

BRONTE BEACH PRECINCT

A meeting of the BBPrecinct was held on Wednesday August 18th 2021 on Zoom at 6.30pm.

The following issues were discussed after a short introduction and welcome by Chair,
Virginia Milson

Number Present 19

Councillors Present - Councillor Burrell, Keenan and Masselos.

Minutes from May meeting Proposer Susan Hely; seconder John Batts. Passed unanimously.

2. St. Catherine's School

Report given by Chelsea Hunnisett: Workers have been allowed back on the site since 11 Sep. and project is fully operational. Ute asked a question about the trees on MacPherson Street; the Mayor is also watchful. There was a further question about the planned moving of the pedestrian crossing, but no date is yet known. The Mayor undertook to follow-up on the fate of the trees and the pedestrian crossing.

3. Social Impact Assessment component for DAs

Waverley Council has invited public input on a social impact assessment when officials are determining Development Applications. The meeting was advised of the importance of bolstering considerations stemming from development in the DCP such as Sustainability, Environmental and Community Resilience, excessive development at the one time, changing the nature of communities and similar issues. Attendees were advised to provide feedback on the Have Your Say site.

4. Business Arising from the Minutes

The War Memorial Hospital DA. Greg Vaughan reported on the previous evening's Council meeting. It has been learned that the site has State Heritage Significance but is not yet on the State Register. He is not overly optimistic about countering the developer's ambitions either to exceed the height regulations of buildings and to ignore the FSR or to cut down mature trees. Despite the fact that this DA's determination may fall to State planning authorities, the Mayor thinks Waverley Council may still have some important issues on its side in terms of the actual location of the buildings on the site.

(b) Bronte House. The Executive Manager of Property has replied to the BBP's resolution about accessibility and the lease issue, claiming that 'lease requirements ... are being met'. The meeting, however, thought our Motion had not been adequately addressed and further investigation was needed. The Chair undertook to contact Council with additional questions.

Local Development Applications

The War Memorial Hospital: Greg reemphasized the issues raised at Waverley Council's meeting, especially noting that this was a site-specific proposal. Noting that Council would not budge on its position, he thought that the Uniting Church (owners) might take the

development to the State Planning Dept.; he saw the applicant likely to insist on height aspirations etc. while obscuring the historic Edina House. The Mayor thought there might be some wriggle room available via DCP concerns over the houses along Birrell Street; in ecological terms she was keen to maintain the mature trees in the habitat corridor between Queens Park and Waverley Park. With her nursing background, the Deputy Mayor thought a possible loss of nursing beds was an issue. The meeting was told that the Morgan Rehab' Unit required upgrading as the lifts were not appropriate to take hospital beds. This could be rectified by an addition between the Morgan building and Church St. where there is considerable room to build. The Uniting Church seemed not to be interested in its refurbishment.

(b) 14 St Thomas Street: this DA was adding an extra storey and planned triple-stacker parking for six cars; there was an excessive FSR etc. and concern over safety resulting from a large hole when the stacker was operating. Council has rejected this DA.

Bronte Surf Club

Nothing has emerged publicly. New designs are being worked on; to be public in October.

Other Business

EV charging stations:

Council would like input on this matter – see Have Your Say. The Chair noted that some makes of EVs such as Tesla have their own charging terminals. Louise said that those without a garage or parking on the street faced a challenging problem as they were unable to install their own charging station. The matter of electrical power supply was raised. The Mayor stated that Waverley Council was interested in installing more charging stations. It is buying solar power from the Moree Solar Farm and was on the lookout for other alternative sources.

The issue of police on the beaches was raised; generally, this matter was worrisome, even for the Mayor & Council.

Andrew asked what was going on in the Calga Reserve and was advised by Virginia that Council was undertaking low level coastal planting to encourage fauna corridors.

John was assured that there would be no thought of charging cyclists for the use of cycleways. The NSW Government is currently paying for bike-paths in Waverley. He also asked if there was any general concern about unused bicycles (both red and blue) littering Waverley. The response was that there is little to be done beyond altering human behaviour!

Susan asked about the protection of a large and very mature paperbark tree outside 14 Yanko Ave; where construction is about to begin. The Deputy-Mayor is keeping an eye on this issue and the Mayor undertook to follow up as Virginia advised she had contacted Council about it and nothing to date had been done.

The meeting closed at 7.48 pm.