

Minutes of NF8 Meeting held in Scribbly Gum Room@ Ribbonwood Centre

also on Teams

7pm Wednesday 8th APRIL 2026

TEAMS LINK:

1. Acknowledgement of Country – Ron Cooper

We acknowledge the First Peoples who have been traditional Custodians of the lands where we work and live, the Dharawal people of the Wadi Wadi Nation. We celebrate the diversity of Aboriginal peoples and their ongoing cultures and connections to the lands and waters of NSW. We pay our respects to Elders past, present and emerging and acknowledge the Aboriginal and Torres Islander people who have cared for these lands.

2. Apologies: Heather Boardman, Gail Whatman, Cr Ann Martin, Cr Linda Campbell, Warren Southwell, Steve McGartland

3. Attending: Ron Cooper, Ian Fitzgibbon, Dennis Couley, Martin Whatman, Steven O'Neill, Geoff Cooper, Ross Davies, Frank Bugeja, Cr Deidre Stuart (via Teams)

4. Minutes from NF8 Meeting held on Wednesday 11th March 2026

Moved: Martin Whatman

Seconded: Dennis Couley

5. Councilors Report – Cr. Stuart

A. There was a meeting between all the councils of Wollongong, Kiama, Shellharbour, Shoalhaven, Wingecarribee, Wollondilly, Camden, Campbelltown. The 8 councils looked at how they could collaborate together and support each other for better outcomes for all of their organisations.

B. The Coastal Hazard Risk report considering rising sea levels and its impact on our region. Flood Plains studies have had updated modelling undertaken.

C. Draft Community Safety Plan – is on exhibition at present. Residents are encouraged to look at the plan and provide comments, suggestions, feedback to Council about it all.

D. If residents see graffiti in their area they are encouraged and welcome to report it to Council so it can be attended to. Studies have shown that it can lead to anti social behaviour. Everyone wants a cleaner locality and better amenity in their local area.

E. Cr Ann Martin has requested a new movie studio be located at Port Kembla and Council has moved a motion to approve its support of the proposal.

F. Wongawilli Hall Project – tender was renegotiated for best possible outcome for residents/Council. It is in the March business papers for Council to discuss

G. New Ward 3 Councilor– no one had been declared the new councilor at our meeting date. However David Haden was confirmed on April 14th.

6. Convenors Report:

- A. **West Dapto Rd Closure Updates** – the latest advice is that it will open in June 2026 weather permitting and no unforeseen issues arising. Concerns again expressed by residents present about the overall planning process of the whole project.
- B. **West Dapto Council officers updates to NF 8** – no new updates are available on the website as today's date.
- C. **Shone Ave, WDR, Wongawilli Rd corner** – no final action until the West Dapto Rd project is completed.
- D. **Wongawilli Hall – see comments in Councilors report section F above** – Convenor Ron commented that residents are not happy with the amount of money being spent for what is going to be provided once the project is completed.
- E. **State Govt Update** – no report this month.
- F. **Federal Govt update** – Carol Berry, Federal member for Whitlam has advised that she will attend the NF8 meeting on 10th June 2026.
- G. **Haywards Bay** – a resident attended the meeting to ask if we could assist the residents of Haywards Bay. They are having no success in getting Wollongong Council to do basic maintenance around their suburb. They will send Convenor Ron a list of issues and we will do what we can to assist. Cr Stuart will assist where possible.
- H. **Bus shelter on Kanahooka Rd** – to be advised
- I. **Wollongong Council and the old smelter on Kanahooka Rd** – to be advised
- J. **Properties on Princes Hwy Bong Bong Rd intersection** – they are still an eyesore however Council has limited ability to do anything.
- K. **Rubbish bins in Dapto Court** – apparently Council went and removed all the rubbish so the issue was resolved. **HOWEVER** Ron has sent a letter asking that Council place normal waste bins on Council property, eg near the footpath area, to minimise the rubbish issue.
- L. **Elise Woods, Corporate Strategy Manager - Wollongong Council** – will be at the May meeting to discuss the Draft Delivery Program 2025 – 2029 and the Operational Plan 2026 – 2027. A meeting of all Illawarra Forum Convenors will be held on 23/04 to discuss the Draft Plan etc. There will be a pop up meeting held at the Ribbonwood Centre for the general community with details provided on Council's website.
- M. **Ribbonwood Centre updates** - Council has advised that the access to the centre will change from April with access restricted after 6pm. We will be able to access the meeting room etc and then provide access to the attendees as they arrive.

7. General Business

- A. Dennis Couley advised that the announcement about the south facing access ramps for the M1 Motorway have been announced. They will be located at Fowlers Rd. The preferred option report and initial design have been completed, timing of the project and funding will be advised. There was discussion about the decision with various opinions about it.
- B. **Road Safety Action Plan** – Wollongong 01/04/2026 at WIN Stadium. State Govt working on this project, designed to form the next Road Safety Plan.

Meeting Closed 8.06pm

NEXT NF8 MEETING

TO BE HELD

7PM WEDNESDAY 13TH MAY 2026

SCRIBBLY GUM ROOM

RIBBONWOOD CENTRE