

QUEENS PARK PRECINCT PUBLIC MEETING

22 November 2023

commencing 7pm on Zoom

Convenors: Peter Cohen, Simon Swifte

Apologies: Mayor Paula Masselos, Sarah McCarthy

Councillors present: None

Minutes of meeting on 2 August 2023

Motion to adopt from Simon Swifte; seconded Ian Barber. Adopted

Progress report on major developments

West Oxford St (DA-400/2021 194 Oxford St)

- At its meeting on 17 October 2023, Waverley Council approved the amended planning agreement attached to the report applying to land at 194–214 Oxford Street and 2 Nelson Street, Bondi Junction, (a through site link and a public plaza on the development site)
- In October 2023, the applicant lodged two applications with Council, a complying development certificate for the strata subdivision and a development application for the modification of the wording to the Site Audit Statement condition. The development application was considered to be substantially the same as the originally approved application. Consequently, Council approved both applications.
- On 7 November 2023, an amended Voluntary Planning Agreement was endorsed by Council.

Cnr Denison & Oxford (DA-127/2013 45 Oxford St)

- No updates on this development with deferred consent to 29 January 2023.

War Memorial Hospital (Edina Estate)

- Strategic Planning and Development Committee meeting on 1 Aug 2023 adopted the Waverley Development Control Plan 2022, Part E7 – Edina Estate, attached to the report, subject to amendments: 2a, 2b, 3, 4, 5 and 6
- In August 2023, Council resolved to engage independent Landscape, Environmental and Heritage Consultants to assess all trees on the War Memorial site to identify any additional trees that should be placed on the Significant Tree Registry (STR). There are currently a total of twenty (20) trees listed on the STR for the War Memorial Hospital. In September 2023, Council officers received the independent assessment which recommended eight (8) additional trees be placed on the register. Council officers reviewed the assessment and prepared a report to Council recommending the eight (8) additional trees be listed on the STR. The recommendation was adopted by Council on 7 November 2023.

Centennial Park and Queens Park report

- Centennial Parklands was contacted for any information and only reported that holes in Queens Park dug by dogs are constantly being filled.
- Residents were letter boxed about two events in Centennial Park (in Brazilian Fields)
 - Saturday 2 December, Good Things Festival, estimated attendance 32,500
 - Saturday 23 March, Music festival (to be named), estimated attendance 30,000.

Police Report - from Community Safety Precinct Committee meeting conducted by the Eastern Suburbs Eastern Suburbs Police Area Command

- No new information or specific issues for Queens Park were reported by the police.
- Just a reminder for residents to lock their cars and take valuables with them to thwart theft from vehicles
- With Christmas approaching, be alert for delivery scams where a text message asks for a link to be followed to confirm your address for a missed delivery.

Birrell St renewal update

- The Committee wrote to Council following the last meeting, outlining the issues raised by residents.

- Council wrote to the Committee effectively saying that the road renewal met minimum standards for a road with buses although it did acknowledge the difficulty for buses turning left into Birrell St from Newland St. One parking space was removed to ease this situation.
- Council did not address the issues raised by residents about the danger with such narrow lanes on a major throughfare shared by buses and especially the difficulty and danger for drivers entering Birrell St from a number of residential streets.
- A letter from a local resident in *The Beast* was cited. It raised a number of safety issues.
- One resident asked if Council had considered its liability should an accident occur as a result of potential dangers that have been pointed out.
- A Bourke St resident also raised the issue of similar treatment planned for Bourke Street and claimed there was a flawed consultation process and most residents of the street do not want the changes.
- The resident claimed that many responses were not from residents of the street and also that there would be safety issues in relation to the bus stops.
- The meeting resolved to write again to Council about the ongoing potential danger experienced by residents in Birrell St and include the Bourke St matter.

Commercial bikes blocking footpaths

- A resident raised the problem of share bikes littering our neighbourhood and often blocking footpaths.
- Council's response to the resident stated that Council has little power over these companies as NSW laws permit them to operate from our streets.
- While they are required to ensure riders do not cause obstructions, this is not enforced.
- There has also been some mention in the media that scooters may soon be permitted.
- The meeting resolved to write to the local member seeking more stringent laws for these bike companies such as requiring them to have specific pick-up and drop-off locations.

Moriah College report

- Committee members met via Zoom with Moriah representatives on 19 October.
- As in previous years, four senior student leaders attended in order to meet representatives of the local community. The Committee emphasised to them the importance of adhering to parking and traffic rules to minimize the impact on local residents.
- There is unlikely to be any action on the approved major development for eighteen months or so.
- The school will be responsible for the pedestrian crossing proposed for York Rd as part of the development approval.

General Business

- Some residents raised the disturbing matter that occurred recently in Council where two Greens Councillors were effectively removed from any meaningful participation in Council business.
- Residents questioned why an extraordinary meeting was held, essentially at the behest of a well organised minority of residents over a matter that is not seen as normal Council business.
- It appears that the two Greens Councillors were stood down for their minority vote on the related motion.
- Residents queried how this was possible in a democracy and resolved that a letter be sent to Council expressing our disquiet and seeking reinstatement of the two Greens Councillors.

Next meeting: 28 February 2024

Future 2024 meetings: 29 May, 31 July, 13 November