

Meeting Minutes

Minutes of Dover Heights Precinct Meeting

June 27, 2016 – Body Express, 157 Military Road, Dover Height

Meeting commenced at 7:30 and ended at 9:00 PM

Present – Convenor Dov Frazer, Secretary Ron Nothman, DA Rep Peter Cappe,

CR Miriam Guttman Jones,

Apologies CR Betts and Goltsman.

Attendance List - Sent to Melissa Green separately

Minutes of previous meeting Moved – Richard Morris, Seconded Leesa Armstrong, Approved unanimously

AGM – Miriam Guttman Jones Presiding:

Convenor – Leesa Armstrong nominated Dov Frazer, seconded by Michael Gottlieb - Dov Frazer Elected unanimously

Secretary – Peter Cappe nominated Ron Nothman, seconded by Richard Morris- Ron Nothman Elected unanimously

Ron noted that he may be abroad during some meeting and Michael Gottlieb mentioned Lisa Rubenstein may be able to step up should Ron be away

DA Rep – Grant Bensen nominated Peter Cappe, Ron Nothman seconded, Peter Cappe Elected unanimously

Matters Arising:

A - Council Responses regarding 4 motions affecting Rodney Reserve fencing, returfing, and trimming. Response from council was for all motions was a non committal “ This request has been placed on the work plan for the Outdoor Staff”

Dov spoke to Melissa Green who got this response from Paul Sparks:

1. Rodney Reserve is currently in the planning phase of upgrade works and I am sure the planning team will release these plans shortly.
2. A returfing program will be undertaken in the next financial year across the LGA and if these areas are deemed in need of returfing they will be considered in this program.
3. No plans are in place in 2016/17 financial year to replace these fences.
4. The issue of non-native vegetation will be assessed in the next financial year and if it is deemed necessary it will be controlled either by the Open space maintenance team or councils Bush care teams

Dov later spoke to Paul Sparks directed – Paul said they deliver services based on budget and are doing what they can with the funds that are available. Paul was not willing to commit any meaningful follow through to any of our motions.

B – Motion regarding bin removed from Dudley Page playground with installation of new playground:

Response from council – “a waste survey will be carried out for this location to see if there is a need for a second bin. This will take a month of so and then we can make a decision whether a second bin is justified. During this time the public space team will check this area regularly”

C- Asphalt hole outside 198 Military Road – Response from council, “The comments on the merit request advise that the pothole was repaired with cold mix on March 16, 2016. It has been added to the council’s heavy patching for the next financial year.”

D – Motion about Blair Street medium strip verge planting being a disgrace - Response from council was that this area was being programmed for an upgrade in two stages. The first stage should be done by the end of September which include garden beds from Military Road to the Mitchell street roundabout. Stage two has yet to be programmed.

E – Motion requesting that response from council for any motion include name, email and phone number of responsible person at council and that responses be more meaningful. Most motions get a response that this has been forwarded to a department for noting and consideration. Council response was that the Community Liaison Co-Ordinator is the key contact and any queries or follow up is to be directed through this role

F –Tree Removal Motions at 2 Loombah Road. Peter Cappe said, “council spent thousands of taxpayer’s dollars maintaining trees to protect the privacy of a private person.” Dov noted that council agreed on a plan to plant a row of shrubs to protect the privacy of the homeowner at 2 Loombah Road and after these shrubs were established the view blocking banksia trees would be removed. Despite the fact that this new row of shrubs have been planted and are now established, the banksia trees have NOT been removed as per council agreements.

RODNEY RESERVE SUBCOMMITTEE – Report from Michael Gottlieb

Michael reported that he along with Marc Coghlan and David Nathan had a meeting with Mayor Sally Betts. Sally said that due to many complaints during the time that temporary lights that were installed in Rodney Reserve, new lighting has been removed from future plans. This district playground was also off the table. However Mayor Betts said that they still planned changing rooms, storage rooms, toilets, a canteen, a council worker’s staff room and a new parking area. Michael said that these proposal were a long cry from what Sally had first told us. The car park and amenities block would be located just East of the current Kesser Torah parking lot. Michael stated that we need to be more formal in our approach. Dov mentioned that he has spoken to Cathy Henderson and that she said that at the council meeting of July 19th or in August, it is likely that a plan will be submitted and voted upon which will then go to community consultation. Michael and most attendees did not feel that resident concerns were being seriously considered. CR Jones noted that before a plan is submitted and voted up that the councilors will be sent a report to review which will be debated and voted upon at a council meeting.

Addendum: Subsequent to the meeting, Michel Gottlieb made contact with Sally Betts who has confirmed that the Rodney Reserve plans will not be brought to council in July or August and Sally will communicate with the sub-committee prior to any plans being brought to Council"

Discussion as to why precinct motions seem to be ignored by council –

Dov expressed that most precinct motions are “noted and ignored” and many motions never get a serious response. Many motions are simply referred to some department for consideration without any person being responsible for a meaningful response. The Community Liaison Co-ordinator, Melissa Green is also often unable to get a meaningful response from council. In the end, Dov said that council views the precincts system as a means of community consultation that does not need to be engaged with beyond cursory replies. Ron Nothman said that in the past this was not the case but in more recent years council has become less interested in devoting resources to precinct motions or concerns.

Report on Council Amalgamations

CR Jones reported on legal challenges to Amalgamation by Woollahra Council and said these should be settled soon

Dov reported on Landor he attended meeting on Eastern Beaches Council

Unclear about whether precincts will be included or not in a new Eastern Beaches Council

Dover Heights Commercial Corner Upgrade

1 – Dov noted the footpaths were being marked with utility service locations

2 – Dov spoke to Yanos Fill-Dryden Landscape Architect – he said next step is to meet with residents who live directly adjacent to proposed works

3 – After that meeting he hopes to make an actual concept plan which we can review at next DHP meeting with residents

4 – Actual works are still meant to happen before the end of 2016

DA Rep Report by Peter Cappe – Peter noted that were many new dual occupancy developments but nothing new that affected Dover Heights

New Business:

Dov Reported that Williams Park on Military Road between O Donnell Street and the Bondi Golf Club is still a dumping ground

Dov Reported that Dudley Page reserve slopes are still overgrown and that Paul Sparks says this is an OH & S issue that is unresolved.

Plantings are completed in Dover Heights Coastal Reserves for native plantings buffer zones w

Liverpool Road playground is still there – has not been demolished as we were told it would be by Sally Betts

Dov stated the wooden staircase coastal walk between Lancaster Road and Bulga Road is coming to the end of its service life due to the fact that the wood and metal materials used are inappropriate for the location and are failing and unsafe. Ron noted that he had an onsite meeting with then the general manager Arthur Kyron in September of 2015 and also with Mark Woods. Mark agreed that the materials were unsafe and had reached a point where replacement was needed. Arthur Kyron tested the railings and agreed that they were not longer safe. Ron stated that he had photographic and video evidence of these meetings.

Dov noted next meeting of DHP was September 12, 2016

Meeting Closed 9:00 pm

: