



northern
beaches
council

Partnerships & Participation
Strategic Reference Group

MINUTES

PARTNERSHIP AND PARTICIPATION STRATEGIC REFERENCE GROUP

held in the Flannel Flower Room, Civic Centre, Dee Why on

WEDNESDAY 5 MAY 2021

**Minutes of the Partnership and Participation
Strategic Reference Group
held on Wednesday 5 May 2021
in the Flannel Flower Room, Civic Centre, Dee Why
Commencing at 6:00pm**

ATTENDANCE:

Committee Members

Cr Sue Heins (Chair)
Cr Kylie Ferguson
Cr Penny Philpott
Tony Hilliger
Ina Vukic
Antony Biasi
John Buggy
Denice Smith
Jane Meccelli

Surf Life Saving Sydney Northern Beaches Inc
Northside Enterprise

Belrose Open Space Corridor Association

Council Officer Contacts

Melanie Gurney
Andrew Pigott
Robert van den Blink
Michael Spikmans
Jasmine Evans

Executive Manager Library Services
Executive Manager Strategic & Place Planning
Manager Youth & Community Development
Acting Library Service Development Manager
Governance Officer

1.0 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

As a sign of respect, Northern Beaches Council acknowledges the traditional custodians of these lands on which we gather and pays respect to Elders past and present.

2.0 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Cr Regan, David Hope, Myriam Conroy, Chris Fulton and Andrew Grocott.

3.0 DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY AND CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of pecuniary or non-pecuniary conflicts of interest.

4.0 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

4.1 MINUTES OF PARTNERSHIP AND PARTICIPATION STRATEGIC REFERENCE GROUP MEETING HELD 10 FEBRUARY 2021

The Minutes of the Partnership and Participation Strategic Reference Group meeting held 10 February 2021 were confirmed as a true and correct record of the proceedings of that meeting.

5.0 UPDATE ON ACTIONS FROM LAST MEETING

Nil

6.0 AGENDA ITEMS

6.1 NORTHERN BEACHES LOCAL HOUSING STRATEGY

Andrew Pigott, Executive Manager Strategic and Place Planning provided the group with an update on the Northern Beaches Local Housing Strategy (the Strategy). Following community consultation the Strategy has now been adopted by Council and submitted to the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment for approval.

A Pigott gave a presentation on the consultation outcomes, including information about the submissions received, key concerns raised and amendments made to the Strategy.

Some of the discussion points and questions raised by the group were:

- The issues around housing affordability on the Northern Beaches and what Council can do to address that in the Strategy.
- Young people who grew up in the Northern Beaches being priced out of the area.
- Alternative living arrangements such as multigenerational buildings and manor houses could help support families in the area.

- Q.** Does the State Government review historical housing targets and check whether Councils have met those targets when developing new ones?
- A.** No, not for the Northern Beaches.
- Q.** Do State Government housing targets take into consideration the need for open space as well as development?
- A.** Yes, there is a greater emphasis on developing spaces and communities now.
- Q.** How likely is it that the State Government will ask Council to make revisions to the Strategy?
- A.** Unlikely, Council is confident the Strategy will be approved.

Note: A Pigott left the meeting at 6:45pm

6.2 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND ARTS & CREATIVITY GRANT PROGRAMS

Robert van den Blink, Manager Youth and Community Development, presented on Council's Community Development and Creativity grants programs. The presentation provided the group with an overview of the previous grants program and details of the changes intended for the new 2021-22 program.

Suggestions and questions from the group included:

- Publishing examples of successful grant applications on Council's website to help other applicants understand the level of information required and to assist them prepare grant applications.
- Cr Heins requested that the Partnership and Participation SRG members be included in the group of people invited to participate in the judging panel.
- Q.** Regarding eligibility for Arts Grants, could a group of artists, who don't have an ABN or insurance apply for a grant and how?
- A.** They could still be eligible to apply, there are options such as approaching a larger organisation to auspice them. Further information will be provided in the supporting guideline.
- Q.** Are there any restrictions on the size of organisations that can apply for a grant?
- A.** No.

Note: R van den Blink left the meeting at 7:30pm.

6.3 24/7 LIBRARY PILOT

Michael Spikmans, acting Service Development Manager, gave a presentation on the Forestville Library upgrades and 24/7 library pilot. M Spikmans provided the group with an overview of the project and provided examples of 24/7 library models used in other parts of Australia and overseas.

Feedback from the group included:

- Forestville Library is a good location to trial after-hours access as it feels like a safe place due to the parking and good lighting at night. This should be considered if the program is extended to other locations.

- Manly Library was suggested as another site for a 24/7 library.
- Having access to meeting spaces after-hours would be great for book clubs that like to meet at night.
- The community may raise concerns about security and the potential for the library to attract antisocial behaviour if unattended. It was suggested that Police could be involved so they have a presence at the library to deter antisocial behaviour and also provide them with an opportunity to have friendly interactions with the public and be seen as a member of the community.
- An emergency speaker or button could be installed in the library in case there are any after-hours incidents. This is already in the plan for the space.
- A QR code for access could be made available at the after-hours door so members could enter using their phone and not have to carry a card around with them.
- Council could partner with high schools and have a joint library membership so if there are any incidents involving students the issue could be raised with their school.

6.4 SOCIAL SUSTAINABILITY STRATEGY DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

There was no discussion or presentation for this item. The report was provided as an information only update.

7.0 GENERAL BUSINESS

Nil

The meeting concluded at 8:12pm

This is the final page of the Minutes comprising 5 pages numbered 1 to 5 of the Partnership and Participation Strategic Reference Group meeting held on Wednesday 5 May 2021 and confirmed on Wednesday 4 August 2021