

QUEENS PARK PRECINCT PUBLIC MEETING

8 August 2012

commencing 7pm Waverley Library Theatrette

Convenor: Simon Swifte and Peter Cohen

Apologies: Daniel Bando, Peter Monks (Council's Director of Planning)

Councillors present: Sally Betts, Mora Main, Mayor John Wakefield (latter part of meeting)

Centennial Park Report – Geoff Reinhard unable to attend tonight and in the future as he has moved to a new position; provided some information

- suggests representative from Community Consultative Committee is invited in future
- In response to a resident asking about the removal of trees near the Model Yacht Pond, outlined the tree replacement program that is taking place over a number of years. Aged trees, especially fig trees, are sometimes around 100yrs old and need replacing. In the case of the specific trees in question, they had been severely damaged in a storm and had also damaged neighbouring trees.
- Roma Gillam raised the issue of the Government's plan to withdraw all funding for Centennial Park which would then be required to hold even more events to meet costs
- Meeting unanimously supported the proposal to write to the local member requesting the Government to continue funding the Park.

Minutes of meeting on 2 May 2012

Moved to accept: Ian Barber

seconded: Michael Ahrens

Correspondence

- Council wrote to inform the Committee of a site inspection for the second DA for the Arnold St quarry site
- Council approved the DA, subject to compliance with a number of conditions, including retention of the fig tree, deletion of balconies overlooking Arnold St etc. Adjacent neighbor largely satisfied with the outcome.

New Committee members

- Daniel Bando and Simon Carless expressed interest in joining Committee at the end of the AGM in May – meeting endorsed their membership
- Long-standing members - Bill Sullivan to remain on the Committee and endorsed by the meeting; Pearl Grunhard to stand down. Meeting thanked her for her contribution over the years

Planning issues – Director of Planning, Peter Monks unable to attend

Waverley Development Control Plan 2011

- Council passed the DCP with only minor changes and these did not include any of those put forward by the Precinct Committee. Councillor Main indicated that she tried to have them considered.
- Council's explanation was that the DCP would have to be re-advertised and it needed to pass to be included with the LEP when forwarded to the Government
- In response to the precinct's concerns that the issues, which mostly relate to laneway development and secondary dwellings, would become entrenched, Councillor Betts said that a review of the DCP would be starting very soon

NSW Government's Green Paper- A New Planning System for NSW

- Proposed changes include a shift away from Council and community involvement in the planning assessment process to automatic approvals to applications deemed to comply with pre-determined outcomes for an entire area and to independent committees.
- What would this mean for Queens Park that is an urban heritage conservation area and has its own Character Study in Council's DCP?

- Meeting endorsed a proposal to write to the Planning Minister opposing the removal of power from Councils and residents in the planning assessment process.

Police report – from Waverley Community Safety Committee

- Ian Barber reported that since February, break and enters and thefts from cars have decreased. 3 robberies reported.
- Police continue to have a presence around hotels and to use drug sniffer dogs.
- will be a reasonable police presence for the City to Surf.

Council's end-of-term report

- Peter Cohen reported on a number of Council plans and reports, including the end-of-term report that is a requirement for each Council term. It reports on progress in various areas, some of which are based on Council surveys. Available on Council's website.

Shopping Trolley update

- Information provided by Council rep Angie Baker is that magnetic strips in footpaths around Eastgate and Westfield are being installed at the moment. This will stop trolleys at entrances/exits to shopping centres.

Moriah College

- Michael Ahrens and Peter Cohen reported that Moriah College representatives failed to attend the Community Consultative meeting on 2 August, even though this date was proposed by the school.
- Queens Park Rd resident once again raised the issue of student parking in restricted area. Also reported an email relating to parking enforcement around the school. Councillors at the meeting indicated that they would follow this up.

Resident parking issues

- Moriah discussion generated broader discussion about resident parking - short-term vouchers, multi-use permits, resident parking only for an hour per day during school hours etc
- Another parking issue that has confused residents is the re-instatement of parking meters in Oxford St and Bronte Rd between 6-10pm. Why has this happened?
- Mayor Wakefield agreed that there was resident parking rules were a patchwork across the area
- Meeting agreed that Council's policy on parking permits be presented at next meeting.

Council elections on 8 September

- 9 candidates in Lawson Ward
- Meet-the-candidate forum to be held Wed 15 August at 8pm, Lugar Brae Church Hall

General Business

- Denison St resident wrote to ask why a grinder was not used to grind footpaths instead of expensive replacement. Also that both sides were done at the same time, making it difficult for pedestrians.
- Councillor Main pointed out that using a grinder is often not possible because footpaths are not thick enough. She said that there had been an audit of footpaths across the whole area.
- Mayor Wakefield said that both sides should not be done at once and he'll look into it.
- Other complaint was that replacement of grass in Denison St was patchy
- Fitzgerald St resident had heritage tiled path and step destroyed by footpath contractors. Mayor suggested she make a claim of Council
- Noise from Moriah's loudspeaker still a major problem for Rawson St resident and many others in precinct

Mayor Wakefield's report

- shopping trolley issue in process of resolution
- has negotiated the re-opening of Rowe St to bus-rail interchange
- many complaints about rate rise; he argued against it; proposed infrastructure levy

- Convenor, Peter Cohen cautioned Councillor Wakefield that the precinct meetings were not a forum for politics. However, in the interests of balance allowed Councillor Betts to respond.

Councillor Bett's response (former Mayor)

- supported rate rise because of Council's huge deficit – couldn't pay debts

Next meeting: 31 October 2012