

# Charing Cross Precinct Meeting

Lugar Brae Community Hall,  
2a Leichardt Street, Bronte

7 April 2025

\*Minutes to be endorsed at the next Charing Cross Precinct Meeting

## 1. Welcome and Apologies

Deputy Mayor Kerrie Spooner  
Councillor Katherine Westwood  
Councillor Josh Spicer  
Councillor Ludovico Fabiano  
Councillor Lauren Townsend  
Men's Shed Waverley President Peter Charlton  
Waverley College School Principal Graham Leddie  
Waverley College Director of ICT, Campus and Innovation, Simon Potter

Apologies  
Councillor Paula Masselos

Convenors: Mia Vaux  
Secretary: Mora Main, Emily Edwards  
Minutes taken by: Emily Edwards

## 2. Minutes from the previous meeting and actions

### Motion

The minutes of the previous meeting be adopted

- Moved by: James F
- Seconded by: Byron
- Adopted: unanimously

## 3. Matters arising

Waverley College – send submissions regarding proposed plans  
DA – Bronte Road – Charingfields – in progress

### Charing Cross Upgrade

- Bronte Rd slip into Carrington Road – will be removed but on hold currently
- State govt funding to complete upgrade – Council rejecting the requirement to remove the slip

### Sailsbury Rd Henrietta Street Intersection

- Maintenance quarterly– gutter repaired
- Patrick noted that street cleaning remains an issue
- Cr Westwood noted that Snap Send Solve is a mechanism to report issues

## **Motion**

Waverley Council regularly survey and maintains the Salisbury and Henrietta Street intersection for dumped rubbish and litter.

- Moved by: Claire O'B
- Seconded by: Patrick

## Noise monitoring at Langlee

- Waverley Council advised that it does not have jurisdiction over noise at public venues since legislative changes in 2024
- "Make a Noise" complaints are now in the jurisdiction of the Department of Liquor and Gaming.

## 4. Men's Shed

The CCP welcomed Peter Charlton, President of Waverley Community Men's Shed.

- Peter provided a presentation on the history, purpose, operations, and activities of the Men's Shed
- Bulldozing of the hospital commences in 12 months, with no current plans for the relocation of the Men's Shed
- A replacement Shed will be built in five years
- Randwick Council offered space where the containers come in, however, this is an unsuitable location
- The Men's Shed seeks accommodation in the old council chambers
- Waverley Council has expressed concern that the roof leaks and is unsuitable
- Contact Peter via the website for updates and opportunities to support
- <https://mensshed.org/sheds/waverley-community-mens-shed-inc/> 0480 439 315

## **Motion**

The CCP urges the Council to accommodate the Men's Shed within the Council chambers until a final location is identified

- Moved by: Nigel H
- Seconded by: Steven B
- Adopted: unanimously

## 5. Waverley College Update

The CCP welcomed Graham Leddie (GL), School Principal, Waverley College and Simon Potter (SP), Director of ICT, Campus and Innovations, Edmund Rice Education Australia (EREA).

- Simon Potter noted that the development application is still in the response phase to submissions received
- This will be concluded by 28 May
- Waverley College's responses to submissions will be published in the NSW planning portal

- The meeting members asked that the school provide more visibility on the school website regarding the development
- Tree
- Water tank in relation to the fig tree – the arborists’ report confirms that the tank is outside the root protection zone
- The college provided reports and information on the core and peripheral root structures
- Advised that the stormwater storage tank needs to be at the lowest point on the site as it is gravity-fed

#### Traffic Management

- The plan will be sent to the CCP within the next week
- The college will provide more detail on the issues identified with entry and exit on Birrell St
- The school noted that currently two-thirds of staff drive
- Parking is provided onsite in leased spaces at Easts
- The Carrington Rd side of the campus will ultimately hold 50 spaces
- The community noted concerns for cyclist safety and traffic impacts where the busy Henrietta St cycleway traverses a 100-car parking area

### 6. Charing Cross Street Upgrade

- Nick Prell provided a written report for the meeting.

### 7. Pubs and Residents’ Report

- Steve Bodnar provided an update, noting the following:
- Enquiries into police (in)action regarding the tree vandalism at 111 Henrietta Street raised the requirement for a GIPA report to access police records
- Former organiser, Eastern Suburbs LAC, Peter Woodward, has moved to a different role and currently, there is no crime prevention officer
- Senior Constable Adam Livingston now chairs the regional group
- Issue of bikes on footpaths was addressed
- Kellie Sloane and Allegra Spender attended
- Crime trends data were presented
- Noise complaints are no longer a local government issue – part of a revitalisation effort by the State government

### 8. Illegal Tree Removal at Henrietta Street

#### Background:

- In January 2025 a healthy, mature 120-year-old Magnolia tree in Henrietta Street was illegally removed.
- Schedule 5 of the LEP lists this property in Henrietta St as a heritage item, and therefore, development consent is required for any work.
- Under S4.2 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979, arguably, a Tier 1 penalty applies because the LEP specifically requires consent for work on

a heritage item. The Tier 1 maximum penalty is up to \$1m for an individual or \$5m for a corporation.

- Waverley residents are gravely concerned that a \$3000 fine provides a carte blanche invitation for neighbours to remove neighbourhood trees for views and other reasons illegally.
- In 2022, the tree canopy coverage in Bronte was 17%, according to Waverley Council's Urban Greening and Cooling Strategy. It is planned to reach 20% by 2032. Including shrubs and vegetated ground cover, Waverley Council aims to reach 35% by 2032. This criminal incident demonstrates the impossibility of the purported ambition of the Council when a tree providing several hundred square metres of canopy has been destroyed for personal profit with minimal consequence.

**Motion:**

The CCP makes the following requests of Waverley Council:

1. Waverley Council reviews and increases the fine imposed for the illegal removal of the Magnolia tree in Henrietta St in light of its heritage item status.

2. Waverley Council pursues prosecution for the:

- trespass
- destruction of property
- interruption of business due to the vandalism and removal of the Magnolia tree in Henrietta St

3. Waverley Council reviews and rescinds the development DA granted for the accused property in Henrietta Street, where the approval was granted on the condition of the preservation of the tree that has been illegally destroyed.

4. Waverley Council orders the accused to pay for the replacement of the destroyed tree with an equivalent, mature tree.

5. Waverley Council erects a sign in front of the property in Henrietta Street explaining that one of the significant and oldest trees in Waverley was vandalised and destroyed, noting that this has deprived residents in the area of an important natural environment.

6. Waverley Council takes action against the accused at Henrietta St in the Land and Environment Court under the EPA Act, where this extreme case of deliberate damage to a neighbour's heritage property attracts a significant penalty.

7. Waverley Council acknowledges and responds to the unequivocal rejection by the CCP of their action to date - the imposition of a \$3,000 fine.

- Moved by: Peter
- Seconded by: Nigel
- Adopted: unanimously

Deputy Mayor, Kerrie Spooner, noted that Waverley Council is concerned and is working with the state government to strengthen powers and advised the owners to pursue the issue with the police due to the failure to prosecute for trespass and vandalism.

## 9. Uniting Church SSD – War Memorial site

- The meeting noted that the War Memorial plans constitute overdevelopment at 7 stories
- Councillor Westwood noted that Waverley Council has made a submission to the State Government regarding the development proposal
- It was noted that the proposed 478 underground car spaces will require 112,000 cubic metres of soil and rock to be excavated and removed from the site over 48 months of work
- This excavation will produce prolonged jackhammering and up to 4,000 truck movements through our local area to remove rock and sand
- The meeting questioned the necessity for a 4:1 ratio of car spots to units when it is a 10-minute walk to the Bondi Junction transport hub and shopping centre
- The CCP noted it does not support the high number of carparks
- The CCP supports the relocation of the Men's Shed to the new site upon completion
- The meeting asked where the project meets sustainability objectives, including
  - Affordable housing, noting the target buyer is high-end independent living
- The CCP noted that this site was originally a heritage estate with a driveway from the entry gates
- The CCP noted that site planning is poor, placing a building against the northwestern corner
- The CCP noted it has grave concern for the tree loss – 95 trees lost
- Mora advised that CCP must submit to the SSP by midnight today

### **Motion**

The CCP draft submission is adopted and submitted

- Moved by Kate M
- Seconded by Peter
- Adopted unanimously

## 10. St Catherine's Update

- New pick-up and drop-off on Macpherson St site mooted
- An additional two buses are planned for commissioning

## 11. DA Update

- Hugh advised on Phillip House DA2021 B + C
- This is an \$11 million project with 40 units and a manager's cottage
- The CCP will invite the developers to speak with the community at the next CCP meeting to explain traffic management, noise, and impacts
- DA 16/2024

## 12. General Business

### EBIKES

- There is a 350% increase in shared e-bikes between 2022-2024
- A Memorandum of Understanding is underway with shared e-bike providers
- General bike rider conduct remains an issue
- More regulation is required where e-bikes are uninsured
- Overspeed capacity needs to be stopped

### Bronte House

- Howard Tanner, architect, supports a repairing lease with increased hours of public access
- KW notes Waverley Council is investigating using space as a social enterprise
- Feb 2026 lease expires
- Currently, it's open 16 hours a year, notwithstanding the huge expenditure of public resources spent on the garden and maintenance
- Would this be a suitable site for the Men's Shed
- The costs of maintenance are not met by the rent charged

### Other issues

- Cliff face stabilisation at Mark's Park
- 6-month project 7-5 to stabilise
- Laneway between Vic St and Bronte Road is to be named St Clare's Way
- Homelessness is an increasing need in the area