

BRONTE BEACH PRECINCT

The meeting of the Bronte Beach Precinct was held on Wednesday February 23rd 2022. It was on Zoom and was opened by Virginia Milson convenor at 6.30pm.

Apologies Mayor Masselos

Number present 14

Councillors Present: Councillor Burrill.

What's On Ecoforum: Steven Lightfoot advised the meeting about the proposed Ecoforum scheduled for March 26th at the Margaret Whitlam Centre, Waverley Park

From 2pm – 4pm. It will feature a variety of activities for the whole family including face painting, games, climate change information and sustainability initiatives.

Development Applications

The Bronte Surf Club James Hutton informed the meeting that he had seen the second plans from the architect Croffie and was unimpressed. He had also seen alternative plans from The Surf Club which he believed to be more acceptable.

However, Council Burrill said that Council had not seen any plans from Croffie or the Surf Club. A meeting was due in the next month when the Council was due to be shown the latest plans.

13 Calga Ave. Michael Hudson advised the meeting of a forthcoming L&E Crt. Hearing on March 21st/22nd Work had stopped for the time being until the Court hearing.

335 Bronte Rd -There was concern expressed about possible changes to the heritage listed part of the house however, Council has advised this was not the case.

The War Memorial Hospital- Greg Vaughan gave an update on the WM stating that the War Memorial needed to maintain its supported aged care component as the community did not want to find the WM site used for Independent Living for the over 55s while affordable aged care was sacrificed.

Motion 1

That BBP requests Council preserve the SP2 Health Services Facility zone at the War Memorial site for health services and residential aged care, and not sacrifice any part of it to new Independent Living Unit development.

Proposer Greg Vaughan Seconder John Batts. Passed unanimously.

St.Catherine's Community Consultation - A vote of thanks to Chelsea Hunnisett was moved by the Chair and seconded by Greg Vaughan. Chelsea represented the Precinct on this Committee for St.Catherine's building programme. The Chair advised that the Precinct was looking for another representative for this committee and if anyone was willing to take over the position it would be gratefully received. A resident reported that the operation of the Transport Plan had failed as in the surveys there was a non-participation rate of 72%, carpooling has been abandoned. Council officers have not been attending the Committee meetings and the local member has never appeared at the meetings either. It was believed that the school had applied for an extra 200 pupils however, at this stage this has been refused.

Community Safety Update

John Batts reported that there were concerns expressed over cyclists in the Mall.

Questions were asked as to why there were cyclists still using the Mall when the Cycleway in Spring St. had been completed. However, it appears that the whole route has not yet been completed. Police reported more noise complaints than anywhere in NSW. sexual assaults are trending upwards and break and enter reduced. It was noted that with noise generated from loud parties it's best to contact police before 6pm.

There were reports of residents being intimidated by developers which the police expressed interest in following up.

General Business

The Mayor advised that the following initiatives were introduced to Council through a Mayoral Minute.

A Community Planning advocate which would be independent of Council's Planning regulatory network was to be investigated. This job would undertake educative roles on all planning matters (DCPs, LEPs etc.). The job would be assigned to a current officer within Council.

The Chair received a report from the Mayor on a number of improvements to be undertaken: These included the following:

The footpath and curbing in Bronte Rd. adjacent to the beach on the western side is to be undertaken.

The Pedestrian crossing in MacPherson St. on St. Thomas St. corner is to be upgraded with lighting to ensure better visibility of pedestrians for drivers.

The Pedestrian crossing on MacPherson St. is to stay in its current position.

A resident expressed concern over a proposed No Loading Zone in Wallace St. which the residents were not advised about until after it had gone before Council. It was decided to allow the Loading Zone on a trial basis for six months two days a week. Residents will have the opportunity to comment to Council on the merits or otherwise of this change.

Councillor Burrill reported that there was to be a new tree, Tristania Laurina planted at the MacPherson St. lookout.

Street Trees and general Maintenance

It was reported that there were a number of potential trip hazards in the area – one being in Evans St. where the stump had been left after a tree removal and also some plants growing over or adjacent to the footpath contained spines.

Motion 2

Bronte Beach Precinct requests that Council attends to some important maintenance issues in the area due to their possible safety issues exposing residents to trip hazard potential. Proposer John Batts seconder Cathy Davitt. Passed unanimously.

Background The Precinct supports the extension of the Municipality's tree cover to address rising temperatures with climate change.

Motion 3

Bronte Beach Precinct requests that Council produce a Street Tree Beautification Policy in order to review the planting of street trees throughout the Municipality. Proposer Susan Hely seconder John Batts. Passed unanimously

It was also agreed that the Precinct invites Council to address a meeting regarding street tree planting and general plant selection.

The meeting closed at 8.30 pm. Postscript:

The December minutes were passed on the day after the meeting as they had been omitted on the preceding evening. These were proposed by Cathy Davitt and seconded by Ute Geissler and passed unanimously.