


<p>Neighbourhood Forum 5</p> <p>Wollongong's Heartland</p> <p><i>Collaborating with Council on community aspirations, visions, needs & concerns</i></p>		<p>Coniston, Figtree, Gwynneville, Keiraville, Mangerton, Mount Keira, Mount St Thomas, North Wollongong, West Wollongong, Wollongong City.</p>
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Minutes of meeting on 1st March 2023 by email

- 1 Presentation None possible
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- 2 Apologies Philip Laird
3. Minutes of meeting of 1st February were adopted
4. Comments have been included in the minutes.
5. Responses **5.1 Outstanding responses:** noted
6. Reports **6.1 Stormwater matters:**
It was agreed that Council be advised the Forum supports KRAG's concerns about the apparent inadequacy of the stormwater system in the Keiraville area and requests advice on Council's Action Plan to ensure the stormwater system is "fit for purpose".

6.2 Resumption of Face-to-face meetings: noted

6.3 Social Infrastructure Future Directions Plan:
It was agreed that submission by the executive be endorsed.

6.4 Complying Development Notifications:
It was agreed that Council be requested to make representations through local NSW MPs to the relevant Minister to include Wollongong on the list of Councils where Private Certifiers are required to notify neighbours prior to issuing Complying Development Certificates, in accordance with NSW EP&A Regulation Section 134.

6.5 Electric Vehicle Chargers

It was agreed to support the proposal.

6.6 Heritage and Planning seminar; noted.

6.7 Housing Strategy

It was agreed Council be requested to address the matters raised by the Forum and make appropriate changes to the Housing Strategy.

5 Planning

7.1 Planning noted

7.2 DA determinations: noted

6 General
Business

8.2 Owner's Corporation Network

Founded in 2002, the Owner's Corporation Network (OCN) remains the only independent organisation representing the interests of over 1.2m strata owners in NSW. 42% of strata schemes are in regional areas, including 3 LGA's in the top 10 number of schemes.

OCN is working to increase our coverage to address the specific needs of regional strata, starting with Wollongong/Shellharbour and Newcastle. With funding from NSW Govt. BRD (Better Regulation Division), OCN has established a project 'Improving consumer protection and strata literacy in regional strata' to fill what we see as a void in consumer protection for regional strata residents, which is, understanding and addressing key drivers of consumer complaints by strata owners and residents in regional areas.

The project is in 4 parts:

1. Understand key drivers of consumer complaints , including complaints and concerns of multicultural groups
2. Develop and recommending proactive and preventative solutions
3. Develop and deliver interactive education trials in 2 key regional LGA's, and
4. Preparing a sustainable education program for rollout across the remaining regional LGA's

Noted

8.3 Traffic in Church St

Residents advise that, before school and after school, the traffic in Church Street is horrendous. The queue for traffic travelling south on Church Street, wanting to cross Smith Street, can extend to almost Gipps!

The flow on from the banking of traffic in Church Street can be seen in Campbell Street and Kembla Street. At times, only one or two cars can cross this intersection on the green light. This seems to be caused by the phasing of the traffic light at the Smith/Church Street intersection.

It was agreed that Council and the RMS be requested to consider that between 8am and 9am and 2:30pm and 3:30pm, during school days, the current phasing of the traffic light be altered, to improve traffic flows in the area.

8.4 Construction Noise and Vibrations

Representations have been received that during excavation for developments in certain parts of the city, most recently in the vicinity of Harbour and Smith Streets, unacceptable noise and vibration nuisance occurs to nearby residential properties for many months due to the hard underlying rock.

It was agreed Council, in association with the Environmental Protection Authority, be requested to take urgent action to review the situation where the underlying strata is such that construction is likely to result in unacceptable noise and vibration nuisance, and put in place measures to ensure residents retain the quiet enjoyment of their premises.

8.5 Stormwater Watercourses

Agenda item 6.1 refers to stormwater matters and supports requests for Council to clarify re private ownership and responsibility of mains transporting public stormwater. Further representations have been received, and it is noted that information on Council's website includes: "Wollongong's urban watercourses are important to convey stormwater. To ensure the flow of stormwater is not obstructed, and to reduce the risk of causing damage or nuisance to your own and/or other people's properties, it is important watercourses are kept clear of rubbish and/or unauthorised or illegal human-made structures. Excess vegetation and weeds must also be managed.The maintenance of watercourses on private property is the responsibility of the property owner(s), except for those where the channel is fully concrete lined or is a fully enclosed pipe channel."

It is understood that Council is responsible for maintenance of watercourses and drainage channels in council-managed public land, and for improvements and rehabilitation. Clarification is also sought on Council's policy and management practices to effectively maintain the condition of its watercourses including to cope with stormwater runoff, reduce the risk of flood damage, prevent erosion, enhance water quality and reduce public and private maintenance costs.

For example it has been raised on many occasions that waterways in the South Wollongong area seem to need improved maintenance to overcome detrimental effects including by sedimentation, vegetation, weeds, rubbish accumulation, and erosion

It was agreed that the Director Infrastructure and Works be requested to meet with NF5 representatives to discuss and clarify responsibilities, policies, management practices and outcomes for stormwater management on Council and private land.

7 Snippets noted.

Date of next meeting and AGM

Wednesday 5th April 2023

Please Note:

Whether this meeting will be via e-mail or face-to-face will be advised later.

Current active membership of Neighbourhood Forum 5 : 411 households
