

GREATER MANLY RESIDENTS' FORUM – MINUTES

Meeting Wednesday 17 March 2021

Manly Bowling Club (on the Park) Raglan Street, Manly NSW 2095.

Meeting Commencing: 7:00 pm

Welcome – Denise Keen

- Libby Bubb delivered the acknowledgement of Country
- Denise Keen welcomed the attendees back to the first face to face GMRF meeting for 12 months, with a special thanks to Trish Chaney | Community Liaison Coordinator | NBC, for her continued support.

Presentation - Friends of Ivanhoe Park Botanic presenters Lloyd Keen, Liz Howe, Lois Clarke provided the meeting with an update on progress in the park, the various activities held and plans for the future of the Botanic Garden.

Go To: <https://www.friendsivanhoeparkbotanicgarden.com/>

to view their website, find out about the progress made in the garden, future and the activities run by the group.

Treasurer's Report presented by Nick Reid

It is noted there are sufficient funds in the GMRF account for current activities, The meeting was reminded we are fully funded by membership fees and donations with no assistance from NBC, payment of membership fees which are renewable from 1 July 2021 are critical to keep the group viable. Any new members who join prior to 1 July, and members renewing prior to that date will received membership valid up until 30 June 2022.

Northern Beaches Housing Strategy | GMRF Submission

Nick Reid reported on the submission made to NBC providing strong input on issues surrounding the strategy. A link to the Housing Strategy documents appears below.

<https://yoursay.northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au/local-housing-strategy#:~:text=%20Northern%20Beaches%20Local%20Housing%20Strategy%20%2001,possible%20for%20you%20to%20read%20and...%20More%20>

Read the GMRF submission put together by Nick on our website at <http://www.gmrf.com.au/>

GMRF are concerned at what appears to be a very silo approach to the strategy in Council. We are also concerned at the overall approach by State and their expectation of NBC.

ACTION: GMRF to meet with James Griffin, MP for Manly to discuss.

Rate Harmonisation

Nick provided a good overview on rate harmonisation planned for the Northern Beaches Council area. The harmonisation of rates between former Manly, Warringah and Pittwater Council areas will mean a 20% rise in rates over the next four years for the Manly Area. For more information and to calculation what that will mean to you

Go To:

<https://yoursay.northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au/rates-harmonisation>

Lagoon Park Walkway

Nick advised that current works are well underway with 90% complete.

The lighting for the area is still an issue and to be finalised to ensure it has minimal negative impact on residents and wildlife in the area.

Action: Nick will continue to work with Council to achieve the best possible outcome and will keep GMRF updated on progress.

Greening of Manly

Prior to amalgamation the Former Manly Council developed a Greening of Manly Plan. The plan appears to have been overtaken by the urban Forest Strategy to improve the tree canopy of the NBC area. The strategy was put to the Ordinary meeting of Council on 27 March 2018 by Councillor Stuart Sprott and can be viewed at

<https://files.northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au/sites/default/files/documents/meetings/edit-meeting/em-tuesday-27-march-2018/2018190223agenda-ordinarycouncil-20180327.pdf>

The Notice of Motion was passed unanimously by Council, however, there appear to have been no updates on the project since April 2019.

Action: GMRF will continue to follow up with NBC on this issue.

You can also [register your interest for Round 2](#) of free native plants for your backyard program.

Fairlight Reservoir Playground

Gary O'Brien has worked with Council and residents to transform this former building site access area, previously owned by Sydney Water, to a green play area for children. Great progress has been made with more to come. Unfortunately, some people seem to feel this is their personal dumping ground and it is now becoming obvious Council will need to install bollards to stop the destruction of what is now a great green space by a selfish few.

Thank you to Manly Council staff for their work and assistance in this area so far.

Action: Gary will continue to work with NBC to achieve a good outcome for this site.

Fairlight Walkway

Meg Morgan, Gary O'Brien and Richard Stanes are working with NBC to continue to improve the maintenance and replanting of the walkway. A need for better lighting has

been identified. AusGrid have approved the installation which it is hoped will be complete by the end of 2021.

There are plans for a Friends of Fairlight Walkway Association to be formed.

Expressions of interest will be appreciated. Feel free to contact us through our website www.gmrf.com.au contact email and we'll put you in touch with the Fairlight Walk team.

Roseberry Street Balgowlah Traffic Study

Roseberry Street traffic congestion has been an issue of concern for GMRF for over 4 years. Following representations from GMRF, NBC undertook the Roseberry Street Balgowlah Traffic Study which was presented at the Ordinary Council meeting on 27 November 2018. Whilst the pedestrian crossing between Woolworths and Aldi has been installed and is well used, the increase in traffic in the area combined with a massive increase in truck movements, including double bogey trucks reverse parking into the property next to Aldi causes traffic chaos, and severe safety issues for drivers and pedestrians alike.

GMRF continue to press NBC to progress works required in this area, and to ensure that the impact the Northern Beaches Tunnel will have on this already extremely busy traffic area is taken into consideration. Development and works carried out in the Roseberry Street precinct must be well planned and coordinated with the Department of Transport, and all other State bodies involved with planning and building of the Northern Beaches Tunnel. It is also imperative that as this area is to be targeted in the NBC Housing Strategy, all areas withing NBC work together to ensure a comprehensive and connected plan for the area.

Action: GMRF (Denise Keen) to continue to press for representation and consultation with NBC on the Roseberry Street Traffic Strategy.

Manly Art Street Installations

GMRF congratulates NBC on the Street Art program. We suggest residents check out the stunning indigenous artwork created by artist Otis Hope Carey which has been installed on the rooftop lift structure above Whistler Street Carpark. The position was chosen to give a view of the work from many aspects of Manly. When driving down Darley Road, Sydney Road or approaching Manly via ferry, keep an out for this special installation.

The second installation is in the Peninsula Car Park Manly livening up the walls surrounding the lifts on levels 1 and 2. This art was created by artist Claire Foxton. We recommend a trip to view the artworks so see what can be achieved to enliven a drab concrete space.

Information on both artists can be found by googling their names.

NBC Bike Strategy

GMRF provided NBC with a comprehensive submission relating to the NBC Bike Strategy. Thank you to Brian Dunphy for his valuable assistance with this. Also thank you to Nick Reid and Susan Robertson for their valuable input.

181 Allambie Road Development

Remarkably, after being REFUSED by Northern Beaches Council and the Local Planning Panel in 2018 and again in 2020 - a REVIEW of the decision has been granted.

GMRP has once again lodged a submission objecting to the DA and supporting Save Manly Dam Catchment Committee in their valiant efforts to fight back inappropriate and destructive development that continues all around this beautiful area. To find out more about SMDCC go to <https://landcare.nsw.gov.au/groups/mermaid-pool-restoration-project/#:~:text=Save%20Manly%20Dam%20Catchment%20Committee%20%28Return%20of%20the,Pool%20on%20Manly%20Creek%20plus%20its%20bushland%20surrounds.>

East Esplanade anti-social behaviour

This continues to be a nightmare for residents and businesses in Manly. GMRP are astounded that Northern Beaches Council and two of our three Manly Ward Councillors have failed to understand the damage being done to the reputation of Manly, and the mental and physical health of the residents who are forced to live with appalling behaviours and the outrageous cost of this self-indulgent practice.

Rather than encouraging locals to have a quiet drink whilst watching the sunset, by advertising through social media, large groups are drawn from all over the Northern Beaches, Eastern Suburbs and areas much further afield to make this their 'own party central', defying rangers and police who try to deal with the situation.

NBC, at the ordinary meeting 23 February, following presentations from residents imploring the Council to act, resolved to establish a Working Party of key stakeholders to establish strategies and an action plan to help prevent alcohol related anti-social behaviour. At least there appears to be some recognition of the problem. GMRP will continue to monitor the issue.

Former Manly Hospital Site Redevelopment – Report held over until 19 May meeting.

Next Meeting: Wednesday 19 May 2021