

Neighbourhood Forum 5

Wollongong's Heartland



Coniston, Figtree,
Gwynneville, Keiraville,
Mangerton, Mount
Keira, Mount St
Thomas, North
Wollongong, West
Wollongong,
Wollongong City.

Agenda for meeting at 7.00 pm Wed. 4th April 2019 in the Town Hall Ocean Room

- 1 Annual General Meeting - see separate agenda.
- 2 Apologies
- 3 Minutes of meeting of 6th March 2019 and matters arising.
- 4 Comments from residents, Councillors and/or Council staff.
- 5 Responses
Implementation of Wollongong Pedestrian Plan: see p 5
Sir Alexander Stuart Memorial: see p 5
Grass clippings: see p 6
Use of "Roundup": see p 6
Crown Street Footpaths: see p 6
Keiraville Village Streetscape upgrade: see p 7
Pedestrian Crossing on Berkeley Road, Gwynneville; see p 7
- 6 Reports
Local Character and Place Guideline: see p 7
MUD: **see rec p 8**
- 7 Activities
Keiraville/Gwynneville Access Study: see p 8
University: see p 9
South Wollongong: see p 9
Neighbourhood Forums Alliance: see p 9
- 8 Planning DAs: **see recs p 9 & 10**
- 9 General Business:
- 10 Snippets see p 11

Next Meeting: 7.00 pm on Wed. 1st May 2019, Town Hall Ocean Room.

Current active membership of Neighbourhood Forum 5 : 386 households

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Minutes of meeting on Wed. 6th March 2019 in the Town Hall Ocean Room

Present 12 members and Cllr Tania Brown

- 1 Presentation. Kerry Hunt was thanked for her talk on Community Services, the City Centre and the role of Neighbourhood Forums.
- 2 Apologies were accepted
- 3 Minutes of meeting of 6th February 2019 were adopted with no matters arising.
- 4 Comments Cllr Brown reported back on a number of issues that had been raised at the last meeting and was thanked for her support.
- 5 Responses **Town Hall Sharp Organ:** noted

Wollongong City Flood Study: noted

Lowering of Gurungaty Causeway

It was agreed to ask Council about the Environmental Report on waterways in this vicinity.

Feasibility Study - JJ Kelly Park Land Form Modification: noted

Footpath – Eastern Side of View Street

It was agreed to request Council to bring forward the timing and allocate funding to construct a footpath on the eastern side of View St between Edward and Gipps St preferably within 1 year but certainly by 2020/21, taking into account the many interactions between representatives of residents and council over the past two years in exploring options for improving the liveability of View St near Smiths Hill High School.

Also Council is requested to give high priority to funding the construction of a footpaths on at least one side of long established streets.

Current active membership of Neighbourhood Forum 5 : 388 households

6 Reports

Air Conditioners

It was agreed that Council be requested to:

- 1 add an objective to clause 4.12 of the DCP to preserve the amenity of adjoining residents in terms of noise and heat.
- 2 add to clause 4.12 of the DCP a definition of peak time for the purposes of controlling noise levels from air conditioners and that, only in the most extraordinary circumstances will noise levels in excess of those defined by State Legislation be approved; and
- 3 provide adequate resources to ensure that noise levels from air conditioners comply with the legislation and to take appropriate enforcement procedures when they do not.
- 4 investigate the specific situation at a site to be nominated.

Parking for Disabled users of Continental Pool

It was agreed to thank Council for the opportunities to discuss the issues and problems.

On call Cleanup Service for Multi Unit Dwelling blocks: noted

Keiraville Village Streetscape Upgrade Plan

It was agreed to request Council to ensure that:

- 1 the work is not carried out during school term times;
- 2 hedges at all corners of the intersection between Gipps Road and Grey street are trimmed down so that school children can always be seen.

Fairy Creek Corridor Master Plan : noted for a report to the next meeting.

draft Beach & Foreshore Access Strategy: noted

7 Projects

Keiraville/Gwynneville:

It was agreed again to request Council to provide a raised pedestrian crossing in Berkeley Road to protect school children.

North Wollongong

It was agreed that Council be requested to assess the demand for local open space in the Smiths Hill area and identify an area to be developed for local open space.

South Wollongong & City Centre:

It was noted that Council is proceeding with its review of planning controls in the City Centre and agree to re-iterate the Forum's policies and work on this issue.

Neighbourhood Forums Alliance

It was noted that a workshop/meeting has been set down for 6.00pm on Monday 11th March in the Wollongong City Library meeting room and that members who have not yet received an agenda, and would like one, should let the secretary know.

8 Planning

DA/2019/71 Multi-dwelling houses, 46 Mathew St Wollongong

It was agreed that a submission of support be lodged subject to Council reviewing the elevation to the street.

DA/2019/146 Dual Occupancy 10 Mallangong Close Figtree

It was agreed that a submission of objection be lodged.

9 General Business

Wollongong Harbour pollution

It was agreed that Council be requested to advise residents what measures are being implemented by the responsible authorities to prevent the recurrence of Wollongong Harbour being closed to swimmers following reports that a sewage overflow entered Council drains, then the harbour last week.

Pedestrian Plan

It was resolved that the response to the Implementation of the City of Wollongong Pedestrian Plan 2017-21 be attached to these minutes.

Water Discharge to Gutters

It was resolved to request Council to investigate and take appropriate action on the apparently regular discharge of water into Council's gutter on the east side of Corrimal Street between Market and Crown Streets.

Grass clippings

It was agreed to request Council to review its practices in relation to grass clippings after mowing as it was noted that these routinely remain in situ until strewn into gutters and elsewhere even though this seems to be not the case in high usage areas including some parks.

Use of Roundup

It was agreed to request Council review its use of Roundup and investigate safe alternative options, since research suggests it may not be as benign as previously promoted.

Next Meeting: 7.00 pm on Wed. 3rd April 2019, Town Hall Ocean Room.

Please note that this will also be the Annual General Meeting.

5 Responses **Implementation of Wollongong Pedestrian Plan 2017-21**

The pedestrian plan contains a range of strategies relating infrastructure and non–infrastructure measures to make the city more walking friendly. Progress to date has included:

- 1 An accelerated new footpath program where over \$20M is allocated to the overall footpaths program over 4 years.
- 2 New walking links to schools, council facilities, public transport nodes, town centre walking catchments.
- 3 Accessible paths of travel to key recreational facilities.
- 4 Provision of new crossing points in a range of facility types (zebra crossings, kerb blisters, traffic signals, refuge crossings)
- 5 Safe walking education campaigns.
- 6 Additional staffing resource recently introduced to the traffic and transport planning unit to assist in implementing various plan actions

The Pedestrian Plan nominates a set of areas in the city where pedestrian infrastructure spending should be focused. Wollongong City Centre and the Wollongong Hospital precinct are among the nominated areas. These priorities are reflected in Council’s Capital Works Program with a number of new connections proposed to increase the walking catchments of these areas including new footpath links in:

- 1 Church Street, Ellen St to Swan St
- 2 Gipps St; Flinders St to Keira St, north side
- 3 Kenny St; Ellen St to Salvation Army driveway
- 4 Corrimal St; Campbell St to Smith St - East Side
- 5 Rawlinson Ave; Gladstone Ave to TAFE, north side
- 6 Rowland Ave; Allan St to Crana Pl; north side
- 7 Bligh St; Mercury St to end
- 8 Macquarie St; Robinson St to end
- 9 Robinson St; Hercules St to Denison St
- 10 View St ; Gipps St to Edward St; east side
- 11 Beatson St; 41 Beatson St to 202-206 Corrimal St

A range of footpath renewal and upgrade works are also proposed for these precincts. As planning work proceeds in the City Centre in accordance with the City for People implementation plan additional pedestrian infrastructure projects, including along Crown Street east of the hospital, will be added to subsequent iterations of the capital works program.

Senior Traffic Engineer

Sir Alexander Stuart Memorial

This was considered by the Heritage Reference Group who resolved that it should be incorporated into an overall celebration of the heritage of the Park.

Grass Clippings

"The issue of excess grass clippings left on our parks as a result of mowing was particularly noticeable during this summer period, where we experienced weather conditions that promoted rapid grass growth. Our staff normally spread grass clippings evenly as part of the regular mowing practice which is not normally noticeable, however the effectiveness of this practice reduces when the grass is longer, resulting in the clumps of grass left on site.

The only sites within the Wollongong LGA where we pick up grass clippings occurs within the Wollongong foreshore parks as this team uses a ride-on mower with a catcher, however these machines are much less efficient and would not be suitable across our entire network of parks and open spaces. We expect now that as we move into autumn and the grass is slowing down that the occurrence of clumping grass will be much less noticeable across our sites in the coming weeks."

Manager Open Space + Environmental Services (Acting)

Use of Roundup

"In regard to the Forum's concerns raised regarding the use of glyphosate to treat weeds, Council understands there are a range of views globally and within the local community regarding the use of glyphosate, however we closely monitor the Federal Government's Australian Pesticide and Veterinary Medicines Authority advice into the status of glyphosate, which currently advises that it is safe for use.

In addition, our staff are trained in the safe use of chemicals and work within a strict workplace health and safety and pesticide notification framework to ensure all practical measures are taken to eliminate risk to the public when spraying chemicals. We will continue to research alternate products and treatment methods in the use of glyphosate for use within Council sites."

Manager Open Space + Environmental Services (Acting)

Crown Street Footpaths

Cllr Tania Brown has been advised:

"Footpath upgrades are currently not programmed along Crown Street between Kembla and Corrimal Streets within the current version of the Infrastructure Delivery Program. However, a footpath condition and functionality audit is currently in progress throughout the entire local government area including the Wollongong CBD. Upon receipt of the new audit data, we will be re-prioritising upgrades for CBD footpaths based on condition, utilisation, locality based risk and functionality. It is anticipated that the revised priorities will be reflected in the version of the Infrastructure Delivery Program to be exhibited in April 2019.

Given the importance of the public domain at this location in terms of aesthetic appeal, functionality and connectivity, it will be essential for the upgrade to be subject to the development of a masterplan informed by stakeholder engagement. It is expected that this process, along with detailed design would take a minimum of two years to finalise."

Manager Infrastructure Strategy and Planning

Keiraville Village Streetscape upgrade

Cllr Tania Brown has been advised:

"Comments from the community were received during the consultation period for the Keiraville Village Streetscape upgrade, which ran from 25 February to 18 March. Staff from our Engagement Team have been working with the local community and I understand that a letter has been drafted to Keiraville Public School advising that the majority of the works will be completed within a school holiday period to maximise safety and minimise disruptions to school operations. During construction, access will be maintained at all times to the school and businesses. There will also be a requirement for traffic and pedestrian management to be in place at all times to ensure the community is safe and experiences minimal disruption.

A work order will be raised and referred to Council's Works Depot for pruning of hedges at this location.

Comments made to the Access and Movement Study will certainly be considered in tandem with this plan. "

Manager Infrastructure Strategy and Planning

Pedestrian Crossing on Berkeley Road, Gwynneville.

"While works at this location may appear warranted, unfortunately due to other projects being deemed a higher priority, this project is not included in Council's Infrastructure Delivery Program at this time. With our Infrastructure Delivery Program covering a wide range of projects including footpaths, kerb and gutter, drainage culverts, mobility ramps and bus shelters to name a few, Council must rank projects and prioritise accordingly. However, please be assured it is Council's intention to have this issue resolved as soon as the necessary budget and resources become available."

Manager Infrastructure Strategy and Planning

6 Reports

Local Character and Place Guideline

The NSW government has issued a "Local Character and Place Guideline" responding to community requests for local character considerations to be elevated in NSW planning decision-making. The Guideline aims to support councils and communities to consider and nurture the unique identity of a place while at the same time meeting the needs of changing communities.

It considers what local character is, where it fits into the planning system, who shapes it, and how it can be integrated into plan-making. Tools to help define existing character and set a desired future character that aligns with the strategic direction for an area are also included.

Proposed approaches for introducing local character overlays into the Standard Instrument Local Environmental Plan are being explored by the Department of Planning and Environment.

Comment

It seems to be all very interesting and glossy, like the Better Place document before it, but not of a great deal of practical help from the viewpoint of actually preparing documents which can be used in development control, at least for ordinary low density suburban areas. Nevertheless we should go through the exercise to see what can be made of it.

On-Call Household Cleanups for Multi Unit Developments (MUD)

We have been advised that:

- i Remondis will work directly with 36-38 Loftus Street to provide On-Call Household Cleanups (OCHCs) to provide their volume allotment (4m³/dwelling/year) via multiple visits (up to four) was discussed with Council on 14 March 2019;
- ii Remondis have reviewed information they have on previous OCHCs and have confirmed they already carry out some OCHCs, like the above, for several different MUD's across the LGA. This has been done judiciously, on a case-by-case basis and is dependent on a variety of factors;
- iii Council and Remondis are continuing to review options available to improve the way MUDs receive the OCHC, being cognisant of potential issues around delivery capability and flow-on effects, efficiency and of course cost to the community. There are thousands of dwellings in the LGA are in MUD complexes, so any potential change needs to be rigorously assessed to ensure we are continuing to provide a service that is economically sustainable;
- iv Council is keenly interested to get feedback from 36-38 Loftus Street after the "non-standard" cleanup service is provided so we can utilise any learnings going forward.

John Riggall

7 Activities Keiraville/Gwynneville Access Study

"Draft strategies have been prepared and should be sent to NF 5 and the University of Wollongong for comment by the end of March. A draft study document will then be prepared for Council and community comment"

Transport and Stormwater Services Manager

Note:

In the light of this response the Manager was invited to share Study results so far at this April meeting. He declined.

University

The quarterly meeting with the University discussed issues of mutual interest. There has been a low number of student incidents across all residences and the university is always interested in feedback regarding resident (or visitor) behaviour.

All construction on campus is going well, including the Molecular Horizons building, the Arts and Social Sciences building and car park. They are still negotiating with Council on plans for Kooloobong Ovals, Northfields Ave up grade and O'Leary Road drainage.

The University have signed a non-binding agreement to be a part of the Aerotropolis 'Multiversity', a collaboration between Western Sydney, Wollongong, Newcastle and New South Wales Universities.

South Wollongong

No response to the Guruguty Environmental report as yet.

Neighbourhood Forums Alliance

The workshop/meeting agreed that we need to prepare an overarching statement of concern about general issues relating to necessary infrastructure, both social and physical, and to Council's performance and processes together with detailed local proposals on a Ward basis.

8 Planning

DA/2019/160 3 storey Shop-top Housing 51 Kenny St Wollongong

27th March

This is a very unusual proposal to extend an existing business premises and build two units partly on top. It is claimed to be shop-top housing about which there is some doubt. but it is also clearly a Mixed Development, which requires a 24m frontage, but it has only 15m. Multi Unit Housing would require 18m. Another issue is that it is surrounded by similar small sites and creates an isolated site to the north. Also it is in Enterprise Corridor zone which discourages residential although our Locality Plan seeks a re-zoning to Mixed Use to encourage it. However, in practice it is a not unreasonable proposal.



Recommendations

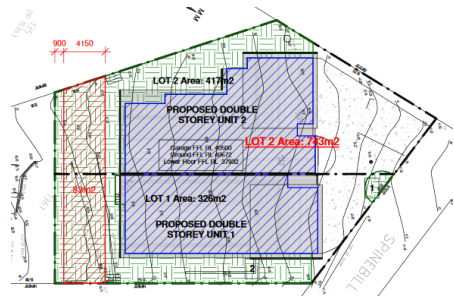
That:

- 1 the decision not to make a submission be confirmed;
- 2 Council be requested:
 - i to review site width requirements for Mixed Use developments involving only one or two dwellings;
 - ii re-zone this area from Enterprise Corridor (which it is clearly not) to Mixed Use.

DA/2019/223 2 storey dual occupancy 20 Lauder St Mangerton

1st April

This is a proposal for a dual occupancy behind an existing house but with access from a rear lane from which they will appear single storey. Whilst they would not affect the streetscape they are not in an accessible location (potentially triple the density on the lot) and so do not conform to our Locality Plan. The other issue that it involves removing three Illawarra Flame trees two of which are of Medium SULE of 15 - 40 years.



Recommendation

That the submission of objection be confirmed.

DA/2019/228 2 storey dual occupancy 138 Robsons Rd W. W'gong

8th April

This is a proposal for a dual occupancy in a relatively remote location. It seems to comply with all Council requirements except that the lot is not quite square so not of minimum width throughout. It does not have the appearance of a detached house on its own lot. It does not comply with our Locality Plan for Keiraville.



Recommendation

That a submission of objection be lodged.

9 General Business

10 Snippets **Do You Know Who is Watching You?**

Whilst an overwhelming majority of people currently support the use of CCTV in public places it is questionable whether this support can continue because of the way surveillance is changing. You might have a video photograph of somebody shopping in Tesco. Now it is possible to link that person to their pre-movements, their mobile phone records, and/or any sensor detectors within their house or locality. As smart cities move forward, these challenges are so much greater and members of the public need to decide whether they are still happy with this.

The nightmare scenario is that there is a lack of understanding about how big and effective this can be. This technology is there to protect us, but there needs to be informed consent about what it is capable of doing. Body-worn video, for example, or facial recognition – that can identify people on databases who didn't know they were on databases.

Tony Porter, The Guardian

Maybe even Street Art!

