

QUEENS PARK PRECINCT PUBLIC MEETING

via Zoom

2 March 2022

commencing 7pm

Convenors: Peter Cohen, Simon Swifte
Apologies: Sarah McCarthy, Phyllis Fong
Councillors present: Councillor Burrill and Mayor Masselos

Simon welcomed Councillors and residents to the meeting.

Minutes of meeting 10 November 2022

Motion to adopt from Simon Swifte; seconded by Peter Cohen. Adopted

Changes to the Bus Depot

- work has begun to make York Rd the only access point for buses at the depot
- lights will be installed at the access point to the depot
- lights at Oxford St will be upgraded to include a 'B' signal for buses turning right from York Rd
- 18 parking spaces on York Rd will be removed
- a few metres of depot site on Oxford St to be allocated to cycleway
- Transport NSW decision, a fait accompli
- community was meant to be consulted but we weren't
- Mayor said she would set up meeting with the Project Manager and Mill Hill BJ precinct and us

West Oxford St development update

- Council planners said that the DA is still under assessment

Centennial Park report – provided by Geoff Reinhard, Manager Planning

New amenities block in Queens Park (near Baronga Ave)

- work has commenced on the new amenities building that will be of a similar scale to the demolished facility.
- Site fenced off for safety and traffic management plan in place for trucks accessing the site
- Details and timing of the project can be found at:
<https://www.centennialparklands.com.au/about-us/parklands-projects/queens-park-amenities>

Queens Park Pedestrian /Cycle pathway

- expected to be finished in mid to late March depending on weather
- Community/Ministerial opening in early April (date to be confirmed)

Off-road cycling

- Parklands staff have been working to fix and repair damage to grasses and shrubs, that has created loss of foraging and sheltering habitat for various types of fauna
- Other devastating results from off-road cycling and other environmental destruction include exposed tree roots from dug up soil holes, trampling of vegetation, removal of undercover plants through skidding and broken tree branches and sandstone outcrops. Educational campaign about off-road cycling can be found at:
<https://www.centennialparklands.com.au/stories/2021-1/taking-a-ride-at-the-parklands>

Other current projects

- include restoration work around Musgrave Pond, refurbishment of Glasshouse Café, returfing of McKay Oval, return of community sport to Upper Kippax area.

Precinct's submissions to Council – documents provided online at meeting

War Memorial Hospital development

- Made submission to the latest Planning Proposal for Birrell St development, opposing heights FSR, Seniors Housing etc
- Mayoral minute has gone to State Government to try to get heritage listing for the hospital site. Minister says it has merit but is not a priority
- Mayor concerned at 51 people being moved to Normanhurst. Many have lived here for many years.

Draft LEP Planning Proposal

- Expressed disappointment on emphasis on affordable and seniors housing but little on protecting heritage in R2 residential zones in urban conservation areas
- Queried how commercial urban agriculture would be managed
- Supported the amendment relating to earthworks that would provide more protection or adjoining properties during development projects

Charing Square Planning Proposal

- Opposed the proposed increase in heights and FSR and the impact it would have on unique characteristics of Charing Cross

Waverley Community Strategic Plan

- Outlined the aspects in each category important to Queens Park residents
- Expressed concern that under Performance category, there was no mention of transparency or accountability from Council directorates when dealing with the community, especially in the area of determining planning applications

Pedestrian Infrastructure enhancements

These have been planned over the last couple of years. In Queens Park area the following will be undertaken

- Birrell St pedestrian crossings at St James Rd and Brisbane St to be raised
- York Rd pedestrian refuge crossing outside number 47 to be improved
- Pedestrian refuge to be installed in In Queens Park Rd at Bourke St

Police Report

- Just two Community Safety meetings per year being proposed
- Residents reported being harassed by developers. Report it to Police
- Complaints received about the speed of cyclists in the new cycleway at Bondi Junction

Moriah College update

Deputy Principal was contacted and said that

- there's no start date for development
- since COVID, parents have been reluctant for their children to use public transport and share cars, exacerbating traffic problems for residents.

General Business

- Simon spoke about modifications to DAs proposal from Bronte Precinct
- Roma raised the issue of the terrible state of Newland St footpath between Cuthbert and Birrell Sts, especially in wet weather. Needs major work. Also very long grass further towards Bondi Junction almost makes footpath impassable.
- Mayor reported on the Parliamentary Enquiry into privatisation of buses. 31 March is closing date for submissions.
- Mayor has prepared a motion for Council to consider a community planning advocate, to be appointed from within the organisation. Proposed duties are outlined in the motion - tabled at meeting.

Next meeting: 25 May 2022 (Annual General Meeting) – could be in library again