

ITEM 10

PROPOSED RENAMING OF A ROAD IN HELENSBURGH AND NAMING OF AN UNNAMED LANE IN WARRAWONG

Council is proposing to rename part of Club Lane at Helensburgh in order to prevent future property numbering issues and to name an unnamed lane in Warrawong.

This report seeks approval to take action under Section 162 of *the Roads Act 1993* to name/rename the lanes.

RECOMMENDATION

Council under Section 162 of the *Roads Act 1993*:

- 1 Rename part of Club Lane, Helensburgh as 'Gibbons Lane', and
- 2 Name the unnamed lane known as Lane 125 at Warrawong as 'Steeltown Lane'.

REPORT AUTHORISATIONS

Report of: Peter Coyte, Manager Property and Recreation

Authorised by: Kerry Hunt, Director Community Services - Creative and Innovative City

ATTACHMENTS

- 1 Map of part of Club Lane, Helensburgh proposed to be renamed as Gibbons Lane
- 2 Map of Lane 125 at Warrawong proposed to be named as Steeltown Lane

BACKGROUND

Proposed Renaming of Part of Club Lane, Helensburgh

Council is proposing to rename part of Club Lane, Helensburgh, shown hatched on Attachment 1, in order to prevent future property numbering issues.

Currently, the street numbering to Club Lane commences with No 1 Club Lane on the southern side of Lilyvale Street and heads south. Apart from No 2 Club Lane, which is on the northern side of Bush Pea Lane (and is out of numbering sequence), there are no other numbers available for the properties in Club Lane north of Lilyvale Street. There are currently no numbering issues in the area, but a routine mapping review by Council officers indicated that any subsequent subdivisions of properties adjoining the lane will likely lead to numbering problems arising.

Therefore, rather than renumbering all of the properties addressed to Club Lane south of Lilyvale Street (12 properties), it is proposed to rename the northern half of Club Lane (not the whole length of Club Lane). This proposal will only affect No 2 Club Lane which is currently a vacant lot. The southern half of the lane will remain as Club Lane, thereby retaining the historical connection to the Helensburgh Workmen's Club after which the lane is named and which was formerly located in Walker Street.

Suggestions for possible names for the renaming were sought from the Local Studies Library and the local community was consulted concerning its preference from the following names:

- 'Djera Lane' – Djera is the Aboriginal Dharawal name for Brush Turkey
- 'Perks Lane' – Helensburgh's first motor bus was owned by Mr Arthur Perks
- 'Gibbons Lane' – The first recorded European settler in the area was Mr Gibbons in 1832
- 'Surtees Lane' – Mr Surtees was the first teacher at the local school.

As a result of the community consultation, the most preferences received were for 'Gibbons Lane'.

Proposed Naming of Unnamed Lane 125 at Warrawong

It is proposed to name the unnamed lane in Warrawong known as Lane 125, shown hatched on Attachment 2.

Lane 125 is bitumen constructed and used by the public, contractors, emergency services and for delivery purposes. It is also used by local residents for access to the rear of their properties

Suggestions for possible names were sought from the Local Studies Library who provided a number of options, including the names of 'Whiting' and 'Bitter Water'. Warrawong is the Aboriginal word for whiting, however, there is already a 'Whiting Crescent' in Corrimal and the NSW Geographical Names Board will not approve the duplication of any road names within the same Local Government Area.

'Bitter Water' is the name the Aboriginal Wodi Wodi people used for peoples living in this area. However, 'Bitter Water Lane' is considered too unwieldy for use, especially in situations when emergency services may be required to attend the area.

Therefore, the local community was consulted concerning its preference from the following names:

- 'Gala Lane' – The Gala Theatre opened in 1948 and was originally known as the Odeon Theatre. It is the Illawarra's only remaining independent and locally owned cinema
- 'Commonwealth Lane' – the Commonwealth Hostel (now the Open Hearth Hotel) was constructed by the Wentworth family in 1939 as a boarding house to provide accommodation for the engineers and their families who came from the United States to start the Commonwealth Rolling Mills
- 'Steeltown Lane' – Steeltown was an early name that Warrawong was known by
- As a result of the community consultation, all preferences received were for the name 'Steeltown Lane'.

PROPOSAL

It is proposed that action be taken under Section 162 of the *Roads Act 1993* to rename part of Club Lane at Helensburgh as 'Gibbons Lane' and to name unnamed Lane 125 at Warrawong as 'Steeltown Lane'.

CONSULTATION AND COMMUNICATION

Gibbons Lane, Helensburgh

161 letters were sent to landowners in the area and a notice published in the Wollongong Advertiser on 2 May 2018 seeking comment on the proposed names.

Six objections were received to the proposal to rename the lane. The basis of the objections and Council's responses are:

Objection	Council Response
Club Lane has been known by this name for many generations and to change it would be an insult to the men and women who founded Helensburgh.	As only a portion of the lane is proposed to be renamed, the historical connection to the Helensburgh Workmens Club will be retained in the southern half of the lane.
The property numbering issues should be worked out by adding a letter ie 1A or 1B.	It is not possible to just add a letter to resolve future numbering problems – there are not enough numbers for use in the northern half of Club Lane to accommodate any future subdivisions of properties adjoining the lane ie there is only No 2 currently available and that number is out of sequence with the rest of the properties addressed to Club Lane.

Objection	Council Response
This proposal appears to be a waste of ratepayers' money as there are more pressing safety and congestion matters.	The renaming is proposed in order to prevent future property numbering issues.
There is no reasonable reason to rename a portion of Club Lane.	The renaming is proposed in order to prevent future property numbering issues.
Renaming of only a portion of Club Lane may cause confusion in the community.	The renaming is proposed in order to prevent future property numbering issues.
Addresses in Club Lane would have to be changed causing unnecessary inconvenience for those addressees.	At the moment, only one property ie No 2 Club Lane, would have to change its address and it is currently a vacant block.

Four submissions were received supporting the name of 'Gibbons Lane'.

Two submissions were received supporting the name of 'Djera Lane'.

One submission was received supporting the name of 'Surtees Lane', with a second preference for "Gibbons Lane".

The Illawarra Local Aboriginal Land Council was consulted and advised that they did not support or object to the proposal.

Steeltown Lane, Warrawong

33 letters were sent to landowners in the area and a notice published in the Wollongong Advertiser on 18 July 2018 seeking comment on the proposed names. Three submissions were received supporting the name of 'Steeltown Lane'.

PLANNING AND POLICY IMPACT

This report is in accordance with Council's 'Road Naming' policy.

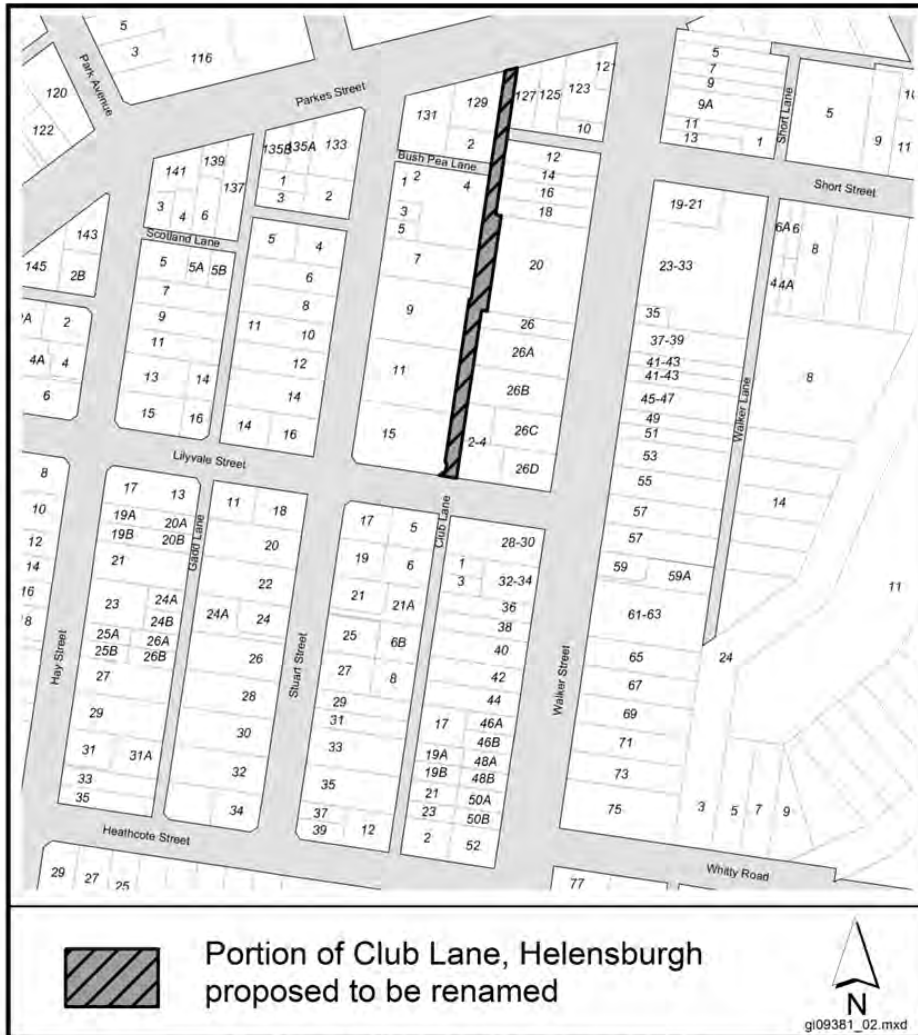
This report contributes to the delivery of Our Wollongong 2028 goal "We have a healthy community in a liveable city". It specifically delivers on core business activities as detailed in the Property Services Service Plan 2018-19.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

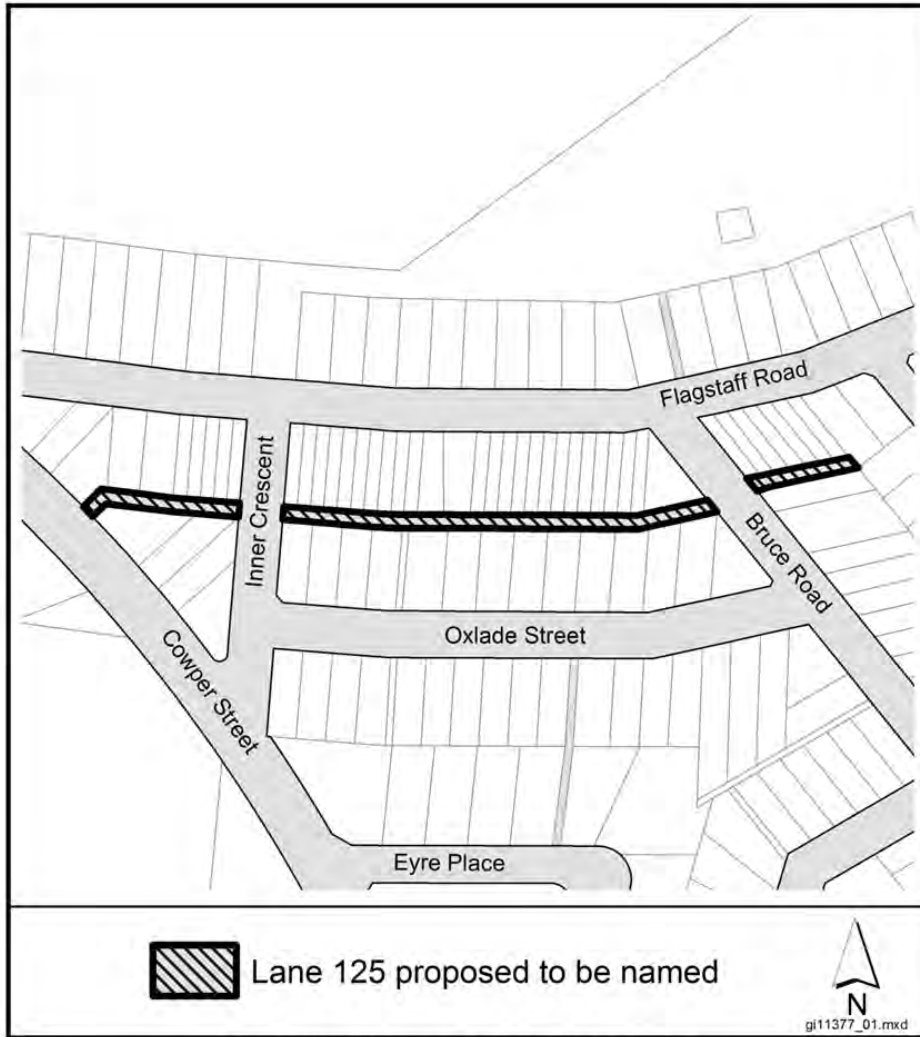
The only cost which will be incurred in this matter will be the erection of street signs, the funding of which is achievable within the current budget.

CONCLUSION

In order to prevent future street numbering issues, it is recommended that part of Club Lane, Helensburgh be renamed as 'Gibbons Lane' and to provide assistance to the public, contractors, emergency services and for delivery purposes, it is recommended unnamed Lane 125 in Warrawong be named as 'Steeltown Lane'.



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