

Neighbourhood Forum 5

Wollongong's Heartland

*Collaborating with Council
on community aspirations,
visions, needs & concerns.*



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

MINUTES of meeting MONDAY 4th November at 6 pm at the Wiseman Park Bowling Club, Gwynneville

- 1 Presentation Alison Walsh was thanked for her presentation on the Community Strategic Plan.
- 2 Apologies Harold Hanson, John Riggall, Jenny Bayly, Mark North, Maxine Lacy, Nick Tambacis
- 3 Minutes of meeting of 7th October were adopted
- 4 Comments noted.
- 5 Caveats **Noted**
- 6 Responses
 - 6.1 **Gas Ban Proposal for New Buildings**
It was resolved that Council be requested to apply the ban where possible.
 - 6.2 **Freight on Rail**
It was agreed that Minister Aitchison be thanked for her reply with a request for clarification that the Plan, on completion, will be released to the public. Also to inquire if a draft can be placed on public exhibition.
 - 6.3 **Issues awaiting responses:** noted
- 7 Reports
 - 7.1 **Convenor**
It was agreed to congratulate Jane Robertson on being elected unanimously as NF 5 new Convenor.
 - 7.2 **Community Strategic Plan**
It was agreed that:

- 1 the executive make an appropriate submission, taking into account the submission made to the original plan in May 2022; discussion at this meeting and responses to the Secretary before 15th November;
- 2 members be encouraged to make their own submissions.

7.3 Tourism Accommodation Review Strategy

It was agreed that Council be advised of the need for:

- 1 support for efforts to attract much-needed new tourist accommodation, for all standards, particularly recognising the need for at least one 5-6 star hotel to compete with other like-sized cities and for the strategy to identify appropriate sites before trying to attract market interest;
- 2 Council to prioritise and fund the creation of a quality regional museum in the city's cultural precinct to show its industrial, heritage, cultural, colonial, migrant and military history;
- 3 the relocation the tourist visitor facility to the city centre as a location much more appropriate than at Bulli Tops;
- 4 support for the incorporation of a convention centre able to host large scale events in plans to redevelop the WEC;
- 5 undertaking a master planning exercise for the area surrounding historic Wollongong Harbour to enhance its untapped potential as a tourist drawcard;
- 6 dramatically increasing the promotion of what are currently seen as 'hidden gems' such as Wollongong Botanic Gardens and the adjoining Glennifer Brae and consideration of infrastructure enhancements in the gardens to enable outdoor concerts in summer;
- 7 support and promotion of Port Kembla as a new cruise terminal;
- 8 a review of opportunities for providing camping sites.

7.4 CCTV in the City Centre

It was agreed that the submission be endorsed which supported CCTV in the City Centre as a deterrent to anti-social behaviour and is of assistance to the police and Council to identify offenders if crimes are committed.

7.5 Ted Tobin Hall at Beaton Park

It was agreed that Council be:

- 1 be advised of the Forum's disappointment at the failure to consult with users of the hall and asks for a more open, transparent process when future changes are proposed at Beaton Park;

- 2 requested not relocate sporting and fitness groups from Ted Tobin Hall unless new equal or better venues are provided, preferably in association with a review of the Beaton Park Masterplan;
- 3 be requested to advise why a refurbishment of the Hawks existing training facility, The Snakepit, isn't feasible and the preferred first option.

7.6 Mount Ousley Interchange:

It was noted that the existing pedestrian bridge is to be closed from 18th November until 19th December.

7.7 draft amendments to DCP Introduction: noted

7.8 Federal support for electrical appliance upgrades:

It was agreed that the Member for Cunningham Alison Byrnes:

- 1 be congratulated for her government's decision to run a pilot program in Wollongong postcode 2515 offering subsidies and support of upgrades to electric appliances;
- 2 be advised of Neighbourhood 5's support for a ban on the provision of gas to new building.

7.9 NSW Freight Review

It was agreed that deputations to Ryan Park MP and Paul Scully MP be sought to emphasis the need for the NSW freight strategy now under review to take a more balanced approach to rail freight and road freight than was apparent in the Interim Directions Report, and the Lord Mayor be advised.

8 Planning

8.1 Planning: noted

8.2 DA-2024/708. Co-living rooms, 93 Robsons Rd. W.W'gong

It was agreed that, following community concerns, Council be advised that the Forum now objects to this proposal.

8.3 DA-2024/608. 14 stories, 116 units Keira/Kenny Sts W'gong

It was agreed that a submission of objection be lodged.

8.4 DA-2024/796. Dual occ 14 Mallangong Close Figtree

It was agreed that a submission of support be lodged, subject to a requirement to plant street trees.

8.5 DA2023/646 4 Smith/22 Harbour Sts Wollongong

It was agreed that Council be advised that the WLPP be congratulated on improving Noise and Vibration conditions of consent, and requiring establishment of a Community Noise Management Group, in their determination of DA2023/646

8.6 DA-2024/788 Dual Occ, 19 Rose St Keiraville

It was agreed that a submission of objection be lodged.

8.7 DA determinations: noted

9 Late
Business

9.1 Yours and Owls at Lang Park

It was agreed that Council be advised that the Forum:

- 1 fully supports holding a Yours and Owls Festival in Wollongong;
- 2 is astounded that, after the outcry when the Festival was held in Stuart Park, Council is so insensitive as to begin to think about locating it in Lang Park as it is much closer to more residents and to a school;
- 3 requests that as for previous Yours and Owls events, wherever the event venue, there is a full community and stakeholder consultation and appropriate planning approvals before allowing it to proceed;
- 4 suggests that it is essential for Council to identify at least one site in the city where events likely to be as noisy and intrusive as this, can be located.

9.2 Keira Village Park Cricket

It was agreed to support the application for funding new cricket training nets at Keira Village Park.

9.3 Construction activities on Footpaths

It was agreed to ask Council why builders are allowed to close footpaths to assist construction on adjacent sites and force pedestrians to cross the road, sometimes twice.

9.4 Pram ramps

It was agreed to ask Council to review the situation where cars are often parked near pram ramps, thereby blocking them, and to take appropriate measures.

9.5 Grey Street Footpath Obstructions

Deferred to next meeting.

9.6 Sydney Water Charges

Deferred to next meeting.

9.7 City Centre and Tourism

Deferred to next meeting.

9.8 Meeting Room

It was agreed that the new Convenor seek a meeting with the new Lord Mayor to try and resolve the impasse given that officers have advised that the matter is closed and no further discussion will be entered into. If this does not receive an acceptable response from Council within a fortnight then a formal deputation to speak at the next available Council meeting be considered.

9.9 Road Safety in Stuart Park

TfNSW recent media release advises the existing speed limit in Cliff Road from between George Hanley Drive northwards has been reduced to 20km/h. This follows a speed limit review initiated last year by Council and discussed with representatives of NSW Police and TfNSW. Council's review also included proposals for a Raised Pedestrian Crossing on Cliff Road just north of George Hanley Drive intersection, and one on GH Drive at the intersection with Cliff Road. These are essential associated safety features to raise awareness of motorists approaching and in the 20km/h zone.

It was agreed that Council be requested to expedite construction of raised pedestrian crossings in Cliff Road and George Hanley Drive to improve safety for motorists entering and leaving the new 20km/h zone in Cliff Road at Stuart Park parking areas and to be installed before the Christmas holidays period

9.10 Speed Limits on Cliff Road in Stuart Park

It is noted the speed limit on Cliff Rd in Stuart Park has been reduced from 40Km/h to 20Km/h. This raises concerns about variations in speed limits in Cliff Rd from 10, 40, 25 cushions and now 20 between Bourke St and the Lagoon restaurant.

It has been suggested that the speed limit in Cliff Rd north of Bourke St to the car park adjacent the children's play area in Stuart Park be reduced to 10Kph due to the very high pedestrian access especially in line with that in front of the Novotel and Wollongong Council policy on speed limits in car parks.

It was agreed to raise this with Council and seek clarification.

10 Snippets noted

Next Meeting to be advised.

Either: 6pm Monday 2nd December 2024 at Wiseman Park Bowling Club

Or 7pm Wednesday 4th December 2024 in the Library Theatre

Current active membership of Neighbourhood Forum 5 : 447 households
