

GREATER MANLY RESIDENTS' FORUM – MINUTES

Meeting: 6 February 2017

Venue: Diggers on the Park, Raglan Street, Manly NSW 2095.
Meeting commenced 7:00pm

Attendance 22.

1. Welcome (*Denise Keen*)
2. Acknowledgement of Country (*Libby Bubb*)
3. Nominations and ratification for office bearers and ratify (*Denise Keen*)

Following Office Bearers nominated and ratified (19 for, 3 abstentions)

President:	Denise Keen
Co-President:	Sandy Hudspith
Secretary:	Alison Dodd
Co-Secretary:	Leah McKenzie-Peters
Treasurer:	Libby Bubb
Co-Treasurer:	Tom Peters
Social Media:	Susan Robertson
Co-Social Media:	Awaiting nominee agreement
Strategist:	Lloyd Keen
Promotions:	Gary O'Brien

4. Registration of GMRF with Council and review and agreement for Greater Manly Residents'

Forum Vision (*Denise Keen*)

A draft Vision was registered with Council. Review of this Vision took place and meeting agreed the following Vision (21 for, 1 abstention)

To assist the residents of Greater Manly to safeguard the culture and lifestyle of the area for residents for the foreseeable future. To work with the Northern Beaches Council and the Government of New South Wales to ensure sustainable tourism, maintain, and enhance the area as an ecologically sustainable environment with a lifestyle embracing diversity, tolerance and community engagement for the betterment of all.

5. Review Ivanhoe Park Master Plan and agree response to Council (*Alison Dodd*)
 - Master plan reviewed and discussed. The Forum agreed to the feedback to Council as noted in Attachment 1 herein.

6. Manly Oval and Whistler Street Car Park update (*Lloyd Keen*)

- The cancellation of the Manly Oval Car Park project and the still possible development of the Whistler Street/Library site was discussed.

7. Manly Vale School Development

Presentation by Save Manly Dam Catchment Committee

The Forum strongly object to this development for 4 main reasons:

1. The lack of appropriate community consultation during the original DA
2. The unnecessary loss and compromise of the local environment – expansion of the school can occur without this loss of environment
3. Traffic congestion that will be caused in the narrow quiet residential streets by expanding the school to 1000 students.
4. The impost on parents of students from outer areas, i.e. Manly West, Fairlight, Balgowlah Heights, Balgowlah,; to drive their children to school at Manly Vale. Many parents need to drop their children early to get to work. This additional impost of distance and time (particularly given the traffic that will eventuate from 1000 students in a currently quiet suburban area), will add enormous stress and difficulty for these parents.

The Forum agreed to write a letter to Rob Stokes, Gladys Berejiklian, Brad Hazzard and Tony Abbott outlining objections above.

The Forum agreed to write a letter of support to Dick Persson and Mark Ferguson supporting their stand on their continued objection to this development

The Forum agreed that copies of all letters to be forwarded to in Manly Daily in addition to a letter to the Manly Daily from the Forum plus letter to Manly Daily

(Gary O'Brien to action contact with Manly Daily, Denise Keen and Alison Dodd to action letters)

Save Manly Dam Bushland facebook page to be included in minutes and advertised in any Forum literature. Forum also to advise interested parties that the Committee regularly run walks of the area and details of these walks will be on the facebook page.

<https://www.facebook.com/SaveManlyDamBushland/>

Forum also to advise bike riding and trail running groups (Susan Robertson)

8. Meeting day preference and venue

- Alternative days and venues for the Forum meeting were discussed.
Decision: To continue to meet on the 1st Monday of each month at 7pm at Diggers on the Park.

9. Growing the Forum | Communicating with residents (Susan Robertson)

Following covered:

- Discussion on need to purchase Domain Name and hosting for website
- Facebook page currently up and running

- Currently emailing address list - 268
- Future Newsletter creation and delivery
- Approaches for future sponsorship
- Poster creation for shop windows noticeboards
- Advertising upcoming meetings/issues
 - Candy Bingham website
 - Peninsula living
 - Manly Daily

10. Revision of current Topics | Issues:

On the table:

- Northern Beaches Hospital access from Manly/Seaforth area. Transport to the new Northern Beaches Hospital from Manly, Balgowlah, and Seaforth. Connectivity is the key. What public transport options will be available 24 hours 7 days
- Manly Vale Public School development
- Ivanhoe Park Botanic Garden Master plan (ongoing)
- Tables and benches at Fairlight Beach – waiting for table/bench
- Grahams Reserve

Watch List:

- Manly Oval – protection from development in any form by any entity – ongoing.
- Sydney Water Reservoir site at Fairlight Street (corner Ashley Parade), Fairlight. How this should be developed for the benefit of all.
- Manly Environment Centre – survival under Northern Beaches Council
- Golf Course – under threat from other sports associations (new council)
- Manly Art Gallery – proposed extensions on hold
- Manly Community Centre
- Toilets generally in the area – quality, cleanliness, quantity, safety. Embarrassing.
- Contacts at Northern Beaches Council for forum members – a list noting the appropriate contact for, e.g. place making, street cleaning, and environmental issues.
- Hop skip and jump bus – the future | continuation and equalisation of service?
- Manly Hospital site development for the benefit of the wider community of the Northern Beaches
- Heaton Avenue | proposed closure. The effect on traffic on the broader Manly, Balgowlah, Seaforth areas. Gridlock. (Resolved certain hours only?)
- Manly Cemetery Gardening Group
- Car share
- Revised finances/joint account
- Erosion at Fairlight Beach

11. Thank you and close of meeting

Adjourned 8:38pm

Next meeting:

Monday 6 March 2017 – 7:00 pm. Diggers on the Park.

Greater Manly Residents Forum Meeting 6th February 2016 Ivanhoe Park Master plan

The GMRF thanked Council for the draft master plan.

Thank you for the attention of Council to this project. This is something that the previous Ivanhoe Park Precinct has been after for 26 years and we are hugely thankful that this is now closer to fruition.

Thank you also for the opportunity to comment before this Master plan goes to Public Exhibition. The Master plan was shown and discussed at the Forum Meeting of 6th February and the following points discussed.

Overall aim of the Master plan as seen by the Forum

- Increased use of the gardens by local residents and visitors by:
 - Increasing the 'inviting' nature of the park including increased opportunities for individuals and groups to use the park
 - Better access for wheelchairs and prams
 - Better neighboring visibility and connection to the gardens
- Long-term care and conservation of Ivanhoe Park Botanic Gardens, including the opportunity for income to help make the park self-sustaining

Master plan vs. Plan of Management

Please note there was some discussion of points that might be more relevant to a future Plan of Management rather than this Master plan but the Forum thought worth recording. The Forum looks forward to a Plan of Management in due course.

Parts of the Plan particularly appreciated by the Forum

- Amphitheatre
- Boardwalk
- Wetland Pond
- The six zones (A-F) for use and planting
- Highlighting of Tramway
- Fitness Equipment
- Group seating
- Increase emphasis on entries
- Signage – botanical, fauna, way finding

Opportunities seen by the Forum to Improve Master plan

1. South-Western Entry to the park (Park Avenue)

- Is it possible to incorporate the reserve area behind 2 Birkley Rd (between Sydney Rd and Park Ave) into Ivanhoe Park Botanic Gardens? This would enable 2 important improvements to the Master plan:
 - a. Will enable a large, very visible and inviting entry to the park from Sydney Rd
 - b. Will allow a (fairly flat) footpath from Sydney Rd, beside Park Ave and then along the old tramway that can be easily accessed by wheelchairs and prams. This will facilitate disabled

use and access of the top of the park (particularly important considering the proximity to Wesley Heights).

2. North-Western Entry to the park (Raglan St)

- There is currently 2 entrances and 3 paths in this corner of the park between Raglan St and the end of Park Ave. Could these be incorporated into one wider access point with a more visible and inviting entry?

3. Eastern Entry to the Park (next to grandstand)

- Is it possible to create some recognition of the Park when standing at the Merrick Gate on the corner of Sydney Rd & Belgrave Sts?

4. Accessible Entrance (behind grandstand)

- While the Forum likes the idea of accessible entrance behind the grandstand and raised path through to Park Ave, common-sense says that this raised path will be very expensive and perhaps low on the priority list. More emphasis on the other entrances will be important in the short/medium term.

5. Buildings

- The question was asked 'do we actually need 2 buildings in the park?' (Scout Hall and café) Should the Master plan have an option to or at least explore combining these 2 buildings into one community structure?
- The Forum would like to see any building incorporate space for community groups to meet/run workshops/etc.
- Any building on site to be sunny in winter and shady in summer.
- It was noted some of the new toilet/café buildings going up by architects responding to their 'space' – eastern suburbs/southern – have been getting a lot of design kudos in responding to their environment. The Forum would like to see any buildings in the park follow a similar brief.

6. Fitness Equipment

- Could the Master plan specify that the fitness equipment be more wood, less metal in keeping with the natural environment?
- Could Council explore having the fitness equipment in single file along the tramway leaving the adjacent open grass for possible use for group fitness/yoga/etc. This would also enable space for an access point from Raglan St to be visible.
- Could there be access to water (bubbler) near the fitness equipment?

7. Playground

- More wood, less plastic, a more 'natural' play environment to be encouraged.
- Also thought something for slightly older kids – perhaps table tennis/hand ball – could be incorporated

8. Flat Grass Areas

- Currently there is only one grass area that is flat (adj to Raglan St). Could the Master plan incorporate leveling or terracing a couple of areas to provide more opportunities for picnics/tai-chi/yoga/weddings, etc? Some suggestions on possible areas: The sun-lawn, under the large fig in the rainforest area, below the current Park St entrance (9. Quiet Lawns).

9. Wedding Arbor

- More flat areas would perhaps give weddings more options but a permanent arbor could also be considered. Weddings used to be below the current Park St entrance (9. Quiet Lawns).

10. Seating

- The location and arrangement of seating in the park is of utmost importance to encourage use, particularly group use, of the park.
- Ensuring that seating is in sunny positions in the winter and shady positions in the summer is key.
- Informal group seating – such as sandstone blocks – would be welcome and low maintenance.
- Consultation with regular local users before any seating is installed is crucial.

11. Sculpture Walk

- Would be good to incorporate a ‘sculpture walk’ into the park. Particularly if it could be something like a ‘find and seek’ scenario for children to encourage movement through the park.
- A sculpture design competition for local artists could be part of the promotion for the park.

12. Patron

- The Forum would like to see a local Patron for the park, particularly one with botanical credentials.

13. Friends of Ivanhoe Park

- The forum would like to see the creation of Friends of Ivanhoe Park for:
- Possible gardening assistance
- Future consultation on implementation of Master plan

14. Bins

- Can bins be incorporated into the fencing at the entrances/exits to the park? A plan such as this a balance between practicality (for easy collection) and aesthetics.

15. Toilets/Water

- Access to toilets and water obviously important. Long-term we assume will be incorporated into a building, short-term considerations/options could be considered.

16. Tram

- It is very ‘pie in the sky’ but could the tramway possibly incorporate a restored tram that could be used as an artist in residence space or similar?