

Minutes of the Mill Hill Bondi Junction Precinct Meeting held online via Zoom on Monday 15 February 2021



Chaired by Howard Parry-Husbands with Stephen B. Cohen taking minutes.

The meeting opened at 6.30 pm

Present

Councillor Elaine Keenan; Councillor Angela Burrill and 12 others on Zoom.

Apologies

Mayor Paula Masselos

Acknowledgement of Indigenous heritage

Waverley Council respectfully acknowledges our Indigenous heritage and recognises the ongoing Aboriginal traditional custodianship of the land which forms our Local Government Area.

Matters arising from the minutes of the last meeting on 5 February 2020

No matters arising. Minutes taken as read.

Bondi Junction cycleway project update

The cycleway will link Bondi Road to York Road via Bronte Road, Spring Street and Denison Street.

Stage three has commenced with works along Oxford Street from Denison Street to St James Road. Funding is from the RMS. Supported by Transport for NSW.

The cycleway project is on the web:

https://www.waverley.nsw.gov.au/building/major_projects/streets_and_public_places/bondi_junction_cycleway

There was much discussion on the construction of the cycleway on Oxford Street, especially near the intersection with Nelson Street where visibility at the traffic lights is poor due to barricades around the work site.

It was suggested that a “lollypop person” be stationed at the crossing on Oxford Street, however it appears they are not used at controlled crossings.

Concerns were raised at the amount of traffic along Oxford Street as one lane will be lost to the cycleway.

Some residents living near St James Reserve have not been notified about some of the recent cycleway works. Eliza Milenkovic from Waverley Council has contacted some residents, however it has been agreed that Eliza will organise for posters to be placed in the reserve and more information to be distributed to neighbouring dwellings.

There was concern that cars exiting Mill Hill Road would have to give way to cyclists and would be unable to see oncoming traffic on Oxford Street without blocking the cycleway. Councillor Angela Burrill is sure that there will be provision for one car to be able to stop between the cycleway and Oxford Street.

Development issues in Bondi Junction

The development on 10 Spring Street, currently JAX Tyres has not progressed during the last year. No additional information has come to hand. Lack of parking and no provision for garbage bins are issues that will affect nearby residents.

A DA for a three-story building at 62 St James Road keeps being resubmitted with minor changes every time it is rejected.

194-214 Oxford Street (The twin towers) has progressed. There has been an open market proposal for the open spaces of the area. An architectural landscape firm has been appointed to further progress designs.

2 Birrell Street is currently a residential house and a DA has been lodged to convert it to a cosmetic medical centre catering for 1,000 patients per week. There will be nine staff working there. We are not sure where anyone is going to park. There have been many objections to this development and it is now likely to go before the Planning Panel. The area is zoned for commercial – local use (eg, a corner shop), so this does not fit that criteria.

17 Denison Street has seen an attached terrace house demolished in a heritage conservation area. Why is this sort of thing allowed? A request has been sent to Council for information on why this can happen in this area.

139 Oxford Street is being demolished. It is a micro-site and a small, but a tall boutique hotel will be built on the site. It is expected that a pizza restaurant will return to the ground floor.

A resident raised concerns that there are no guidelines in place for a uniform look for new developments. There was no consensus that uniformity would be a good thing, but there was a brief discussion about the lack of style of most of the developments in Bondi Junction, especially when compared to other areas (Green Square was mentioned).

Councillor's updates

Councillor Angela Burrill

Recently Council approved the lowering of the speed limit throughout much of Waverley to 40 km/h. Ruthven Street is going to have a rubber speed hump temporarily placed on the street near number 90. Councillor Angela Burrill suggested at the Traffic Committee was to do a full analysis of Ruthven Street to determine whether there are better ways to improve the street instead of one speed hump. This could include angle parking, narrowing the road or planting more trees. It would be great if we could get more parking in the street for residents.

Other business

A resident is concerned that a number of new businesses and developments in the area use Bondi as their suburb name even though they are in Bondi Junction (a separate suburb to Bondi) and would like Council to try and rectify this.

The meeting closed at 8.00 pm.

The next meeting (AGM) will be held via Zoom at 6.30 pm on Monday 10 May 2021.