

Minutes Bondi Beach Precinct meeting
20 March 2023 7:00pm – 9:00pm
Ocean Room Bondi Pavilion

Meeting opened 7:03pm

Chair: Lenore Kulakauskas

1. Welcome and Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge this land as the traditional lands of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People of Australia, the First Peoples, and are proud to live in a country with the oldest living culture in the world. We respect their spiritual relationship to Country and pay respect to their Elders past and present. We recognise that we meet on the land of the Gadigal people of the Eora Nation, and acknowledge the important role all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people continue to play within Australia and our community.

2. Apologies: Cr Leon Goltsman, Cr Dominic Wy Kanak

3. Bondi 34 footpath seating and RSA

Snr Constable Rob Pazderka suggested the best way to address the concerns around Bondi 34 would be to facilitate a meeting between the licencing police, the owner of Bondi 34, a representative from Waverley Council, a representative from the Astra and Lenore Kulakauskas (LK) representing Bondi Beach Precinct.

Those affected agreed to this suggestion. SC Rob Pazderka will contact LK with available times so LK can set up the meeting which will be held in the Bondi Pavilion.

ACTION: SC Rob Pazderka to email times to LK. LK to set up meeting.

There was a further discussion about noise, and Council's 'noise complaint form' which seems to not be acted on.

ACTION: Tim to send LK a copy of the form and an email from council regarding noise. LK to contact Council about this

4. Reports from your Bondi Ward Councillors:

Leon Goltsman: not present

Michelle Gray: Council are looking at future EV charging in Waverley, the restoration of the Boot Factory, the use of the Bondi Pavilion as a venue to screen sports and cultural events.

Dominic Wy Kanak: not present

5. Council street cleaning - is it working? Revisiting petrol leaf blowers

Discussion ensued around petrol leaf blowers

MOTION 1: Bondi Beach Precinct requests Council to:

1. Immediately move to replacing all petrol leaf blowers used by Council staff with electric ones.
2. Investigate how to ban the commercial use of petrol leaf blowers in the Waverley LGA.
3. Based on that investigation, take action to ban the commercial use of petrol leaf blowers in the Waverley LGA.

This request is based on the following:

Waverley Council prides itself on taking action to ensure it is environmentally responsible

Petrol leaf blowers have an evidence based strong impact on global warming

Petrol leaf blowers have an evidence based strong physiological and psychological impact on residents and the person using them

[https://ww2.arb.ca.gov/sites/default/files/2018-](https://ww2.arb.ca.gov/sites/default/files/2018-11/Health%20and%20Environmental%20Impacts%20of%20Leaf%20Blowers.pdf)

[11/Health%20and%20Environmental%20Impacts%20of%20Leaf%20Blowers.pdf](https://ww2.arb.ca.gov/sites/default/files/2018-11/Health%20and%20Environmental%20Impacts%20of%20Leaf%20Blowers.pdf)

Many cities in the USA have banned the use of petrol leaf blowers, including Washington DC

Banning petrol leaf blowers in California will go into effect on 1 July 2024

In Montreal Canada, the Cote-des-Neiges—Notre-Dame-de-Grâce council unanimously approved a bylaw to outright ban all two-stroke gas-powered leaf blowers in the borough.

Leaf blowers blow leaves dust and debris from one place to another, usually onto the street clogging up the gutters, or onto the neighbours property.

Proposed: James William

Seconded: Gabrielle Merten

Unanimous

TO BE SENT TO ALL COUNCILLORS, THE GENERAL MANAGER AND THE DIRECTOR OF ASSETS AND OPERATIONS, SHARON CASSIDY

Discussion ensued around Council street cleaning

As commercial leaf blowers are used to blow leaves, soil and debris into the street which banks up every time it rains, this makes keeping the streets clean impossible.

QUESTION: How often do Council staff remove built up debris in the gutters? To mention just one instance, there is a bank up of soil in the gutters in Sir Thomas Mitchell Rd near Lucius St which has been there so long there is grass growing in the soil.

TO BE SENT TO THE DIRECTOR OF ASSETS AND OPERATIONS, SHARON CASSIDY

6. Update on electrical supply to the Pavilion

According to the Mayor, it is Ausgrid's fault, however it begs the question as to why co-ordination wasn't agreed on earlier.

The generator has been moved to the side of the Pavilion.

7. DA-9/2023 14 Campbell Pde

Affected residents were encouraged to lodge objections as they carry more weight than a general Precinct submission.

General discussion ensued about the problems with building on the sandhills of Bondi Beach particularly as there is a watercourse running underneath and bearing in mind that Bondi Beach was connected to Rose Bay via a series of lagoons.

MOTION 2: Bondi Beach Precinct again requests Council and Councillors to consider the following facts:

- (a) that most of Bondi Beach's buildings have been constructed on foundations of shallow sandstone blocks resting on sand hills, and**
- (b) that most of the DA's being approved by the WLPP include one, two or even more level of underground parking, and**
- (c) that the current controls on excavation for these new developments have been insufficient to prevent these existing properties from visible structural damage.**

In view of the above, Bondi Beach Precinct requests

- 1. Council and Councillors to take action to establish more powerful controls specific to this sandy basin that will ensure excavations for new developments do not cause damage to our valuable properties. Specifically, Bondi Beach Precinct requests**
 - (I) that dilapidation reports be required to extend to all properties with boundaries that are at least 50 meters from the boundaries of those excavation sites, and**
 - (II) that regulations for all excavations are enforced more stringently than is currently the case.**
- 2. that a geotechnical report for the whole of the Bondi Basin be prepared by Council, along the lines of the Waverley LGA Flood Study**

Proposed: Gabrielle Merten

Seconded: Adrian Findlay

Unanimous

TO BE SENT TO ALL COUNCILLORS, THE GENERAL MANAGER AND THE DIRECTOR OF PLANNING

8. Response Report

The response report was discussed. Some questions that have arisen from this report will be addressed at the next meeting.

9. General Business

There was general agreement that Bondi Beach and the surrounding streets are not properly maintained. There are problems with the footpaths, the nature strips and the railings (or lack of railings), to name a few. Bondi does not look as if it is cared for by Council, particularly when it is compared to the beaches in other municipalities and even compared to Bronte and Tamarama.

A unanimous decision was made to invite the Director responsible for Planning, Sustainability & Compliance, Fletcher Rayner, to our next meeting. The date for this meeting will be determined according to the Director's availability. The Director will be asked to give a presentation on the Masterplan for Bondi Beach and its immediate environs.

ACTION: LK to contact Council and invite the Director of Planning, Fletcher Rayner, to a Bondi Beach Precinct meeting on a date when he is available.

It was proposed that Bondi Beach Primary P&F be contacted to see if Bondi Beach Precinct meeting dates could be advertised in their newsletter

ACTION: LK to contact Bondi Beach Primary School

Next Meeting: TBA

Meeting closed: 9:00pm

Lenore Kulakauskas

Co-Convenor Bondi Beach Precinct