

## QUEENS PARK PRECINCT PUBLIC MEETING

12 February 2018

commencing 7pm Waverley Library Theatrette

Convenors: Peter Cohen, Simon Swifte

Apologies: Councillor Keenan, Daniel Bando, Michael Eyres, Phyllis Fong, Sarah McCarthy

Councillors present: Councillors Burrill and Masselos, Mayor Wakefield (part of meeting)

**Welcome** to residents at the meeting for the first time.

### **Minutes from 8 November 2017 meeting**

*Moved: Ian Barber*

*Seconded: Peter Cohen*

### **West Oxford St development update**

- Report has gone from Greater Sydney Commission to Government. No indication on what has been recommended. Some people are suggesting that nothing will probably happen until after next election!

### **Centennial Park Report – No Park representative or report**

- Committee member Michael Ahrens spoke to Geoff Reinhard who used to speak at our meetings. Advice was to write to the Chair of the Community Consultative Committee Vivian Skinner about getting some input for our meetings. Have not received a reply.
- Michael commented that the Park looks good but ponds seem to be disappearing. Are they used to water playing fields?
- Light Rail electrification to start soon
- Movie Peter Rabbit that was filmed in the Park, to be released soon
- No sign of Queens Park Master Plan revision that was to take place last year
- Rumour that a pumping station for bore water to be built at eastern end of Queens Park
- While there has been some group plantings to restore bushy areas, residents noted that major trees that have been removed have not been replaced.
- Roma reported another commercial sign attached to Centennial Park fence opposite Birrell St. Alerted the park. Rangers' number is 0412 718 611.

### **Bike Share scheme – action options**

- Many residents are fed up with these bikes being strewn around the area, littering our residential streets and little action being undertaken by Council.
- Six inner city Councils (including Waverley) have meet and prepared some guidelines but it was pointed out that they are just vague actions that can be taken once bikes are dumped and not removed. The guidelines do not address the fundamental issues of just why Councils allow these bikes free reign in our streets.
- The Committee prepared a submission to Council addressing issues such as why these companies are not required to lodge DAs ( as per legal advice to Randwick Council), why they are not charged for littering under the Environmental Protection Act (as suggested by another environmental lawyer), why they are not charged for illegal parking under the NSW Road Rules etc.
- Residents at the meeting approved the submission being sent to Council for a response to these issues.
- Residents also spoke of these bikes being dumped in Queens park. This is the responsibility on the Park, not Council.

### **Danger on local pedestrian crossings**

- There have been a number of complaints about motorists not stopping and actually speeding through the following pedestrian crossings:
  - in Birrell St near Brisbane St
  - in Birrell St near St James Rd
  - in Queens Park Rd near Alt St and Moriah College gate.
- The meeting agreed that the Committee should write to Council to request some safety measures be introduced at these crossings, such as raised thresholds and flashing lights.
- A resident raised the need for a crossing in Bronte Rd at the Westfield entrance. Councillor Burrill said that this has been approved.

### **Moriah College update**

- The Committee has written to Peter Monks at Council to arrange a meeting of the Moriah Community Consultative Committee but has had no response. Councillor Masselos will follow up on this.
- A condition of WDAP's approval of the Early Learning Centre was that the College's Traffic Plan should be posted on its website and that a construction certificate not be issued until Council had signed off on the Traffic Plan.
- Residents were not happy that the community has no opportunity to comment on the Traffic Plan.

### **Mayor John Wakefield's address to the meeting**

- The mayor spoke about the parking initiatives that Council is introducing, including:
  - free first permit for those without off-street parking
  - changes to metred parking times in Bondi Junction (6pm switch off) and Bondi Beach (7pm)
  - some free 15 minute spots in metred zones
  - in the future, removal of parking cost for first hour at Eastgate
- Spoke about the complexity of beach parking
- Difficulty of doing anything about free parking under Syd Einfeld Drive – private operator on RMS land
- One resident said he was prepared to pay at Eastgate because Westfield parking difficult
- Another resident complained about the disability lift at Eastgate not working

### **Councillor Masselos informed the meeting of the Community Summit on 13 February**

- Community invited to have input into the 10year Strategic Plan
- Can have input into the Draft Plan until 21 February – see website

### **General Business**

- **Major development proposals**
  - Telstra building at 122 Bronte Rd
  - War Memorial Hospital - proposal on exhibition
  - BJ RSL Gray St – proposed 45.5 m height, permitted 32m; also members trying to get community support against the proposal because of reduced access for the Club
  - Arthurs Pizza site - proposal for 8 storeys through to Spring St, including hotel, probably for backpackers
  - another backpackers hostel proposal in McPherson St – trees will be removed
- Michael Ahrens asked if traffic hump in Alt St had been evaluated as promised when installed. It was only to be evaluated for noise impact on residents.

**Next meeting:** ...14 May 2018