

Neighbourly Committee No 4
Incorporating Neighbourhood Forum No 4
Executive Committee
Co-Convenors: Bradley Chapman and Paul Evans
Secretary: Brad Chapman
Acting Treasurer: Paul Evans
Contact: Convenor– bradleyc@ozemail.com.au



**NF4 Tuesday, May 2, 2023 Hybrid Meeting:
In Person Meeting @ Towradgi Community Hall
Plus a ZOOM connection if needing to attend *virtually*.**

Time: May 2, 2023 – 7:00 PM

To Join Zoom Meeting, select the following **without spaces and paste** in your browser address line:

<https://uca-nswact.zoom.us/j/97447821409?pwd=eTVEVEEdSVzdkZlI1OWN5OFJ4MWxCdz09>

Insert the following as requested:

Meeting ID: 974 4782 1409

Passcode: 588003

MINUTES

Open Meeting- 07.00pm

Apologies – Cr Cameron Walters, Lyndall Caillat-Shearman,

Minutes of Previous Meeting- Distributed via email

Business Arising from Minutes-

Suggestion to Council about making the process of submissions more explicit.

- A resident group needs to send *individual* submissions rather than one person sending in a petition.
- Each submission, even from a recognized group such as N.F.4 is *only counted* as 1 submission.
- Please state this clearly in the advice on the Community Conversation page.

Current DAs:

DA-2015/1083/A - Modification of Development Application - 30 Terrell Place BALGOWNIE NSW – 3 May
Modifications to pool and Deck [19 April new assessment]

DA-2023/166 - Development Application - Corrimal Cokeworks Railway Street CORRIMAL NSW – 5 May
Bulk earthworks, tree removal, vegetation management and ancillary works [Stage 1]

DA-2023/303 - Development Application - 24 Sellers Crescent BELLAMBI NSW – Residential Dwelling. 10 May

DA-2023/294 - Development Application - 24 Pendleton Close TARRAWANNA NSW – Residential Alt/Addns. 11 May

DA-2023/243 - Development Application - 5 The Avenue CORRIMAL NSW – Retaining Wall/Creek Stabilisation – 19 May

Other matters from the floor:

Understanding the Title responsibilities of residents over the management of creeks on private property. [In discussion of DA-2023/243 above]

Creeks and streams may be considered as community shared ownership, *but* the land on which they flow remains the responsibility of the title-holder. Thus, Council holds responsibility for designated Community land and Crown Land within its jurisdiction,

but not private land. This remains the responsibility of the listed owner: in most cases the resident or business owner.

Correspondence In –

- WLPP Agendas None for NF4
- WCC Louise Harding - Submission re. Balgownie Mountain Bike Strategy.
- WCC Emily Willdin - Draft Crown Reserves Plan of Management
- WCC Kathy Adams - Public Exhibition - Draft Community Participation Plan Amendments
- Email question about fencing at Towradgi Pool.

• Correspondence Out –

NF4 Submission - Balgownie Mountain Bike Trail connections

Reports:-

Community Campaigns:

• Corrimal Community Action Group

Some paintings used for the community consultation towards the project are still unsold. CCAG are investigating a secure storage location for them to prevent damage. Legacy has expressed an interest in some of these as part of the final project however the opinion of the artist will need to be sought in this regard.

• East Corrimal Open Space Committee

• William Street Balgownie Group.

Jean Groves informed NF4 that the activities of this Neighbourhood Action Group has come to an end. In its period of operation, it has played a significant part in supervising development upgrades in their streets and striving to have best practice adhered to for the benefit of new and existing residents. Along the way, the group made WCC aware of shortcomings in the drainage and flood maps associated with the Cabbage Tree arm of Fairy Creek: a big win for local residents, knowing the behaviour of this creek, during the 1998 Flood emergency.

NF4 thanks the team from William Street Balgownie, and especially acknowledges Jean and her late husband Ron for their tireless efforts with this resident group. Their efforts have been a model for other local neighbourhood teams in the future.

General Business:

- Budget Discussions – NF4 expressed some disappointment about the small turnout of residents to meet with the Council Staff at the April meeting. It is important to encourage people to make use of this genuine opportunity to share information about the direction of Council's expenditure goals.

- Cr R. Martin did mention the number of big-issue DAs that *don't* generate community comment. **In discussion:**

Members raised the possibility of a lack-of-trust in the wider community for the process.

Some believe that policies from both Council and State Government are structured to favour the interests of developers and professionals in those fields.

Recent experience has led to the belief that the views of local residents are discounted and cast aside when received alongside the opinions of the development professionals.
The commitment of attending formal meetings at Council and WLPP level has become exceedingly onerous and time-consuming and this is viewed as a strategy to discourage community involvement.

- Midgely St Development - No current update.

- Towradgi Pool Fence. – Cr Martin stated that Paul Scully MP is working to expedite this. Indigenous artifacts were confirmed to be present. Council is confident that the matter is very close to a resolution.

- Plans to constrain development into the escarpment. This referred to an article in the Illawarra Mercury about Council updating the policy for the oft-proposed development in Keiraville and the letter from our associate member, Emma Rooksby.

Council now do want to treat the Escarpment forest as a community resource.

Rezoning is being applied for in Keiraville. The National Park service working on the Mountain Bike Trails is hoping to make the Area a viable feature. NF4 would support the remaining land between Balgownie and Bulli being formally added to the State Recreation Area so that the pressure to develop behind Corrimal is also constrained.

- Variations to the submission about the Mountain Bike Facilities near the Miner's Memorial. Discussion of additional opinions differing from the Secretary's submission as copied below.

NF4 would like to see greater awareness made of the Miner's Peace Park so that its significance is not lost. Many community members have claimed a lack of knowledge of its existence.

Further discussion of the appropriate positioning of the toilet facilities. Not all major memorials are supplied with toilet facilities however, it was pointed out that this is to support an active activity beyond the memorial.

Suggestion that community toilets in Alpini Park along Caldwell Ave would be better as they would also support the Tarrawanna Town Centre adjoining an existing bus stop.

Members thanked for their participation.

Meeting Closed 8:40pm.

Neighbourly Forum 4 meets the 1st Tuesday of the month at Towradgi Community Hall, Corner of Moray Road and Towradgi Road Towradgi at 7pm

****All Welcome- No cost****

Attachments: Balgownie Mountain Bike Submission

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20 April 2023

Engagement

Wollongong City Council

records@wollongong.nsw.gov.au

re: Illawarra Escarpment Mountain Bike Trail Project, Balgownie

Dear team at Engagement,

I apologise for not managing to send this reply in before the 16 April cut-off date, but I hope it can be submitted it on behalf of NF4.

NF4 are fully supportive of the Mountain Bike Trail Project, as a way to preserve our forest resource and improve its value by adding managed economic benefit to its cultural and environmental credentials.

The support access at Balgownie is a positive feature if it doesn't negatively impact existing resources.

Some of the NF4 membership were concerned that there might be negative impacts on the Miner's Memorial already in that vicinity as the National Parks and Council map used to discuss the project did not even identify it on the map.

The provision of the parking bay would be useful for both facilities, provided visitors intending to use the access point were alerted to the importance of the memorial and it wasn't overlooked and denied its significance to the heritage of the district. The existing bus stop would need to be relocated closer to the IRT Tarrawanna Gardens property.

Similarly, the positioning of the Amenities building, logically important, needs to be sensitively located in a way that doesn't detract from the significance of the memorial and suitably landscaped to maintain the ambience in that location.

Hopefully, all these considerations can be managed to the mutual benefit of the intended activities.

Brad Chapman

Co-Convener - NF4, Corrimal/Fairy Meadow