

Bondi Precinct Minutes  
Wednesday 12 November 2025  
Held at High Tide Room, Bondi Pavilion

1	<b>Meeting Commences at 7.00 pm</b> Co-Convenor: Di Robinson (DR) Co-Convenor Lynne Cossar Acknowledgement of Country: Convenor acknowledged all elders past and present and paid respect to indigenous leaders, working, living and visiting Waverley
2	<b>Attendance: 25 attendees</b> Councillors in attendance: Clr Margaret Merten  Council representatives: Emily Scott - General Manager Jessica Ilacqua – Community Consultation Lead  Apologies: Clr Dominic Wy Kanak
3	<b>Minutes of previous meeting (held 4 June 2025)</b>  Moved: Annie P Second: Rex W Carried, by those present who attended the 4 June 2025 Bondi Precinct meeting
4	<b>Matters Arising from previous meeting</b> Nothing raised
5	<b>NYE – New Years Eve Bondi Beach Event – What we know</b>  Meeting was told BP has been asking for community consultation and getting tired of protesting. People normally accessing the beach are being ‘kicked’ out. People are worried about personal and property safety with 15,000 people expected to attend the NYE. BP wants to know security arrangements. Police were invited to this Precinct meeting but have not responded. BP feels disenfranchised, Waverley Council does not listen to what the people want. NYE Bondi Beach Event is not popular in the community.

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**Bondi Beach New Year's Eve:**

Emily Scott, General Manager Waverley Council, presented and advised there was a notice of motion and Council made a decision to hold the event. Officers investigated the community's opinions. A NYE Precinct information sheet was provided at the BP meeting with a late November and mid- December distribution date for resident notification and information letters. A calendar and event schedule was presented covering the events/ actions from late November 2025 to Monday 5 January 2026. Waverley Council will liaise with other agencies for minimal impact on the population – Fuzzy Operations will be paying for all this. Ticket sales postcode 2026 given priority. Traffic management and transport arrangements are being made including 'ride-share' areas.

Questions asked of Emily Scott, General Manager Waverley Council:

Q: How many more large scale events in 2026?

(A) Mardi Gras and two other large scale events

Q: Concerns about the turf with 15,00 people walking over it;

(A) Impact high and very long term

Q: What is the strategy of revenue-raising by Council?

(A) Financial stability – drive for 'Activation of Public Places'

The point made that Bondi receives 5 million visitors a year. Isn't that activation enough?

Clr Merten: explained how Council (Councillors) made the decision, not the officers.

Mention was made that the Mardi Gras function is allowed to run because it was 'not for profit'. A point was raised that the Fuzzy Australia, Fuzzy Operations are a profit business.

**Emily Scott will follow through on whether the LGBT function is going to be 'not for profit'?**

GM advised that Waverley Council can make money out of 'spaces' to alleviate financial burden to ratepayers.

**Emily Scott will follow through about the need for access to toilets at the Pavilion**

'Pack down' after the concert starts at 6am on 1<sup>st</sup> January 2026 – this is in the contract.

The point was made, if there was total outrage – events would not go ahead. But people are not aware, so can't be outraged.

Period of licences for the Bondi Beach events was raised - licences up to 5 years (3 years with a 2 year option)

The point was made about wildlife being affected at Bondi Beach – when other Sydney venues are readily available for those kinds (concerts) and are sustainable.

Other concerns raised from those at the meeting:

- There was no modelling has been done on 'opportunity costs'

- No acoustic monitoring – the noise levels from these events - \*\*\* **Emily Scott will look into assessing the noise impact**

- Problems of parking for residents when large beach events take place – and the need for a traffic management plan specifically for each event

- Where to park? – overcrowded already, especially when Campbell made one-way

- \*\*\* **Emily Scott to look into people parking in other zone areas from their normal zone**

- There was great concern about why the Bondi Beach NYE function contract is not being revealed – Emily Scott advised it was redacted legally because of "Commercial-in-confidence"

	<p>_ The point was raised “Transparency is Absolute” – why is Council arguing to ‘Commercial – in-confidence’, which is contrary to ‘openness’? – *** <b>Jessica Ilacqua to investigate</b></p> <p>BP advised that Council has not asked Council Officers for a POST REVIEW / full and independent evaluation, including noise. The process to do this requires A COUNCILLOR TO MOVE A MOTION FOR AN EVALUATION, including noise, including what is the council officers evaluation in normal circumstances</p> <p>Emily Scott advised that a 6-monthly report is sent to Councillors of all the Waverley Precinct meeting’s motions – a status report including of progress and what officers are doing about them. Councillors can put a notice of motion on behalf of precinct.</p> <p><b>*** Clr Merten will work with BP to prepare a motion to Council for a more robust evaluation of events,</b></p> <p>Point was raised “What is driving the Fuzzy event?” The ‘Crown Lands Act’ and use of funds derived from Crown Land was raised; the use of these funds is subject to legal requirements including transparency and accountability in how they are spent. *** <b>Emily Scott to get clarification and will check</b></p> <p>Recommended that BP and residents talk to local councillor for a notice of motion – individuals can then register to speak, and then individuals can speak to that motion.</p>
7	<p><b>DA Report</b></p> <p>Mosey A Covered the information gleaned from the Waverley Council weekly DA’s received report The status of 32 Campbell Parade as per the DAS’s received report Clr Merten updated BP on the most current status.</p> <p>The status of 49-59 Hall Street with 69-71 Roscoe Street as from the DA’s received reports, Clr Merten updated BP on the most current status.</p> <p>Mention was made of the high level of DA’s received involving properties in Hall Street</p> <p>The term ‘Black letter law’ was mentioned – meaning ‘no room for interpretation’</p> <p>Affordable housing was raised – the term and label ‘affordable’ needs review with its definition reassessed.</p> <p>An example was given of Wellington Street, where “affordable” is rent of \$1,300 per week, and a bond of \$5,000</p>
8	<p><b>Traffic and Parking</b></p> <p>In response to last BP meeting motion agreed to key an eye on the Denham and Edward Streets intersection. BP wants a council briefing and more details.</p> <p>The Barracluff Avenue and O’Brien Street intersection option is a second stop sign <b>Clr Merten to follow through at Council to find the ‘status’ of this location.</b></p>
9	<p><b>Sustainability / Trees / Parks</b></p>

	<p>Annie P advised the FOGO trial has been finalised, and reported a success, it will be implemented throughout Waverley soon.          Clr Merten suggested the implementation should start in winter</p> <p>BP would like to see plastic recycling facilities re-introduced at Coles and Woolworths          There is no advertising about facilities for disposal of 'soft plastics'          Clr Merten advised - reducing soft plastics is on her 'to do' list</p> <p>Rex W suggested relevant officers at Waverley Council should speak to their counterparts at Randwick Council for their experiences</p> <p>At 9.00pm Di R asked if those present agree to continue the meeting. Approval given</p>
10	<p><b>Affordable Housing</b>          All Data Shirley A collected. Annie P to speak to Shirley A to move that exercise along.</p>
11	<p><b>Storm-water</b>          Management of stormwater throughout the LGA surveyed. 20 hotspots were identified for flooding – reduced to 10 – then to 5 over key priority areas.          The first priority feasibility to start 2027</p> <p>Management report just released – mapped all stormwater around / under properties          BP was advised if on your property – it's not Council's responsibility - question arose who takes responsibility? – the property owners.</p> <p>Waverley council expects all properties checked and audited by 2030</p> <p>Officers Report – whose responsibility re tree damage to properties – cost slated to property owners</p> <p>Property rated for stormwater, could affect insurance</p>
12	<p><b>General Business:</b>          Conduct information sessions - Clr Merten to check          Shirley R communicated to BP her idea to evaluate the NYE function at Bondi Beach          Shirley R – to get a small group together for evidence based- survey - to conduct own evaluation of NYE event - citizen science - engage more and more of community – factual, hard data, as a community recording – photos, parking, noise, everything – to answer the question: what is the impact of the NYE at Bondi Beach event on the community?</p> <p>Motion for supporting Council's proposal in the draft Coastal Reserves Plan of Management for better accessibility to coastal paths.</p> <p><b>Motion 1:</b></p> <p>"The Bondi Precinct supports the recent proposals in the draft Coastal Reserves Plan of Management document to investigate step-free sealed path connections from upper Marks Park down to the coastal walks, McKenzies Lookout and Gaerloch reserve, as well investigate step-free access to Hunter Park &amp; Coastal Walk".</p>

	<p>Moved: Annie P          Seconded: Mark G          Motion Carried</p> <p>Motion requesting plans of management and economic benefits to be made available to residents and ratepayers well in advance of events to be held on Bondi Beach.</p> <p><b>Motion 2:</b></p> <p>Bondi Precinct requests that Plans of Management to be made available ASAP to the public and at least 8 weeks in advance for the licenced events to be held at Bondi Beach on 31st December, 20th February and 21st February, for likely disruption to beach, carpark and park access and for details of revenue to be collected from these events, against costs to be incurred, to be made public, so ratepayers can see the direct economic benefits these events will bring to our council coffers.</p> <p>Moved: Annie P          Seconded: Mark G          1 person against          Motion Carried</p> <p>Any other business          Mark G: An example was given of a currently affordable housing at 46 - 48 Lamrock Avenue (example \$500 for a 2 bedroom apartment); residents, mainly from Polynesia, forced out so the property can be demolished. Last person forced out and “sadly died from grief”.          “Affordable housing wrecked for unaffordable housing”.</p>
12	The Meeting closed at 9.15pm
13	Next Meeting: 11 February 2026 at High Tide Room Bondi Pavilion