

DAPTO NEIGHBOURHOOD FORUM 8 - MINUTES
7.00PM WEDNESDAY 12th MARCH 2025

Meeting Held in Scribbly Gum Room, Ribbonwood Centre also on Teams

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 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: Cr. Linda Campbell, Cr. Ann Martin, Cr. Tiana Myers, Cr. Deirdre Stewart, Ian Fitzgibbon, Steven O'Neill,

3. ATTENDING: 19

Jo Paige, Ron Cooper, Heather Boardman, Dennis Couley, Martin Whatman, Gail Whatman, Chris Tudzarov, Dylan Francisco, Margaret McPhail, Robert Vickers, Tracey Taras, Mal Hentschel, Peter Small, Cathy Small, Geoff Cooper, Liz Webster, David Farmer, John Wilson, Warren Southwell. Stephen McGartland (remotely via Teams)

4. MINUTES: - From 12th February 2025 Accepted

Moved : Geoff Cooper Seconded : Martin Whatman

5. COUNCIL OFFICERS PRESENTATIONS: Presentation by Jo Page, WCC Director of Infrastructure:

1. Come & Chat - Thursday 27th March @ Ribbonwood Centre

Public Drop in Day re infrastructure works in West Dapto.

Particularly about West Dapto Road upgrade and the effects on traffic during this construction phase

Construction period likely to be 8 to 12 months for road works on West Dapto Rd from Shone Ave to Yard St

Post meeting update from NF8 Convenor: ALL WEST DAPTO SHOULD ATTEND AS YOU WILL NEED TO UNDERSTAND WHAT THE CHANGES WILL BE

2. Upgrade of corner West Dapto / Shone Ave /Wongawilli Rd Approx 3 months work with traffic control on the corner Should start April but depends on finalisation of agreement with mine re the railway crossing Work includes relocation of Sydney Water mains

3. Mowing of verge on West Dapto Rd Jo advised this has not been done as safety concerns need to be addressed.

Post meeting update from NF8 Convenor following meeting: since advised by Paul Tracy that will be done in next 3 weeks however the safety issue was fixed Additional traffic control was required)

4. Darkes Town Sporting Centre to house a new community centre combined with sporting facility change rooms toilets etc

Wongawilli Hall now to receive new floor and minor paint. Connection of toilets to sewer at this Hall still unresolved Wongawilli Hall could be included in 2027 budget

5. West Dapto Rd Yard St to Darkes Rd there is no current funding for construction. Planning is underway

6. Jo Page and Nathan McBriarty plan to attend April NF8 meeting.

7. Work on Fowlers Rd (old Daisy Bank Rd) to commence soon as part of Cleveland Rd upgrade Upgrade of Cleveland Rd. Is still some time away.

8. Aldi Bus Stop, Dapto - Temporary Bus Shelter to be purchased & installed

6. COUNCILLORS REPORTS: to be presented @ April NF8 Meeting.

7. CONVENORS REPORT:

- A. **Darkes Rd Roundabout lighting** - to be investigated by Council
- B. **Bus Stop Dapto CBD** - currently outside Aldi - Ron Cooper wrote to Tyson & Nathan (WCC) expressing concern that temporary signing, shelter is inadequate and does not provide good vision. Advised that updated temporary shelter to be installed.
- C. **Flooding Fairwater Drive** - Emailed WCC to inform residents attending NF8 had witnessed car & driver stuck in car on flooded lane of Fairwater Drive.
- D. **Wongawilli Hall** - Closed approximately 3 years ago due to unsafe floor. This hall had been scheduled for upgrade & extension. More recently new Darkes Sporting Complex. Centre proposed to be included in Darkes Community Hub. Wongawilli Hall repair is in design scheduled for 2026-2027.
- E. **Wollongong News** has been posted to all residents.
- F. **Kit Docker Greens motion to council** - see attached - will follow up with councillors.
- G. Tallawarra - Ron attended recent meeting & Open Day- area to south of Tallawarra- Ash Pond beginning to be redeveloped as Wetlands
- H. **Michael Squire- Stream Hill Land Care Group-** Have found Platypus in Robins Creek, Horsley
- I. Standing Issues - being monitored

8. GENERAL BUSINESS:

9. CORRESPONDENCE - In:

A. Cr. Ann Martin - Councillor Requests -14.2.2025

B. Sarah Taylor - Manager Libraries & Community Facilities WCC- re Wongawilli Hall -21.2.2025

C. Elise Woods - Corporate Strategy Manager WCC- 25.2.2025

Presentation will be made at the NF8 April Meeting re:Exhibition Draft Community Strategic Plan 2035; Draft Program 2025-2029; Operational Plan 2025-2026

D. Paul Tracey- Manager Open Spaces & Environmental Services - Re Councillor requests
7.3.2025

E. Stephen McGartland - re Kit Docker, Wollongong & Illawarra Greens concerns re developers
contributions to Tourism Strategy Policy - 8.3.2025

F. Romeo Cecchele - 11.3.2025 - Roads

NB: See Correspondence Attached

MEETING CLOSE: 8.40pm

NEXT MEETING. 7.00PM WEDNESDAY 9th APRIL 2025

ATTACHMENTS

CORRESPONDENCE IN

A. NF8 Correspondence In - Cr. Ann Martin 14.2.2025 forwarded her Councilors request to council:

1. Can a street sign be installed to Shone Avenue off West Dapto Road?
2. Can the verge around West Dapto Road be regularly mowed?
3. Can council look at planting trees etc on the land to the west of the railway crossing at
Bong Bong Road
4. Can an application be made to the State grants program (Anna Watson ?) towards the
renovation of the Wongawilli Village Hall?
5. When will the street lights be installed along Darkes Road?
6. Can answers be provided to Ward 3 Councillors and Neighbourhood Forum no 8?

Thanks and regards,
Cr. Ann Martin

B. NF8 Correspondence In: Sarah Taylor, Manager Libraries & Community Facilities 21.2.2025

Thank you for your email and please find further information below in response to your
question.

4. Can an application be made to the State grants program (Anna Watson ?) towards the renovation of the Wongawilli Village Hall?

Council has applied for the following grants for Wongawilli Community Hall recently:

- Club Grants Cat 3 Infrastructure Grants - \$250K in February 2024 (unsuccessful)
- Accelerated Infrastructure Fund - \$2,827,397 in February 2023 (unsuccessful)

If the State Grant application that is being referred to is the Community Building
Partnership (CBP) 2025 Program, Council is looking to apply for more shovel ready
projects under this program, and for this electorate the project will be Sunray Crescent
Playground. If you are aware of any other grant funding opportunities available, then
please let me know as we're always happy to explore these.

As an update, Wongawilli Hall Refurbishment and Upgrade is now in design phase and in the current Infrastructure Delivery Program is listed for construction from 25/26 to 26/27.

Council will continue to seek grant funding opportunities for this project when they arise.

Happy to provide further information if required.

Kind Regards,
Sarah

**C. NF8 Correspondence In: Elise Woods, Corporate Strategy manager, WCC
25.2.2025**

Council would like to attend the **Neighbourhood Forum 8** meeting on **Wednesday 9 April at 7pm** to discuss the exhibition of the draft Community Strategic Plan 2035 and the draft Delivery Program 2025-2029 and Operational Plan 2025-2026.

The draft Community Strategic Plan 2035 is a 10-year plan that identifies the community's vision for the future. It outlines what's important to the community, what goals to focus on and how to achieve those. Everyone in the community – from government, businesses, schools, community groups, to individuals – has a part to play in making this plan work. It's a plan for our whole community. It also sets the direction for what Council does. It helps Council plan services and projects, to meet the needs of our community. The goals in the Community Strategic Plan inform the development of the Delivery Program and Operational Plan.

The draft Delivery Program 2025-2029 and Operational Plan 2025-2026 outlines the principal activities that Council will implement to achieve the long term objectives in the Community Strategic Plan. The Delivery Program accounts for Council's stewardship of the community's long term goals, outlining what it intends to do towards achieving these goals and what its priorities will be. This includes the draft budget, Draft Infrastructure Delivery Program and Draft Revenue Policy, Rates, Charges and fees.

Could you please advise if you would be able to accommodate the item on your agenda? If so, two representatives will attend one from Corporate Strategy and one from Infrastructure.

The Plans are proposed to go to the Council Meeting of Monday 7 April 2025 and proposed to be on exhibition for the period Wednesday 9 April to Wednesday 7 May 2025.

Regards,
Elise Woods, Corporate Strategy Manager, WCC

**D. Paul Tracey - Manager Open Spaces & Environmental Services - Re Councillor requests
7.3.2025**

I have been referred requests raised via the NF8 forum for response on behalf of the Ward 3 Councillors, regarding mowing along West Dapto Rd and tree planting near the railway crossing.

West Dapto Rd Mowing – Regular slashing.

We are working through a number of recent changes to traffic control planning requirements that now require us to have full traffic control in place to mow this roadside which was never previously required for our slashers.

Unfortunately, this is proving both time and cost prohibitive, and we are working through a range of options including different machinery / times of day etc to see if we can reduce this cost but still ensure the safety of our people.

We normally slash West Dapto Rd 6 times per annum in line with our rural road mowing program and realise with the changing urban landscape this needs to be reviewed, but I can advise the next scheduled mowing service for West Dapto Rd is in April.

Tree Planting land to the West Railway Crossing on Shone Ave.

There are still significant Rd works and development that needs to occur, and the vacant land in question is flood prone.

At this point in time we wont be considering tree planting at this location and will focus on more appropriate locations through West Dapto, which is identified as a priority suburb for tree canopy in our Urban Greening Strategy.

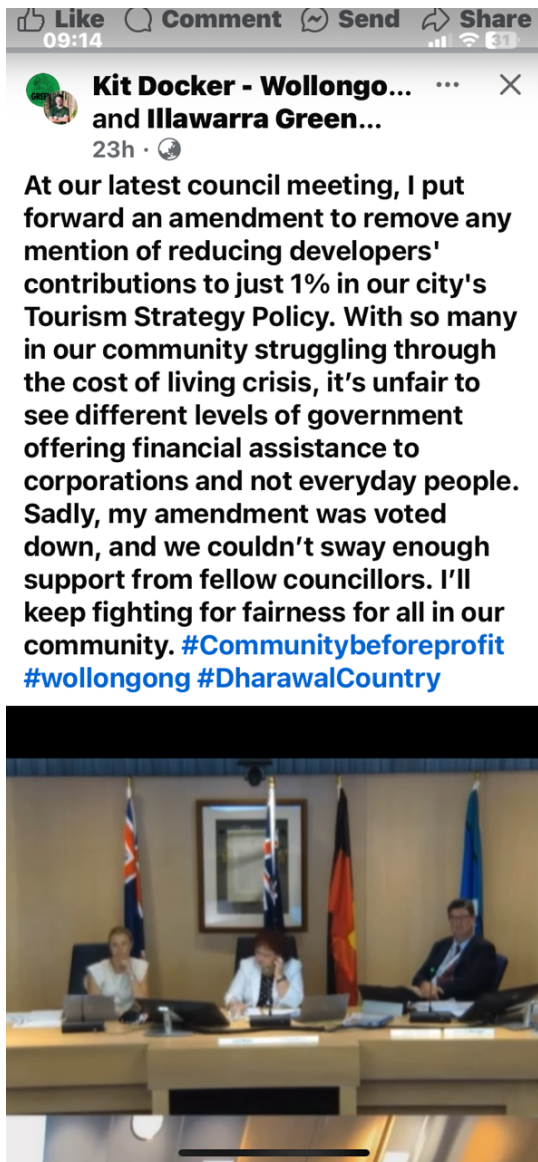
If you require further information please contact me on the number below.

Thankyou,
Paul Tracey

E. Stephen McGartland - 8.3.2025

I don't fully understand the detail of the discussion, but the description provided doesn't seem right. Perhaps we can get an explanation from our councillor at next NF8.

Regards
Stephen McGartland



F. Romeo Cecchele - 11.3.2025 - Roads