

**Neighbourhood
Forum 5**

**Wollongong's
Heartland**



**Coniston, Figtree,
Gwynneville, Keiraville,
Mangerton, Mount
Keira, Mount St
Thomas, North
Wollongong, West
Wollongong,
Wollongong City.**

Minutes of meeting on Wednesday 6th July 2022 by email

- 1 Presentation None possible
- 2 Apologies None necessary
- 3 Minutes of meeting of 1st June were adopted.
- 4 Comments received have been incorporated into these minutes,
- 5 Responses
 - 5.1 **Coastal Management Program:** noted.
 - 5.2 **Changes to Bus Layover Parking:**

It was agreed that that Council be advised of the Forum's support for initiatives to relocate bus layover locations, and request urgent action to relocate the two temporary bus spaces causing problems for residents in Lower Crown Street between Corrimal St and Queens Parade.
 - 5.3 **Flooding in Keiraville:**

It was agreed that Council be advised that the review of the Floodplain Risk Management Plan is welcome but urgent action is required to ensure recent, and apparently anticipated, flooding does not re-occur, before waiting for the delayed community engagement process for revised Risk Management planning and actions, especially given yet another downpour this week.
 - 5.4 **MacCabe Park Master Plan:**

That Council be requested to advise:

 - What criteria are used to determine priorities for preparing Master Plans?
 - What is the scoring system?
 - How did MacCabe score against the others mentioned?
 - Who has the final say in adopting priorities Council officers or Councillors?

6.1 Climate Friendly Planning Framework:

It was agreed that the the submission based on the report in the agenda be endorsed.

6.2 University Liaison: noted

6.3 Social Impact Statements:

It was agreed to make a submission based on the report in the agenda.

6.4 City Centre Community & Cultural facilities:

It was agreed that the submission based on comments in the agenda, and those received from members, be endorsed.

6.5 Wood-fired Heaters:

It was agreed that Council be requested to review, with community input, procedures for responding to complaints about pollution from wood-fired heaters, for advice offered to the community on the issue, and to seek changes or additions to State legislation or incentives to assist in combating both health issues and climate change.

6.6 Bluescope Steel Surplus Land Masterplan:

It was agreed that Bluescope be advised of our strong support for the development of the Masterplan and that the Forum would be delighted to be involved.

6.7 Rock Fishing Safety:

It was agreed that Council's proposal on rock fishing safety be supported and be requested open additional access to the northern breakwater

6.8 Faster Rail to Sydney:

It was agreed that the Forum:

- i a. thank Mr Scully for approaching the NSW Government as to the prospect of more trains and faster trains on the South Coast line;
- b. ask him to make representations to seek the release of the report completed in March 2021 on improving South Coast travel times;
- c. also to ask for off-peak trains to Sydney every half hour (like Newcastle has had for years) rather than every hour, prior to the international cycle event in September 2022.
- d. and to enquire if there any plans to increase the capacity of the rail system from Hurstville to Sutherland;

- ii similar representations be made to Mr Ryan Park, requesting a statement from either the Leader of the Opposition or the Shadow Minister for Regional Transport, as to how a NSW ALP government may provide for faster South Coast trains.

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| 7 | Priorities | <p>7.1 Livability: noted</p> <p>7.2 City Centre: noted</p> <p>7.3 Active Transport: noted</p> |
| 8 | Planning | <p>8.1 Planning noted</p> <p>8.2 DA.2022/512 dual occupancy 13 Rosemont St W. W’gong
It was agreed that the submission of objection be endorsed.</p> <p>8.3 DA.2019/980 dual occupancy, 82A Cliff Road, Wollongong
It was agreed that Council be requested to advise how it proposes to deal with future applications elsewhere given the precedent to which it appears to have conceded.</p> <p>8.4 DA.2022/469 42 dwellings, 14 Cosgrove Avenue, Keiraville
It was agreed that a strong objection be lodged and that Council again be requested to re-zone the land to make clear that such proposals are unacceptable and contrary to all Council and State Government Strategies and policies.</p> <p>8.5 DA determinations: noted</p> |
| 9 | General Business | <p>9.1 Cat Registration and Containment
The Forum recently became aware (via NF 7) that 10 NSW Councils are participating in a NSW RSPCA \$2.5M funded program over 4 years to improve care for pet cats through responsible cat ownership and to protect Wildlife from cat predation. In addition newly passed ACT Government legislation which is intended to help Canberra’s cats live longer and healthier lives while better protecting native wildlife. Further information is available at
- https://www.cityservices.act.gov.au/pets-and-wildlife/domestic-animals/cats/cat-containment</p> <p>It was agreed to request Council to seek participation in the RSPCA program.</p> |

9.2 Stuart Park Master Plan

The Forum requested Council to initiate a working party with key stakeholders to assist in developing the master plan.

Council have responded:

“Council has considered your idea and is planning to undertake a workshop late August/ September on the draft master plan where NF5 members will be invited to share feedback as part of this process.”

It was agreed to thank Council for the offer.

9.3 Public Tree Management Policy

NF 7 recently asked Council about the impending review of this policy. Council responded: “I can advise that while we have been delayed on the early 2022 policy review, we have done a lot of work in this space, and it has expanded beyond a review of the Public Tree Management Policy. We are finalising the draft in the coming weeks and our work has captured a consolidation of a number of tree policies that ensures more consistency in our decision making, something the community is very keen to see.

We are trying to form a policy that covers a range of topics including consistent reasons for tree removal and consistent response to tree vandalism on public and private land, and managing tree conflicts including views. Apologies for the delay on this, I’ll have a better understanding of timing shortly, but when the policy goes on exhibition I would be happy to workshop this.”

It was agreed to request the Manager Open Space + Environmental Services to include the Forum in this workshop.

9.4 Escarpment Mountain Bike Project

The NPWS have produced a draft review of the environmental factors for this project. The project proposes a spaghetti of trails mostly towards the top of the escarpment each catering to different skill levels – Advanced, Intermediate, Beginner, Intermediate to Advanced – together with various two way and fire access trails. An example is attached.

This expands the existing bike path from 1 to 50 kilometres and doubles the length of the existing, mostly unsanctioned, trails. Most trails will be 0.9m wide with locally used rock or imported sandstone used as a base. There will be no trails in the network on Mount Keita or Mount Kembla.

However, the proposed tracks run through every patch of Illawarra Subtropical Rainforest recorded in the study area and this is an ecological community that is critically endangered under federal environment law. Not only is vegetation severely affected but also up to 15 threatened bird species will be impacted as well as Koalas.

Moreover, no methods or resources are suggested for closing or policing current or future illegal tracks, funding for on-going maintenance is uncertain as is the impact of Aboriginal heritage or residents near access points.

It was agreed to:

- i welcome the rationalisation, control and upgrading of mountain bike trails on the escarpment;
- ii express total opposition to the multiplicity and extent of the proposed network which will adversely impact on endangered vegetation and fauna on the escarpment;
- iii call for a far more modest proposal to include all environmental impacts and details for on-going policing and maintenance;
- iv distribute the comments by the Illawarra Escarpment Alliance and make a submission taking these into account;
- v encourage members to make their own submissions.

9.5 DA.2022/561 dual occupancy, 15 Gundaren St, W. W’gong 14th July

This is a proposal for the demolition of an existing house and the construction of a detached dual occupancy on corner lot with a dwelling facing each street. It does not comply with front setback not number of stories from rear setback .It seems to comply with all other Council requirements. It is in a relatively remote location and does not comply with our Locality Plan for Figtree.



It was agreed to object the proposal.

9.6. DA.2022/542 dual occupancy, 5 Greenacre Rd Wollongong

14th July

This is a proposal for the demolition of an existing house and the construction of an attached dual occupancy in area with a mixture of housing types. It seems to comply with all Council requirements, and with the transition area of our Locality Plan for Fairy Creek.



It was agreed to support the proposal.

9.7 City Centre Community & Cultural facilities

Following the submission made in item 6.4 above a response has been received from Council:

“This has been an area of continued interest for Wollongong City Council over many years. While not all aspects of this proposition have yet been realised and implemented, Council has taken various steps since it was first discussed to better understand and deliver on the idea of an active cultural hub in this city. To this end six resident artist studios situated in the lower Town Hall and catering to artists working across various media and practices have been made available to local artists for several years. Cultural Development who manages these spaces provides a series of grants to local artists and creatives to assist and support them with both their professional development and cultural production, providing an important cultural outcome for the community.

The Resident artist studios are adjacent to the Arts Precinct situated between the Art Gallery and IPAC, which has been a venue and hub for cultural activity, including live music lunchtime performances, outdoor cinema, the Spiegel tent and coming in July, Upsurge a three-day art market event featuring the work of 16 local artists and creatives. The Arts Precinct has also been the venue for various other cultural community events among them Comic Gong.

While a singular Cultural Precinct master plan has not yet been implemented, the idea of a city centre cultural centre continues to underpin much of the community cultural activity developed under Council’s auspice. This will expand and build until the time when funding and opportunity will allow for a comprehensive and fully formed plan to be executed through a broad and rigorous community consultative process.

Meanwhile many of the notions important to the establishment of a Cultural Centre in the city continue to be explored, developed, and implemented across the city and the current Arts Precinct. Thank you once again for your thoughtful letter and important reminder of Council's commitment to establishing a vigorous Arts Hub that will benefit both artists and creatives as well as the rest of the community.

City Culture & Activation Manager

It was agreed to thank Council for the response and request them to advise what steps are going to be made in the immediate future, that is this year or next year and point out that at present the CBD badly needs some attention.

10 Snippets noted with appreciation.

Current active membership of Neighbourhood Forum 5 : 419 households

