the Illawarra Escarpment in Balgownie, Mount Pleasant, Stanwell Park, Wombarra, Cordeaux Heights, Figtree, Keiraville, Mount Keira, Mount Ousley and Farmborough Heights, to minimise the potential environmental impacts of future development. The proposal will be on exhibition between 6 September and 11 October 2023.

Copies of the Planning Proposal and supporting documents can be viewed at:

- All Wollongong City Council Libraries during opening hours.
- Council's Customer Service Centre Ground Floor Administration Building 41 Burelli Street Wollongong between 9am and 5pm weekdays
- Council's engagement website: <https://our.wollongong.nsw.gov.au/>

Submissions should quote **PP-2023/3** and be addressed to:

The General Manager,
Wollongong City Council,
Locked Bag 8821
WOLLONGONG DC NSW 2500
Emailed to: council@Wollongong.nsw.gov.au

Please note that submissions become public documents and may be viewed by other persons on request. Please refer to Council's Privacy website for more information <https://www.wollongong.nsw.gov.au/links/privacy>

Submission close **11 October 2023**.

For enquiries, please contact William Coote via the details provided.

Item 7:

Romeo Cecchele

Tue, Sep 12, 11:45 PM

Hello Heather,

Can we please get answers to the following questions from our councillors being:

1. Medium/large pothole on Princes Highway pedestrian walkway adjacent to Dapto Hotel still not fixed after many complaints, why?
2. Five piles of household items along Bong Bong Road West past Brooks Reach still have not been collected after multiple requests, why?
3. When will work start on the dangerous first 700 meters of West Dapto Road in storm events going to be upgraded to four lanes as we have been requesting this for 14 years already?

Kind Regards,
Romeo Cecchele.

Item 8:

Cr Dom Figliomeni

Wed 13.9.23 7:38 AM

Hi Romeo

I have forwarded the questions to Council for a response

Regards
Dom

Item 9: Cr Linda Campbell -forwarding information from the Lord Mayor

Tue, Sep 12, 11:12 Am

Here is some info the Lord Mayor provided recently to a resident regarding the proposed offshore wind zone.

The declaration of an offshore wind zone is the responsibility of the Federal Government and the Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water is currently seeking feedback on the proposed zone. Please visit the [Consultation hub | Offshore renewable energy infrastructure area proposal: Pacific Ocean off Illawarra region, NSW - Climate Change \(dcceew.gov.au\)](https://www.dcceew.gov.au) for more information on the declaration process and providing feedback. I encourage you to head online or attend one of the drop-in sessions commencing on 18 September to learn more about the declaration and provide your input.

This proposal has the potential to help Wollongong become a clean energy city, explore innovative technology, and create new jobs for our community. Strategically, while the concept is still in its early days, it does align with Council's efforts to respond to the climate emergency. We're committed to be open to discussions and engage with new opportunities like these, particularly as they're further refined and more detailed information becomes available, so that we can advocate for the best outcomes for our city, community and local environment. We support local renewable energy generation which can drive down industrial emissions, help us reach net zero greenhouse gas emissions for Wollongong by 2050, and has the potential to offer significant local employment opportunities. This is formalised in both the City of Wollongong Climate Change Mitigation Plan and the Invest Wollongong - Investment Prospectus.

Illawarra has been identified by the NSW Government and Energy Co as one of five Renewable Energy zones. The 'offshore' aspect of the offshore wind area is governed by the Australian Government under the Offshore Electricity Infrastructure Act. The 'onshore' transmission connection approval pathway is largely governed by the NSW Government. This proposal covers area that extends from Wombarra in our Local Government Area, through Shellharbour Local Government Area and into the Kiama Local Government Area.

Council is a stakeholder in both processes and will be advocating for positive short and long-term outcomes for the Wollongong community. We will look to make a submission once we have had time to carefully consider the proposal.

Regards , Cr. Linda Campbell

Item 10 : NF8 Correspondence -24.9.23

Brett Morrissey Bio Diversity off set Scheme

Brett Morrissey

Sep 14, 2023, 12:14 PM

Hi Heather, thanks again to NF8 for the opportunity to provide the presentation at last night's monthly meeting. There was some great questions and I hope I was able to respond to these and provide a clearer understanding of this project for the community members in attendance. Following on from your request, please find the attached presentation in pdf format. In addition:

- As suggested by Councillor Ann Martin, [this is a link](#) to the 18 October 2021 Ordinary Meeting of Council report making recommendations for Council to progress the project and this was endorsed by the Council at the meeting. The report has some more detail on the history/evolution of the project and its intended outcomes, than I was able to cover last night.
- For those that are interested, please find the below links to NSW Department of Planning and Environment webpages that provide more detailed information on Biodiversity Certification and the process it follows.
 - General overview, see also the other links on this webpage <https://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/topics/animals-and-plants/biodiversity-offsets-scheme/about-the-biodiversity-offsets-scheme/biodiversity-certification>
 - Video explaining biodiversity certification <https://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/topics/animals-and-plants/biodiversity-offsets-scheme/about-the-biodiversity-offsets-scheme/news-support-and-webinars> . Note you will have to navigate to the last of the series of videos for the one on biodiversity certification (screen grab below)

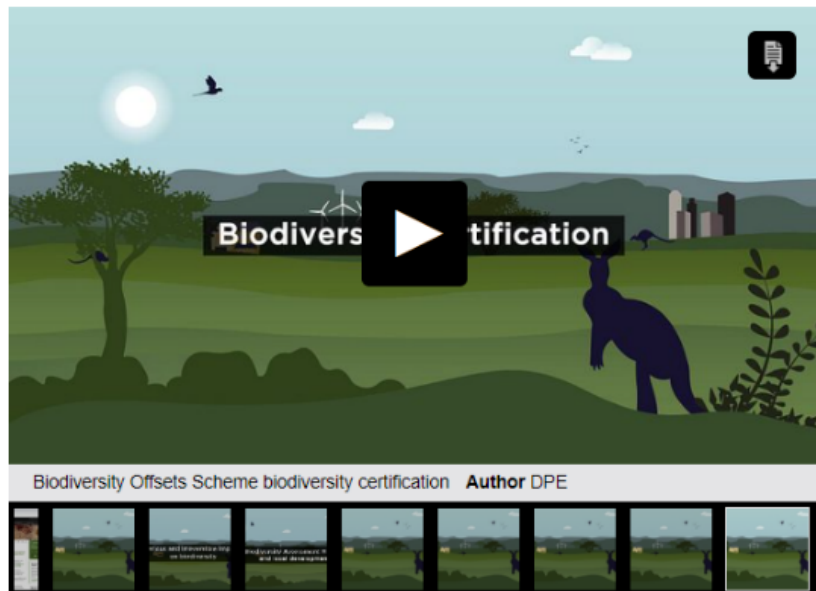


Biodiversity Offsets Scheme contacts

Biodiversity Offsets Scheme support

The Department has produced a number of videos about key areas and activities of the Biodiversity Offsets Scheme.

Click through the carousel thumbnails to choose a video.



Video topics

- The Biodiversity Offsets Scheme and when it applies
- Meeting biodiversity offset obligations
- Identifying threatened entities at risk of serious and irreversible impacts
- Using the Biodiversity Values Map and Threshold (BMAT) Tool
- Biodiversity assessment for Part 5 activities
- Serious and Irreversible Impacts on biodiversity
- Biodiversity Assessment Method (BAM) and local development
- Subdivision applications and subsequent development of land
- Biodiversity Offsets Scheme threshold
- Native vegetation clearing
- Test of significance
- Biodiversity certification