

<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 7th September 2022 by email

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| 1 | Presentation | None possible |
| 2 | Apologies | None necessary |
| 3 | Minutes | of meeting of 3 rd August were adopted with matters arising included. |
| 4 | Comments | received have been noted and included in these minutes where appropriate. |
| 5 | Responses | <p>5.1 Notices on sites with DAs:
It was agreed that representations be made to the General Manager requesting Council staff expedite review of the CPP to include notices on sites for DAs for Dual Occupancy and Medium Density Housing</p> <p>5.2 Woodfire Heaters: noted</p> <p>5.3 Maldon Dombarton:
It was agreed that the Forum write to NSW Ports CEO Ms Marika Calfas thanking her for the support of NSW Ports for completion of the Maldon Dombarton link, and to inquire if this support could extend to NSW Ports assisting in the funding of the completion of this link.</p> |
| 6 | Reports | <p>6.1 Beaton Park Tennis Courts:
It was agreed that the submission in support be endorsed subject to Council advising their management of matters affecting the adjacent Scout Hall site (Lot A DP160926) preferably by Council purchasing it as an addition to Beaton Park.</p> |

6.2 Housing Strategy:

It was agreed that a discussion paper be prepared and circulated to members and the other Neighbourhood Forums for comment so that a draft submission can be considered at the October meeting.

6.3 PK. Manildra Ethanol Facility:

It was agreed that the Forum:

- a. write a follow up letter to Paul Scully requesting Minister Farraway to direct that Sydney trains reexamine the question of train paths;
- b. write to NSW Ports CEO Ms Marika Calfas expressing disappointment in NSW Ports support (to NSW Planning) of Manildra using trucks when Port Kembla already has a high number of heavy trucks, and requesting the NSW Ports set up a “Port and Rail” group with community representation to try and get more freight on rail;
- c. request the assistant secretary to directly contact Manildra’s logistics manager to try to find more paths for freight trains.
- d. thank Council for its submission..

6.4 Dendrobium coal mine: noted

6.5 Uni Liaison Meeting: noted

6.6 UCI Bike Event: noted

6.7 Wollongong Conservatorium of Music: noted

7 Planning

7.1 Planning noted

7.2 DA.2022/571 7 stories, 18 units 58/60 Smith St Wollongong

It was agreed that the submission of no objection, subject to resolution of deep planting, drainage and overlooking issues, be endorsed.

7.3 DA.2022/796 6 dwellings 17-19 Catherine St Gwynneville

It was agreed that the submission in support be endorsed.

7.4 DA.2022/796 Dual Occupancy 56 Grey St Keiraville

It was agreed that the submission in support be endorsed.

7.5 DA.2022/796 Dual Occupancy 22 Mercury St Wollongong

It was agreed that a submission of objection be lodged.

7.6 Private Hospital extension, Crown St and Urunga Pde
: noted

7.7 DA 2022/797 Use of JJ Kelly Park for Camping
It was agreed that the submission be endorsed.

7.8 DA determinations: noted

8 General
Business

8.1 Traffic on Mount Ouesley Road

For some years RMS, now TfNSW released traffic volume data for a site on the Mt Ousley Road. This showed up 2019, traffic increasing on the Mt Ousley road to reach an average of over 55,000 vehicles (including about 7700 truck movements) then falling for 2020 and 2021. However, the traffic volume site at <https://roads-waterways.transport.nsw.gov.au/> does not have Mt Ousley data for 2022 when other sites (but not Memorial Drive) are shown.

For some years, Mt Ousley had an operational noise camera for heavy trucks. Truck noise continues. In addition, construction work is yet to start on the Mount Ousley interchange.

It was agreed that :

the Forum seek information as to :

- a Traffic Volumes in 2022 for Mt Ousley and for Memorial Drive (former operative sites);
- b The status of the former noise camera at Mt Ousley; and,
- c When construction work is likely to start on the Mount Ousley interchange.

8.2 Domestic Waste Management (DWM)

Recent advice from the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (IPART) is that, after considering submissions on their review of DWM annual charges (including from NF5 in Sep 2020 and April 2021, after checking with WCC), Sydney Councils are particularly susceptible to uncontrolled price increases by the very limited number of contractors providing services for landfill disposal, recyclables processing and greenwaste facilities, whereas Wollongong has its own landfill and a local greenwaste facility, but are exposed to recyclables price increases

IPART advise that at this time it is not in the best interests of ratepayers and councils to implement a waste peg, and agrees with the NSW Office of Local Government's (OLG) recommended regulatory approach to ensure the appropriate levying of DWM annual charges by Councils, and it recognises it is OLG's role to address many of the issues identified during the review.

It is understood that OLG will update its Rating and Revenue Raising Manual for Councils' DWM and can work with the NSW Audit Office to initiate performance audits on council/s seen to be imposing unjustifiably high DWM service charges. IPART will not be holding a further public hearing, and their Final Report is expected to be available in October 2022.

On the separate controversial issue of the long-time annual process of pegging for the General Rate, which significantly constrains income for Councils and affects funding for increased demand for services, IPART recently advised that "in response to a request from the NSW Government we have recommended a methodology that enables councils to maintain per capita general income over time as their populations grow. Maintaining per capita general income will help councils to maintain existing service levels and provide the services their growing communities expect." Whether this will be adequate for WCC remains to be seen.

Noted.

8.3 Stuart Park Master Plan (SP MP)

A report to Council meeting 12 Sep recommends placing the draft SP MP on public exhibition from 28 Sep to 2 Nov 2022, then reporting for Council's consideration. The draft MP has been prepared after community consultation in November 2021 for which NF5 made a detailed submission.

The Report includes that it "focuses on enhancing and improving community access to the park and proposes a range of improvements. Key features include incorporation of the planned all abilities/all ages playground, new boardwalk and footpaths, new yarning circle and upgraded public amenities."

After adoption it is understood that the SP MP will replace the section re the Stuart Park Precinct in the 2007 Blue Mile (BM) Master Plan that staff developed, after a recommendation in the only statutory SP Plan of Management (POM) adopted in 2000 by the relevant Minister, to prepare a MP for the SP area. SP is Crown Land which must have a new POM adopted under the 2016 Crown Land Management Act, which Council staff advise will be prepared in due course.

The 2007 Blue Mile Master Plan is for a greatly extended area through to WIN stadium, Council adopted a 5 year implementation target, but there were many projects in the Stuart Park area which have not been carried out, including George Hanley Drive carparks, its realignment & a multi-deck public carpark, connection between Squires Way & Princes Highway via Ajax Ave, a chain of ponds and a water park. These are not included in the current SP MP. The continued use of significant sections of the park for commercial purposes remains an issue.

It was agreed that the draft Stuart Park Mangement Plan is most welcome.

Residents should make submissions during the exhibition period and send a copy to the secretary to inform the Forum's submission.

8.4 Information for Strata Owners

The Owners Corporation Network (OCN) is a Not for Profit organisation operating for 20 years, whose purpose is to be the independent voice of residential strata title ownership, and it liaises with the NSW Government departments and various Sydney Councils about a range of related issues. OCN has prepared an application for funding through NSW Gov Better Regulation Division (aka Fair Trading) closing 9 Sep.

The proposed project is about "*improving consumer protection in Regional strata*", and is in 4 parts, ie:

- 1 understand the key drivers of consumer complaints in regional areas;
2. develop and recommending proactive and preventative solutions;
- 3 develop and deliver interactive education trials in two key regional LGAs; and
4. preparing a sustainable education program for rollout across the remaining regional LGA.

The outcomes from the proposed project are expected to be particularly useful for many strat owners, given that website data shows that 85% of dwellings in the Wollongong CBD area are High or Medium Density, and the average annual increase in High Density dwellings here for that the past 5 years has accelerated to 3 times the rate for the previous 15 years. Also the CBD population increased at about 4 times the average annual increase for the rest of Wollongong LGA . This seems obvious by looking at the skyline.

It was agreed that the NSW Gov Better Regulation Division be advised of the situation in Wollongong and of support for a project to improve consumer protection in strata developments in regional areas.

8.5 **Wollongong Heritage Reference Group**

30th September

Calling for Applications for Wollongong Heritage Reference Group. Wollongong City Council is seeking applications for membership of the Wollongong Heritage Reference Group. The Reference Group provides advice to Council on policy matters relating to the conservation and promotion of Wollongong's natural and cultural heritage. Individual residents with an interest, expertise, knowledge or background in Wollongong's Heritage are invited to express an interest in joining the committee.

Members will be required to attend quarterly meetings. The following meeting dates for 2022/23 have been scheduled:

20th October 2022
1st December 2022
16th February 2023
18th May 2023

For more information:

<https://www.wollongong.nsw.gov.au/your-council/committees-and-groups/wollongong-heritage-reference-group>

9 Snippets noted

Current active membership of Neighbourhood Forum 5 : 427 households

Date of next meeting
Wednesday 5th October 2022

Please Note:

As high levels of covid infections continue in Wollongong this meeting will be via e-mail.