

Minutes of the Mill Hill Bondi Junction Precinct Meeting held at Waverley Library on 28 October 2015



Chaired by Marcella McAdam with Stephen B. Cohen taking minutes

The meeting opened at 6.30 pm

Present

Councillor Angela Burrill. 30 people signed the attendance sheets (2 others didn't sign in)..

Apologies

Councillor Paula Masselos; Councillor Andrew Cusack; Graham Swann; Anne Casamento and Danielle Ecuyer.

Matters arising from the minutes of the last meeting on 26 August 2015

The lights in Waverley Mall are now operating.

There was a response to a motion presented at the previous meeting:

Motion

Kate Watson moved the following motion:

That Waverley Council consider providing (at least) lockers for homeless people to put their belongings into and have access during the day. Also if possible, look into providing amenities such as showers and toilets for the "rough sleepers" to use.

Response

Council is keen to create and maintain welcoming and inviting public spaces for everyone to enjoy. We need to ensure that these spaces are clean, accessible and safe.

The number of rough sleepers and the volume of their belongings has increased in Bondi Junction over recent times. Generally speaking, people are sharing the busy pedestrian mall and footpaths generously with each other. Occasionally, we're asked to respond to complaints from residents and shops owners about people blocking access to footpaths and shops.

We carry out regular patrols and street cleaning routines. We talk to each person we encounter whose excessive amount of belongings causes problems for other people's safety and access. Rough sleepers will be given an info card reminding them of their responsibilities as public place users as well as Council's responsibilities. The card also includes a list of support services.

In summary,

- we are asking rough sleepers to keep their belongings to a minimum, neat and tidy to help us keep the area safe and clean for all;
- we offer storage bins so that personal belongings can be packed away during the day in time for the cleaning crews to complete their work;

- we offer support and assistance from our partner agencies;
- we ensure that compliance is monitored by our rangers during daily patrols.

Council staff are continually monitoring the situation in line with our protocol and guidelines. We are also exploring longer term options of providing amenities.

There were no responses to the following motions:

Motion

Kate Watson moved the following motion:

That Waverley Council correspond with TransGrid; NBN and Foxtel regarding the possibility of placing the overhead wires in the NBN trench at the time NBN will be trenching in our area.

The motion was seconded by Graeme Swann.

The motion was carried unanimously.

Motion

Howard Parry-Husbands moved the following motion:

Request that St James Pocket Park be officially classified as a park, not as a reserve in order to guarantee the green space be preserved.

The motion was seconded by Roz Elwing.

The motion was carried unanimously.

The minutes were accepted by Eric Scott and seconded by Gayle Walker.

Residential Parking Scheme (RPS)

Council is in the process of rolling out changes to the Waverley Council Residential Parking Scheme (RPS) areas over the coming months. These changes are being implemented to provide more flexibility and options for residents in relation to parking.

Area 22 will be rezoned in late October 2015. The changes include:

- The number of resident parking areas is being reduced from 23 areas to 11 by combining several of the smaller areas.
- There will be changes to the area numbers for some areas which will result in some permit holders being able to park within a larger area.
- Parking areas that border each other will have a 'floating boundary' which allows parking in sections of neighbouring areas. This will increase the parking options available to residents in those areas.
- Residents will be able to apply to purchase new daily visitor permits as they are introduced throughout Waverley at the end of the rezoning process.

Why is Council making changes to the Residential Parking Scheme areas?

In order to ensure our resident parking is effective and beneficial to residents, Council periodically reviews the scheme.

As part of a recent review, Council identified a number of areas for improvement including the combining of smaller parking areas to provide residents with access to parking over a wider area. The suggested changes were then adopted by Council.

Councillor Angela Burrill stated that the changes were not set in stone and Council will listen to our feedback. They are intended to make parking easier for residents and give residents more options in relation to parking.

There was concern that Council representatives had not visited the Mill Hill Bondi Junction precinct to discuss the changes or hear feedback.

There is also concern that residents of the new residential towers will receive parking permits and will be able to park anywhere in our streets which will make it even more difficult for existing residents to park. Some visitors to these units will also need to park in the street and will also end up in the residential streets .

These towers are within 800 metres of the railway station and therefore are required by the State Government to have reduced parking for residents. Councillor Burrill fought to have more parking in these buildings, however the State Government approved extra height to 20 stories and less parking.

The Mill Hill Bondi Junction Precinct would like the Council to not issue parking permits to residents of these new towers as they should be encouraged to use public transport.

The parking situation has deteriorated recently with Westfield's number plate recognition parking scheme limiting free parking to two hours per day.

It was suggested that council withdraw the parking fee for the first two hours at Eastgate to stop people parking in nearby streets. Councillor Angela Burrill replied that Council needs this income due to the refusal of ISPT who own the Centre to contribute to the upkeep of the parking station. (ISPT is one of Australia's largest unlisted property fund managers with over \$10.1 billion of funds under management through investments in office, retail, industrial and residential properties).

The Wilson parking in Grosvenor Street is quite expensive and is often fairly empty.

It appears that residents can have up to three parking permits if they don't have off-street parking for those cars.

The 2 hour parking restriction in Denison Street was reduced to half an hour to deter disabled permit holders from parking all day. This has resulted in users of the library and squash court parking in Mill Hill Road in the evening. Mill Hill Road residents sometimes can't park in the street till after 9pm when these facilities close. The disabled permit holders have moved to Lawson Street where they can still park all day.

Reports

Community Safety (Maria Flood)

Police are currently targeting drug supply with some suppliers caught through random breath testing and plain clothed monitoring of "people of interest".

People need to be mindful to lock cars and keep belongings out of sight.

Pushbikes are being targeted by thieves. Also fraud/scams have escalated. There have been fake emails requesting payment of parking fines and asking for money to be paid to the Australian Tax Office. Don't click on links in these emails or open documents. Don't give personal or financial information over the phone.

Sculptures by the Sea will be bringing an influx of people into the area. BeachFest on 14 November 2015 will generate a lot of extra traffic.

DA (Matthew Gain)

The proposed boarding house on the Jaycar site at the corner of Birrell Street and Bronte Road is likely to gain an extra floor as long as rooms don't exceed 23 sq metres and it is listed for public housing for ten years. It will have limited parking for around seven cars as it is within 800 metres of the railway station.

The Bronte RSL development still has life. The latest proposal is still too high and there is a large empty space behind the ground floor shops. There is a concern that the developers will try to include extra shops in that area. Council is trying to ensure that the development fits within the DCP.

A development has been proposed at the corner of Spring Street and Denison Street Bondi Junction.

The squash club and function centre has expressed an interest in relocating to the development between Mill Hill Road and Denison Street at 45 - 57 Oxford Street. If this is the case, then it is likely that it will operate as a function centre with its associated traffic and parking issues. As it would serve alcohol it would need to go to Council. It would require a number of controls including CCTV and security guards.

The DA for 55 Ebley Street (opposite Eastgate) has gone quiet.

Traffic / West Oxford Street update (Howard Parry-Husbands)

Regarding West Oxford Street, Council has commissioned Hill Thallis Consulting to undertake a study of the issues arising from the WOS Design Charette process, particularly the key transport recommendations such as the Grafton Street roundabout, rationalisation of the Oxford Street and Ocean Street intersection and possible closure of the York Road link between Oxford Street and Syd Einfeld Drive. At this stage this study is at the inception meeting stage.

Council Amalgamations and related matters

IPART has stated that a joint Randwick / Waverley Council is fit for the future.

Councillor Angela Burrill stated that amalgamation will be a good thing for Waverley as there would be a cost saving of \$103,000,000 over 10 years.

Motions

Motion 1

Howard parry-Husbands moved the following motion:

With regards to the study of the issues arising from the WOS Design Charette process, Council ensures that the modelling includes the extra 1,000 residents in this area and associated parking.

The motion was seconded by Eric Scott.

The motion was carried unanimously.

Motion 2

Kate Watson moved the following motion:

The little triangle of land at the western edge of West Oxford Street shouldn't be consolidated till Oxford Street widening has been decided.

The motion was seconded by Andrew Bannister.

The motion was carried unanimously.

Motion 3

Kate Watson moved the following motion:

Censure Council for failing to consult with residents and Precincts about changes to the Residential Parking Scheme.

The motion was seconded by Frank Cahill.

The motion was carried unanimously.

General Business

Walter Street residents are concerned about Spotlight only having two years remaining on their lease of the building. They would like some clarity on the situation. Councillor Angela Burrill explained that the building is coming to the end of its useful life. Council will prepare a site specific Development Control Plan (DCP). At this stage nothing is happening with the site.

The historical plaque located at the corner of Mill Hill Road and Oxford Street Bondi Junction has gone missing. Council has not moved this item and all we can assume is that it has been removed by parties unknown. Council will start the process to have it replaced as soon as possible but this will take some time as it is a one off item that will need to be manufactured.

SJB Architects have been appointed for the second stage of the Civic Heart Project which involves the consolidation of the library block. They will be taking into consideration Roberta Ryan's analysis to work out what can go into the space. Possibilities include restaurants, a theatre or Council staff. Community consultation will commence in 2016.

The meeting closed at 8.46 pm.

The next meeting will be held at Waverley Library at 6.30 pm on Wednesday TBA.