



PITTWATER COUNCIL

Agenda

Council Meeting

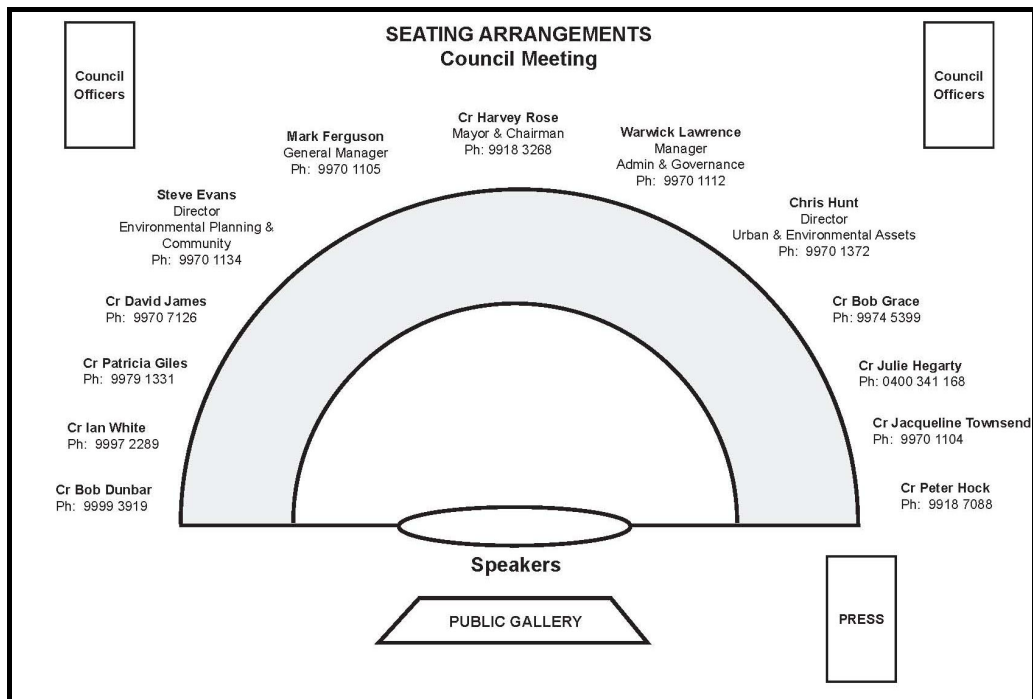
Notice is hereby given that a Council Meeting of Pittwater Council will be held at Mona Vale Memorial Hall on

4 April 2011

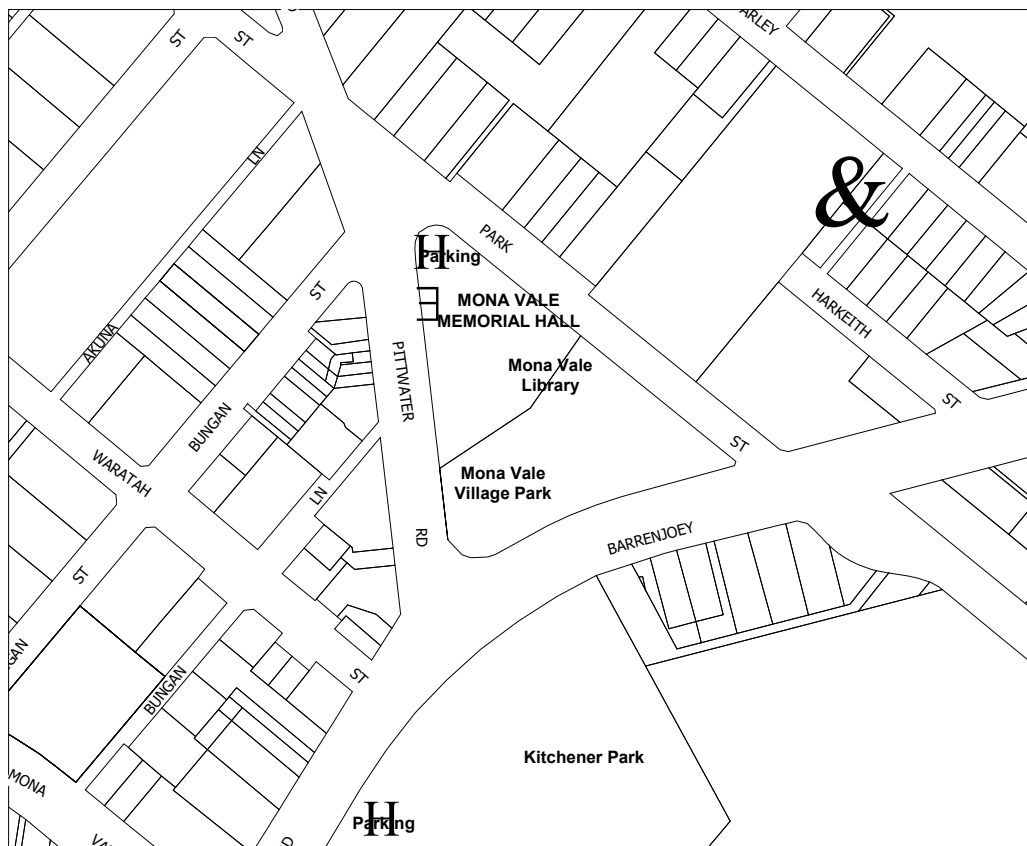
Commencing at 6.30pm for the purpose of considering the items included on the Agenda.

Mark Ferguson
GENERAL MANAGER

Seating Arrangements



Meeting Location



All Pittwater Council's Agenda and Minutes are available on the Pittwater website at www.pittwater.nsw.gov.au

Council Meeting

Acknowledgement of Country

Pittwater Council honours and respects the spirits of the Guringai people.
Council acknowledges their traditional custodianship of the Pittwater area

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**The Senior Management Team
has approved the inclusion of
all reports in this agenda.**

Council Meeting

1.0 Apologies

Apologies must be received and accepted from absent Members and leave of absence from the Council Meeting must be granted.

2.0 Declarations of Pecuniary and Conflict of Interest including any Political Donations and Gifts.

Councillors are advised of the following definitions of a "pecuniary" or "conflict" of interest for their assistance:

* Section 442 of the Local Government Act, 1993 states that a "pecuniary" interest is as follows:

"(1) [Pecuniary interest] A Pecuniary interest is an interest that a person has in a matter because of a reasonable likelihood or expectation of appreciable financial gain or loss to the person or another person with whom the person is associated.

(2) [Remoteness] A person does not have a pecuniary interest in a matter if the interest is so remote or insignificant that it could not reasonably be regarded as likely to influence any decision the person might make in relation to the matter."

Councillors should reference the Local Government Act, 1993 for detailed provisions relating to pecuniary interests.

* Council's Code of Conduct states that a "conflict of interest" exists when you could be influenced, or a reasonable person would perceive that you could be influenced by a personal interest when carrying out your public duty.

Councillors are also reminded of their responsibility to declare any Political donation or Gift in relation to the Local Government & Planning Legislation Amendment (Political Donations) Act 2008.

* A reportable political donation is a donation of:

- \$1,000 or more made to or for the benefit of the party, elected member, group or candidate; or
- \$1,000 or more made by a major political donor to or for the benefit of a party, elected member, group or candidate, or made to the major political donor; or

- Less than \$1,000 if the aggregated total of the donations made by the entity or person to the same party, elected member, group, candidate or person within the same financial year (ending 30 June) is \$1,000 or more.

3.0 Confirmation of Minutes

“Councillors are advised that when the confirmation of minutes is being considered, the only question that can arise is whether they faithfully record the proceedings at the meeting referred to. A member of a council who votes for the confirmation of the minutes does not thereby make himself a party to the resolutions recorded: **Re Lands Allotment Co (1894) 1 Ch 616, 63 LJ Ch 291.**”

Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 21 March 2011.

4.0 Business by Exception (All items on the Agenda)

Items that are dealt with by exception are items where the recommendations contained in the reports in the Agenda are adopted without discussion.

Statement of Respect

Pittwater Council promotes and strives to achieve a climate of respect for all and endeavours to inspire in our community shared civic pride by valuing and protecting our unique environment, both natural and built, for current and future generations.

5.0 Public Addresses

The following guidelines apply to any person addressing a Council / Committee meeting in relation to an item on the Council / Committee meeting agenda:

1. *A member of the public may be granted leave to address a meeting of Council or a Committee, where such a request is received by the General Manager no later than 3.00pm on the day of the meeting. This is subject to:*
 - (a) *A maximum of up to four speakers may address on any one item, with a maximum of two speakers in support of the recommendation in the report, and two speakers in opposition.*
 - (b) *A limitation of three minutes is allowed for any one speaker, with no extensions.*
 - (c) *An objector/s to a development application is to speak first with the applicant always being given the right to reply.*

Exceptions to these requirements may apply where:

- (a) *The Meeting specifically requests that a person be interviewed at a meeting.*
 - (b) *The Meeting resolves that a person be heard at the meeting without having given prior notice to the General Manager*
2. *Once a public/resident speaker has completed their submission and responded to any Councillor questions, they are to return to their seat in the public gallery prior to the formal debate commencing.*
3. *No defamatory or slanderous comments will be permitted. Should a resident make such a comment, their address will be immediately terminated by the Chair of the meeting.*
4. *Council's general meeting procedures apply to Public Addresses, in particular, no insults or inferences of improper behaviour in relation to any other person is permitted.*
5. *Residents are not permitted to use Council's audio visual or computer equipment as part of their address. However, photographs, documents etc may be circulated to Councillors as part of their address.*

6.0 Mayoral Minutes

Nil.

7.0 Council Meeting Business

C7.1 Planning Proposal for 17 & 25-27 Foamcrest Avenue Newport

Meeting: Council

Date: 4 April 2011

STRATEGY: Land Use & Development

ACTION: Provide an effective development assessment and determination process

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To advise Council that SJB Planning (independent planning consultants) has made a recommendation for a public hearing to be held in relation to the Planning Proposal to rezone 17 and 25-27 Foamcrest Avenue, Newport.

1.0 BACKGROUND

- 1.1 Council will be aware of the Planning Proposal to rezone the Council car park sites at 17 and 25-27 Foamcrest Avenue, Newport from Zone 5(a) (SPECIAL USES "A") to 3(a) (GENERAL BUSINESS "A"), and to amend the Multi Unit Housing Map to enable shop top housing on the site.
- 1.2 The original Planning Proposal was submitted to Council by URBIS Pty Ltd on behalf of Fabcot Pty Ltd (a subsidiary of Woolworths Ltd).
- 1.3 Council engaged SJB Planning on 30 July 2009, to undertake the assessment of the Planning Proposal.
- 1.4 A report and Planning Proposal were considered by Council at its meeting on 18 October 2010. The Council resolved the following:
 - *That Council not proceed with the Planning Proposal lodged on behalf of Woolworths as the Proposal is inconsistent with the provisions of the Newport Village Commercial Centre Masterplan.*
 - *That Council reinforce that the Newport Village Commercial Centre Masterplan is the guiding document for future zoning and redevelopment of the subject land and 23 Foamcrest Avenue.*
 - *The Council refer the alternative Planning Proposal, as set out in Attachment 3, to facilitate the rezoning of Council owned land at 17 and 25-27 Foamcrest Avenue, Newport from 5(a) (Special Uses "A") to 3(a) (General Business "A"), to the Director General of Planning for a Gateway Determination.*
 - *That further community consultation be carried out in accordance with any Gateway Determination and that the outcome of the community consultation be reported to Council.*

- *That Council note that endorsement of proceeding with the alternative Planning Proposal in no way fetters the statutory and regulatory responsibilities of the Council under the Environmental Planning & Assessment Act 1979 or Council's obligation to objectively consider the suitability of any future development application on this site, including but not limited to that for the purpose of a supermarket.*
- *That all persons who have made a submission be formally advised of Council's decision.*

1.5 The Planning Proposal was forwarded to the Department of Planning, who issued a Gateway Determination on 9 December 2010.

1.6 The Gateway Determination included a requirement for community consultation in accordance with sections 56(2) and 57 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 (EP&A Act). The consultation was to include a 28 day period in which the Planning Proposal was made publicly available.

1.7 In accordance with the Gateway Determination the Planning Proposal was publicly exhibited from 13 January to 10 February 2011. To date Council has received 537 submissions (as of 8 March 2011).

2.0 ISSUES

2.1 Recommendation for a Public Hearing

2.2 On 9 March 2011 SJB Planning wrote to Council (**Attachment 1**). Having assessed the submissions, they note that at least 45 request or support the call for a public hearing.

2.3 Section 57 of the EP&A Act provides as follows:

"57 Community consultation

- (1) Before consideration is given to the making of a local environmental plan, the relevant planning authority must consult the community in accordance with the community consultation requirements for the proposed instrument.*
- (2) The Planning Proposal (as revised to comply with the determination under section 56 and in a form approved by the Director-General) is to be made publicly available during the period of community consultation. Detailed provisions may be summarised instead of being set out in full if the Director-General is satisfied that the summary provides sufficient details for community consultation.*
- (3) During the period of community consultation, any person may make a written submission to the relevant planning authority concerning the matter (other than any matter that is mandatory under an applicable standard instrument under section 33A).*
- (4) The relevant planning authority may (but need not) make publicly available, in accordance with the community consultation requirements, the submissions made concerning a matter (or a summary of or report on any such submissions).*
- (5) If: (a) a person making a submission so requests, and
(b) the relevant planning authority considers that the issues raised in a submission are of such significance that they should be the subject of a hearing, the relevant planning authority is to arrange a public hearing on the issues raised in the submission.*

- (6) *The relevant planning authority may arrange a public hearing on any issue whether or not a person has made a submission concerning the matter.*
- (7) *A report of any public hearing is to be furnished to the relevant planning authority and may be made publicly available by that authority.*
- (8) *The consultation required by this section is completed when the relevant planning authority has considered any submissions made concerning the proposed instrument and the report of any public hearing.”*

2.4 It is SJB Planning’s recommendation to Council that:

“Given the evident ongoing public interest with the outcome of the Planning Proposal and the requests for a public hearing, SJB Planning recommends that Council, as the relevant planning authority, arrange a public hearing in accordance with section 57(6) of the EP&A Act.”

2.5 **Brief and Terms of References**

2.6 Having noted that some of the requests for a public hearing raise issues not directly concerned with the merits of the Planning Proposal, SJB Planning recommend that if a public hearing is held, it should deal with the merits of the Planning Proposal which is the subject of the Gateway Determination and which was publicly exhibited.

2.7 The public hearing should be undertaken by a person or company independent of the process to date and the stakeholders.

2.8 The Department of Planning advise that where a relevant planning authority decides to conduct a public hearing, it must give notice of the arrangements for the public hearing in a local newspaper and in a letter to each of the persons who requested a public hearing, at least 21 days before the date of the hearing.

2.9 The specific terms of reference for the public hearing would be as follows:

- Conduct a public hearing pursuant to section 57(6) of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* with respect to the Planning Proposal (R0001/09) to amend the *Pittwater Local Environment Plan 1993* to rezone 17 and 25-27 Foamcrest Avenue, Newport from Zone 5(a) (SPECIAL USES “A”) to 3(a) (GENERAL BUSINESS “A”), and to amend the Multi-Unit Housing Map to enable shop-top housing on the site.
- Review the Planning Proposal that was exhibited and given a Gateway Determination and the manner in which this was produced, in the context of issues raised at the public hearing.
- Make recommendations for consideration when Council considers the Planning Proposal.

2.10 It is envisaged that the proposed public hearing will provide for the key stakeholder groups and Council’s consultants to have an allotted time to speak of 30 minutes each. These groups include:

- SJB Planning (independent planning consultants);
- The Newport versus Woolies Community Group;
- The Newport Residents Association;
- The Newport Chamber of Commerce;
- Woolworths Limited;

- Newport business owners; and
- Pittwater Council.

- 2.11 The group of Newport business owners are a recent addition to the key stakeholder groups. They have emerged as a stakeholder group through the consultation process and as such will be afforded the same opportunity to present as other identified stakeholder groups.
- 2.12 The hearing would also cater for a maximum of 30 individual speakers, with a maximum time of 10 minutes each. In relation to the individual speakers, it is proposed that these be organised in accordance with similar principles to those used for Council Meetings, with equal provision for those speaking both for and against the proposal (i.e. 15 speakers for and 15 against). Individuals wishing to speak would have to register their interest with Council staff, and spaces would be allotted on a first served basis.
- 2.13 SJB Planning recommend that upon the completion of the public hearing that a report be prepared by the person responsible for undertaking the hearing and that the report be provided to Council in accordance with section 57(7) of the EP&A Act and that such report be made publicly available.
- 2.14 It is envisaged that, upon receipt and review of the public hearing report, SJB Planning would proceed to finalise a report to Council with respect to the submissions, the public hearing findings and the merits of the Planning Proposal.
- 2.15 When a date for the public hearing is set, 21 days notice will be given to all persons/groups that made submissions on the proposal. It is envisaged that the public hearing will be held in early May 2011.

3.0 SUSTAINABILITY ASSESSMENT

3.1 Supporting & Connecting our Community (Social)

- 3.1.1 Having considered the high level of community interest in the Planning Proposal, SJB Planning has recommended a public hearing be held in relation to the merits of the proposed rezoning.

3.2 Valuing & Caring for our Natural Environment (Environmental)

- 3.2.1 The recommended public hearing would give further opportunity for concerns regarding the environmental impacts of the proposed rezoning to be considered.

3.3 Enhancing our Working & Learning (Economic)

- 3.3.1 The recommended public hearing would give further opportunity for issues raised in submissions in relation to the economic impacts of the proposed rezoning to be considered.

3.4 Leading an Effective & Collaborative Council (Governance)

- 3.4.1 Having regard for issues of probity arising from Council's conflicting roles as an assessment authority, as a current land owner, and as the future owner of stratum on the site, an Assessment Protocol was developed by O'Connor Marsden & Associates. In accordance with the Protocol, Pittwater Council engaged an independent planning consultant to undertake the assessment of the Planning Proposal.

3.5 Integrating our Built Environment (Infrastructure)

- 3.5.1 The recommended public hearing would give further opportunity for potential built environmental impacts to be considered in relation to the proposed rezoning.

4.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 4.1 SJB Planning submitted a final assessment report and an alternative Planning Proposal, which were considered by Council at its meeting on 18 October 2010.
- 4.2 The Council resolved to forward the Planning Proposal to the Department of Planning for a Gateway Determination.
- 4.3 The Department of Planning, issued a Gateway Determination on 9 December 2010, which included a requirement for community consultation. The consultation was to include a 28 day period in which the Planning Proposal was made publicly available.
- 4.4 The Planning Proposal was publicly exhibited from 13 January to 10 February 2011.
- 4.5 Council received 537 submissions (as of 8 March 2011).
- 4.6 Having assessed the submissions, SJB Planning wrote to Council (**Attachment 1**) on 9 March 2011 recommending that Council, as the relevant planning authority, arrange a public hearing in accordance with section 57(6) of the EP&A Act.
- 4.7 The public hearing should be undertaken by a person or company independent of the process to date and the stakeholders.

RECOMMENDATION

1. That a public hearing be conducted in accordance with Section 57(6) of the EP&A Act be conducted and that public notice of 21 days be provided.
2. That a suitably qualified person or company, independent of the process to date, be appointed to facilitate a public hearing into the merits of the Planning Proposal.

Report prepared by
Monique Tite, Senior Strategic Planner

Lindsay Dyce
MANAGER - PLANNING AND ASSESSMENT

SJB Planning



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9 March 2011

Re: Newport Planning Proposal – Planning Proposal R001/09 for 17-19 and 25-27 Foamcrest Avenue, Newport

sjb.com.au
planning@sjb.com.au

Dear Andrew

I write with regard to the above Planning Proposal.

As you are aware the Department of Planning issued a Gateway Determination on 9 December 2010 with regard to the Planning Proposal (R001/09) for 17-19 and 25-27 Foamcrest Avenue, Newport.

The Gateway determination included a requirement for community consultation in accordance with sections 56(2) and 57 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 (EP&A Act)*. The consultation was to include a 28 day period in which the Planning Proposal was to be made publicly available.

That period extended from 13 January 2011 to 10 February 2011 and Council has received 537 submissions (as of 8 March 2011).

We note that condition 4 of the Gateway Determination outlined that the Department of Planning did not require the Council to undertake a public hearing in accordance with section 56(2)(e) of the *EP&A Act*.

SJB Planning has reviewed the submissions received to date with respect to the formal public exhibition period and recognises the public interest in the Planning Proposal.

Specifically, we note the following:

- Although not required by legislation, preliminary non-statutory notification and community consultation was undertaken with respect to the original Planning Proposal (prepared by Urbis Pty Ltd on behalf of Fabco Pty Ltd which is a subsidiary of Woolworths Ltd.) for the site in accordance with Council's Community Engagement Policy;
- The original Planning Proposal was advertised between 7 September 2009 and 9 October 2009 with 1343 submissions received (with one of the submissions having a petition attached with 2018 signatures);
- Upon amendment of the original proposal the application was re-advertised (a second non-statutory notification period) between 28 April 2010 and 28 May 2010 with 1231 submissions received.
- In total 2574 submissions were received (not including signatories to petitions) during the non-statutory notification of the original Planning Proposal.



- The 'alternative' Planning Proposal forwarded by Council to the Department of Planning on 25 October 2010, and subject of the Gateway Determination by the Department of Planning on 9 December 2010 (Department Ref: PP_2010_PITTW_004_00), was publicly exhibited from 13 January 2011 to 10 February 2011. This exhibition was a statutory requirement in accordance with the Gateway Determination and the provisions of section 56(2) and 57 of the EP&A Act.
- To date 537 submissions have been received with respect to the statutory exhibition of the Planning Proposal (approximately 440 are in 'pro-forma' style).
- At least 45 of the submissions request or support the call for a public hearing.

In accordance with section 57 of the EP&A Act Council may arrange a public hearing if, as the relevant planning authority (RPA), it so chooses. The provisions of section 57 are detailed below:

"57 Community consultation

- (1) Before consideration is given to the making of a local environmental plan, the relevant planning authority must consult the community in accordance with the community consultation requirements for the proposed instrument.*
- (2) The planning proposal (as revised to comply with the determination under section 56 and in a form approved by the Director-General) is to be made publicly available during the period of community consultation. Detailed provisions may be summarised instead of being set out in full if the Director-General is satisfied that the summary provides sufficient details for community consultation.*
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- (6) The relevant planning authority may arrange a public hearing on any issue whether or not a person has made a submission concerning the matter.*
- (7) A report of any public hearing is to be furnished to the relevant planning authority and may be made publicly available by that authority.*
- (8) The consultation required by this section is completed when the relevant planning authority has considered any submissions made concerning the proposed instrument and the report of any public hearing."*

Given the evident ongoing public interest with the outcome of the Planning Proposal and the requests for a public hearing, SJB Planning recommends that Council, as the relevant planning authority, arrange a public hearing in accordance with section 57(6) of the EP&A Act.

We note that some of the requests for a public hearing within the submissions raise issues not directly concerned with the merits of the planning proposal. We recommend that the hearing deal



with the merits of the Planning Proposal which is the subject of the Gateway Determination and which was publicly exhibited.

We note that the public hearing would be required to be undertaken by a person or company independent of the process to date and the stakeholders.

We recommend that upon the completion of the public hearing that a report be prepared by the person responsible for undertaking the hearing and that the report be provided to Council in accordance with section 57(7) of the EP&A Act and that such report be made publicly available.

It is envisaged that, upon receipt and review of the public hearing report, SJB Planning would proceed to finalise a report to Council with respect to the submissions, the public hearing findings and the merits of the Planning Proposal.

If you have any questions regarding the above matters please do not hesitate to contact Stuart Gordon or me.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Stuart McDonald'.

Stuart McDonald
Director

Community, Recreation and Economic Development Committee

**8.0 Community, Recreation and Economic Development
Committee Business**

C8.1 Council consideration of Aquatic Facility Development - Market Demand and Cost of Provision

Meeting: Community, Recreation & Economic Development Committee

Date: 4 April 2011

STRATEGY: Recreational Management

ACTION: Investigate the possibility of an aquatic centre

PURPOSE OF REPORT

For Council to consider a report prepared on the possible development of an aquatic facility in Pittwater, the market demand and cost of provision.

1.0 BACKGROUND

- 1.1 Over the years, Council has received a number of requests from members of the public/residents for Council to develop an aquatic facility in the locality.
- 1.2 Some ten years ago, Council developed an Expression of Interest (EoI) for establishment of an aquatic facility to be built at Pittwater Rugby Park. The EoI was for a BOOT (Build Own Operate Transfer) arrangement utilising Council's land but funding for the scheme by a private operator. Whilst two submissions were received and negotiated, no outcome was advanced.
- 1.3 Council currently manages a vast array of aquatic facilities and services generally based around its beaches and the Pittwater estuary. These include rock pools, surf clubs (nippers), lifeguard services and the like.
- 1.4 Requests to Council have generally been for an all weather facility that could also be utilised in the colder winter months.
- 1.5 The adopted 2010/2011 Operational Plan has an action to 'Investigate the possibility of an Aquatic Centre'.

2.0 ISSUES

2.1 The Study

- A brief was prepared outlining Council's desire to investigate current market demand for such a facility, current provision and possible scenarios and associated construction and running costs.
- Sport and Leisure Solutions was selected based on cost and previous experience with the completion of like studies.
- The objectives of the study were:
 - 76% of Pittwater residents used beaches in the past 12 months (Survey of Community Attitudes, Minter Research, April 1994).

- Swimming at the beach is the favourite leisure activity of Pittwater residents, (Recreation Needs Study, June 1994)
- Beaches and shorelines are the most preferred recreational setting of Pittwater residents (mentioned in the Pittwater Open Space and Recreation Plan, July 1997).

2.2 Study Overview

- In relation to market strengths and weaknesses in Pittwater, the study found:
 - A high income level and highly mobile resident population.
 - The age profile of the catchment shows a higher percentage of children in the 5-17 age group than the Sydney statistical average. This correlates with a demographic that are the most active users of learn to swim programs.
 - Projected growth in population within the Warriewood/Ingleside growth area will enhance future viability.
- The predominant weakness is the elongated spread of the population along the peninsula which makes travel time to a central facility longer than desirable.
- Higher population of older adults who are emerging as a new user group of aquatic facilities (given their use of outdoor pools is low).
- Higher than average number of children in 5-11/12-17 age bracket which creates a high level of demand for learn to swim programs.
- Higher than average household income that could enhance participation in swim activities.
- Higher than average car ownership that assists access but would require any facility to contain extensive carparking.
- Projected significant population increases in the Warriewood Valley/Ingleside area.

2.3 Opportunities for Increased Aquatic Service Provision

- Whilst ocean pools provide a resource, issues of inclement weather and ocean cycles restrict their use especially for older or younger residents.
- Distance to Warringah Aquatic Centre/Manly Swim Centre discourages use by Pittwater residents.
- There appears to be a gap in the learn to swim market. Higher than average enrolments at local primary schools would provide favourable conditions for a learn to swim program.
- Children attending nippers result in higher than normal enrolments in swim classes.
- Limited access to hydrotherapy pools in the locality.

2.4 Benchmarking Outcomes

- A number of existing aquatic centres were investigated in relation to facilities offered and operating costs. Generally most older facilities were developed around a traditional aquatic focus on lap swimming. Most councils now recognise the need to create facilities with a more diverse service offer including facilities for older adults, water play areas and warm water programs.
- Whilst a number of the aquatic centres register an operating surplus, when including maintenance and capital costs, most facilities would incur significant losses up to \$750,000 per annum.
- Aquatic and leisure facilities have been provided in populations similar or smaller than Pittwater.
- The smaller Pittwater population will make it difficult for any proposed centre to deliver viable operating performance.

2.5 Land Available for Aquatic Centre Development

- The single biggest issue relative to the development of an aquatic facility in Pittwater is the availability of actual land for development. A typical aquatic facility suitable for Pittwater's needs would be sized around 4,000-5,000m² which if valued at residential rates could equate to \$1.65 million (current residential land rate in Warriewood Valley \$330m²). Such a cost would be a major consideration in any financial analysis of the development of an aquatic facility.
- Opportunities for Council to provide land are minimal with possible sites located around Pittwater Park and Boondah Road. Each of these sites has current uses which would need to be considered.
- It is generally accepted that if an aquatic facility were to be considered, it would need to be located in the south of the locality to maximise access for entire locality/precinct and to accommodate incoming population in the Warriewood/Ingleside area.
- The study recommended that if public land was to be utilised for the proposal, then sites in Boondah Reserve (on Jacksons Road, west of Boondah Road), North Narrabeen Reserve (Pony Club area) or Jacksons Road (south side in front of NBISC) should be further investigated.

2.6 Preferred Option/Capital Cost

- The ideal make-up of any proposed aquatic facility would need to include:
 - Indoor 25m pool
 - 15 x 10m program pool
 - Waterplay area
 - Café
 - Gym
 - Group fitness room
 - Crèche
- Whilst this make-up would be ideal, there are many variations of this that can be investigated based on set up cost and long term maintenance.

- A number of options/development scenarios have been included in the report. These are shown in the table below.
- Costs for the development of an indicative aquatic facility would be:

Facility	Components	Total Area (m ²)	Capital Cost	Average Cost pa Op. Sub. + Dep.
Aquatic Leisure Centre	Indoor 25m pool 15 x 10m program pool Water play area Café Gym (400m ²) Group fitness room Crèche	4,000 + carparking	\$20 million	\$811,074
50m Outdoor Pool	Outdoor pool 50m Amenities building Reception/kiosk	2,000 + carparking	\$7 million	\$684,833
Indoor program pool and outdoor pool	Indoor – 15 x 10m pool Outdoor – 25m pool Amenities building Reception/kiosk	2,500 + carparking	\$11 million	\$664,549

In terms of the additional options, the “indoor program pool and outdoor 25m pool” option would better meet the needs of the community. In particular the program pool is designed to meet the needs of hydrotherapy clients and also a learn to swim program. The outdoor pool could be used for lap swimmers and training programs.

However these facilities, whilst improving aquatic service provision within Pittwater, would not achieve the same community benefit when compared to the proposed indoor aquatic and leisure facility.

For instance, the use of outdoor facilities drops off significantly in winter compared with indoor facilities. Use by children and older adults during the winter months declines significantly.

3.0 SUSTAINABILITY ASSESSMENT

3.1 Supporting & Connecting our Community (Social)

- 3.1.1 Any new proposed aquatic facility will enhance social interaction throughout the community through the activity of swimming.

3.2 Valuing & Caring for our Natural Environment (Environmental)

- 3.2.1 Any proposed facility would be subject to internal environmental audits to ensure there are no impacts on the natural environment.

3.3 Enhancing our Working & Learning (Economic)

- 3.3.1 Such a facility would enhance recreational activities in the locality and assist in work/life balances through exercise and social gathering.

3.4 **Leading an Effective & Collaborative Council (Governance)**

- 3.4.1 Any process to develop such a facility would be based on competitive tendering processes and ultimate audit processes.

3.5 **Integrating our Built Environment (Infrastructure)**

- 3.5.1 Any proposed facility would be designed to blend with the surrounding environment through facility design, landscape and the like.

4.0 **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

- 4.1 Council already allocates significant funding (almost \$2 million annually) to the ongoing support and management of aquatic based facilities and activities within Pittwater.
- 4.2 There are markets that would utilise any proposed aquatic centre, predominantly the "learn to swim" group and hydrotherapy for elderly residents.
- 4.3 Any proposed facility would need to be located in the southern area of the locality to better utilise surrounding markets and make the centre more economically viable.
- 4.4 Provision of land for any facility will also be an issue to be resolved. Pittwater Park may offer opportunities but need to be resolved through a revised Plan of Management and stakeholders consultation.
- 4.5 The initial capital outlay plus depreciation and running cost of any facility will be substantial. Council can build a smaller facility which would cost less to build (smaller capital cost) but would be less commercially viable and have a larger running cost.

RECOMMENDATION

1. That Council consider the contents of this report in conjunction with Councils long term financial plan.
2. That Council endorse the recommendation of the consultant noting that the recommendation is:

"That Council should not consider the development of an indoor aquatic centre until at least the end of the 2017 financial year."
3. That it be noted that the report recommends that any future aquatic facility be located in the southern area of Pittwater.

Report prepared by
Mark Eriksson – Principal Officer – Landscape Architect

Les Munn
MANAGER, RESERVES, RECREATION & BUILDING SERVICES

C8.2 Pittwater's Most Scenic Streets Register

Meeting: Community, Recreation & Economic
Development Committee

Date: 4 April 2011

STRATEGY: Transport & Traffic

ACTION: Provide Planning, Design, Investigation and Management of Road Reserves.

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To recommend the exhibition of promotional material 'Nominations for Pittwater's Most Scenic Streets' (refer **Attachment 1**).

1.0 BACKGROUND

- 1.1 Council at its meetings of 3 November 2008 considered a Mayoral Minute – Pittwater Streetscapes and resolved as follows:

"That the General Manager report on the preparation of a register of iconic streetscapes within Pittwater to encourage the retention of these important attributes. The report is to include details of funding the creation of the Register and is to be considered for inclusion in the 2009 Management Plan."

Further reports regarding this project were presented to Council on 16 March 2009 and 15 November 2010. The third dot point in the motion of 15 November related to the determination of tree values on public land. This issue needs to consider legal and planning issues. Whilst the scheme has been utilised by local government authorities, for example in Victoria, the legal and planning processes in NSW may have different issues. Council staff are currently investigating such issues and will report back to Council in the coming months.

- 1.2 *"The desirability for Council to maintain an Iconic Streetscape Register originates from concerns by local community groups that inappropriate landscaping on public road reserves was blocking out scenic (iconic) views previously available to the public from the public road/footpaths (especially in Palm Beach)".* (Briefing Paper June 2010)
- 1.3 The preparation of a 'Register of Iconic Streetscapes within Pittwater' has been included as an Action Item in Pittwater Council Management Plan, 2009-2013. Actions included in the Plan are allocated funding as part of Council's Operational/Capital Budget for the appropriate year. The estimated cost to undertake this project is approximately \$20,000 for administration. Additional funding will be required for associated works to reinforce the identified characteristics of local streets.

2.0 ISSUES

- 2.1 It is intended to initiate the project by asking the community to nominate Pittwater's most scenic streets. It is felt that an inventory of scenic streets would produce a more holistic list than iconic streets. This is because the word 'iconic' could place the focus on coastal views, whereas Pittwater's natural environment is rich and varied.

Further, it is anticipated that the project could provide a valuable tool to develop street beautification programs, particularly through tree planting.

- 2.2 The promotional material provides the background, process and guidelines. Refer to Attachment 1 'Nominations for Pittwater's Most Scenic Streets'.
- 2.3 The objective is to produce a short list of the very best streets. Therefore nominations are restricted to three categories: vegetation, views and/or a common theme. The categories have been selected to highlight and conserve the visual and scenic features of the area which stems from the rugged topography, vast bodies of water and vegetated hills. Overlaying the natural environment are historical and cultural layers which represent the local culture and define Pittwater's sense of place.
- 2.4 Guidelines are provided for each category to restrict the register to a short list of the best streets. It is anticipated that residents may wish to use this project to secure views from their properties. Considering the large number of properties with views, this could create unreasonable expectations to clear vegetation which would alter the local landscape character. Any clearing for views must be for the net public benefit and retain the integrity of the street.
- 2.5 It is proposed that the promotional material be exhibited for six (6) weeks. The material will be displayed at Council's libraries, customer service centres and website as well as being advertised in local newspapers.
- 2.6 The community will be asked to provide a description and photo of the nominated street and this material will be exhibited on the Pittwater Council website. The material could form a permanent display that showcases the best streets.
- 2.7 Following the exhibition period, a multidisciplinary team will investigate the nominated streets and compile the draft register. The draft register will be presented to the Planning an Integrated Built Environment Reference Group and the Natural Environment Reference Group before being presented to Council. Residents will be notified of the selected streets and invited to attend the Council meeting.
- 2.8 Following adoption of the register, a Streets Policy / Design Code will be developed. The Policy will aim to:
 - develop a management strategy for the streets listed in the register;
 - establish a streetcare program to assist residents improve their streets; and
 - develop landscaping guidelines that will reinforce Pittwater's identity, particularly for key locations such as the LGA gateways and arterial roads.

It is intended that the register be updated as required.

3.0 SUSTAINABILITY ASSESSMENT

3.1 Supporting & Connecting our Community (Social)

- 3.1.1 It is anticipated that the project will encourage the community to work together in improving their streetscapes.

3.2 Valuing & Caring for our Natural Environment (Environmental)

- 3.2.1 The preparation of the register would allow Council to more effectively preserve Pittwater's natural environment.

3.3 Enhancing our Working & Learning (Economic)

- 3.3.1 The proposed Policy will provide residents with the tools to create quality streetscapes that are consistent for the length of the street.

3.4 Leading an Effective & Collaborative Council (Governance)

- 3.4.1 The project will provide the community with the opportunity to nominate the most significant streets.

3.5 Integrating our Built environment (Infrastructure)

- 3.5.1 Application of the register will assist Council to preserve and enhance the amenity of road reserves and integrate vegetation on streets with that on adjacent properties.

4.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 4.1 A draft register of Pittwater's Most Scenic Streets is being developed. The community will be invited to nominate streets for inclusion in the register. The promotional material for this project is attached; refer to Attachment 1 'Nominations for Pittwater's Most Significant Streets'.
- 4.2 The objective is to produce a short list of the very best streets. Therefore nominations are restricted to three categories; vegetation, views and/or a common theme. A set of criteria is provided for each category to further restrict the register to the best streets.
- 4.3 It is proposed that the project be exhibited for six (6) weeks. A draft register will be developed and presented to the SMT upon completion. The draft register will be presented to Council for adoption and residents notified of the selected streets and invited to attend the Council meeting.
- 4.4 Following adoption of the register, a Streets Policy / Design Code will be developed which will guide street design into the future, particularly key streets including LGA gateways and arterial roads.

RECOMMENDATION

1. That the promotional material, Nominations for Pittwater's Most Scenic Streets (**see Attachment 1**) be placed on public exhibition for six (6) weeks.
2. That following the exhibition period, a list of streets be compiled and the draft register presented to Council for consideration of adoption.

Report prepared by
Jenny Cronan – Landscape Architect

Les Munn
MANAGER, RESERVES, RECREATION & BUILDING SERVICES

Nominations for Pittwater's Most Scenic Streets Register

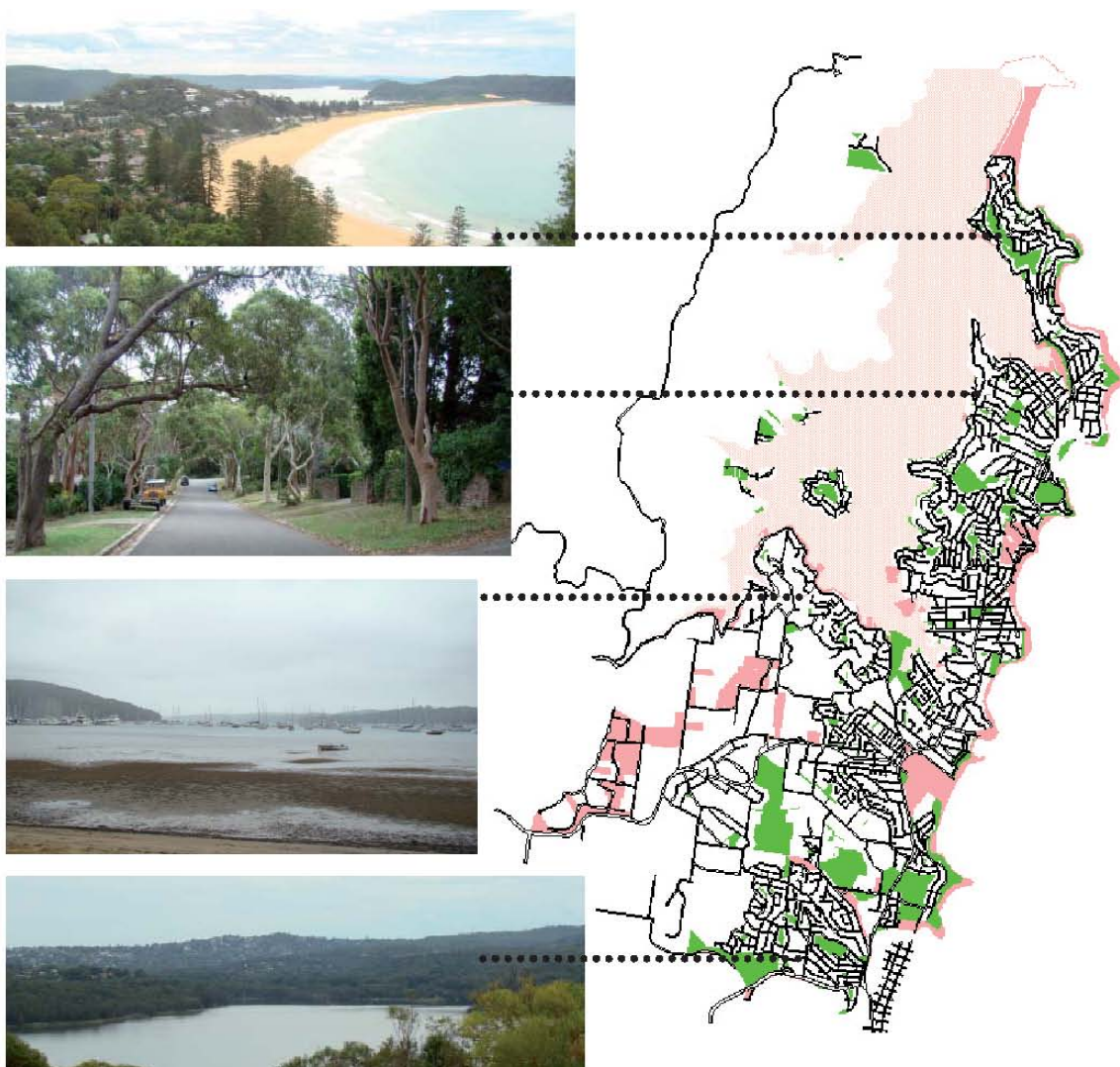
Introduction

Streets contribute to essential public infrastructure and represent a large percentage of the public realm providing environmental, visual and social amenity to the community.

This document provides guidelines that will help Council produce a register of Pittwater's most scenic streets. The register is intended to identify streets that contain outstanding qualities and best represent the local character.

It is anticipated that this project will improve the quality of Pittwater's streets and form the basis for developing a street policy / street design code.

As part of the process Pittwater Council is inviting nominations from the community to select Pittwater's most scenic streets.



What are the qualities of a great street?

Allan Jacobs defines great streets as:

*Great streets are markedly superior in character or quality. They are symbols of a community and of its history; they represent a public memory . . . they leave strong, long continuing positive impressions.*¹

Great streets are defined by a unique character that arises from the location or setting, they often have an overlay of cultural or heritage significance and their qualities can be recognised by the wider community.

Pittwater's visual and scenic amenity stems from its rugged topography, vast bodies of water and vegetated hillsides. The landform is varied and includes dune systems, headlands and cliffs, tidal mud flats and estuaries, escarpments, plateaus, valleys, sheltered gullies, an island and a tombolo. The best streets in the Pittwater local government area will generally have one or more of the following qualities: water or regional views, street trees or vegetation, and a common theme. The qualities will showcase the natural environment and/or the built environment.

1. Jacobs, A. B. Great Streets, 2001 edn, MIT Press, Massachusetts, USA.

Note: Allan Jacobs is Professor, Department of City and Regional Planning, University of California, Berkeley, USA.



The Outlook at Avalon has a unique character that arises from the continuity of its forest setting.



This road reserve lacks the scenic qualities of The Outlook because the tree species are not indigenous to the local area and the trees are not consistent for the length of the street.



Nomination process

The community is invited to nominate Pittwater's most scenic streets.

To be nominated, the street must have a 'wow' factor!

Nominations are restricted to road reserves / public roads where the identified quality:

- dominates the street
- is of benefit to the wider public

Please note views from private properties will not be considered.

How decisions will be made

A multidisciplinary team will assess the nominated streets. The list will be reported to Council. Streets for inclusion in the register will represent the best examples for each category (or combined categories) based on the selection criteria. The categories include 'vegetation', 'views' and 'common themes'. Details are outlined on pages 6, 7 and 8.

How to make a submission

Nominations should quote "Nominations – Pittwater's Most Scenic Streets" and be made in writing by **5pm, Friday 20 May, 2011**

Please highlight the category that you are nominating for. Please include a photograph and a written description of the street highlighting its qualities.

A nomination form is available online and at Council's customer service centres.

Address correspondence to:

The General Manager
Pittwater Council
P O Box 882
Mona Vale NSW 1660

Alternatively email: pittwater_council@pittwater.nsw.gov.au

More Information

For more information, please contact:

Jenny Cronan
Landscape Architect
Telephone: 9970 1357
Email: pittwater_council@pittwater.nsw.gov.au

In the interests of public transparency please note that your submission in its entirety will be made available to the general public or other interested persons on request. Submissions may also be exhibited on the Council website.

Category – Vegetation

Vegetation and/or street trees provide environmental quality, enhance visual and physical amenity and reinforce local identity and character.

This category includes native plants and cultural plantings. The success of the vegetation type generally depends on how well it relates to its context; both the natural and built environment, and how it impacts on the streetscape.

Native plants should be local indigenous species or species representative of an ecological endangered community. These species will increase biodiversity and help form habitat corridors to support native fauna.

Cultural plantings should express the ideals of a community during the development of the area. The early subdivisions occurred along the coastal strip in the aftermath of the horrors of World War 1. Remnants of early developments are evident at Palm Beach where many holiday homes were built by people seeking to create a utopia linked to the emerging beach culture and the landscape image of a Pacific Island paradise.

Selection Criteria

Nominations in this category need to consider the following criteria:

- Trees or vegetation must characterise the length of the street or be visually dominant.
- Adjoining properties will generally contain complementary plant species.
- Plantings will maximise the effectiveness of road verges and medium strips.

Formal plantings

Ideally, an 'avenue' of trees will be a single species, spaced reasonably close together to produce a repetition of trunks and continuous canopy cover. Formal plantings may be non-indigenous or indigenous plants.

Informal plantings

Ideally, informal plantings will be remnant vegetation.



The avenue of Norfolk Island Pines (*Aracaria heterophylla*) at Ocean Road, Palm Beach is an example of a formal planting. The trees were planted in the early twentieth century and are culturally important.



An example of a visually significant street with informal plantings is Woorarra Avenue, North Narrabeen. Local indigenous trees dominate the street. Species include *Eucalyptus piniculata*, *E. piperita*, *E. punctata* and *Angophora costata*.

Category - Views

This category considers views of the ocean, estuary, lagoon, local context and/or distant hills and geological features.

The peninsula's rugged topography provides the local area with outstanding water views from many of the streets. Filtered views of the estuary are available through the Spotted Gum Forest from many of the streets on the western slopes. The filtered views are due to the transparency of the canopy and the low, wispy understory.

In contrast, the coastal vegetation is dominated by heathland and Casuarinas which are dense and in some locations have grown tall enough to block views of the ocean from nearby streets and coastal reserves.

It is intended that the register identify a number of key locations with the very best ocean views and to protect and enhance the views through vegetation management practices.

Selection Criteria

Nominations in this category need to consider the following criteria:

- Views will be available from key points along the majority of the length of the street.
- Ocean views will be restricted to prime views from road reserves for the net public benefit.
- Ocean views will be panoramic - represent a continuous scene - 180° plus.
- Vistas will be considered in certain circumstances such as a series of vistas from a long winding road or through an adjacent park or reserve.
- Views of Pittwater Estuary will be filtered through the eucalypt canopy.



Dense coastal vegetation has blocked views from neighbouring streets.



Views of Pittwater Estuary through the Eucalypt canopy.



Narrabeen Lagoon as viewed from Woorarra Avenue. Views are consistent at intervals along the street. The streetscape is enhanced with remnant vegetation.



Category - Common themes

Themes are related to the design of the street and its natural and built elements.

Themes consider the borrowed landscape, namely how the street fits with the local context and its backdrop.

Themes are generally expressed through the selection and consistent use of distinctive materials and elements.

Themes reinforce the sense of place and local identity by unifying the streetscape and providing interest and amenity.

Themes consider the overall physical qualities of the street combined with distinctive elements.

In some cases, the street may be an exciting place due to a particular activity or 'vibe'.

Selection Criteria

Nominations in this category need to consider the following criteria:

- The theme must dominate the streetscape and preferably be consistent for the length of the street.
- Each element will mesh harmoniously with other aspects of the streetscape such as buildings, fences, driveways, gates and adjoining gardens.
- Buildings or structures will be considered where there is uniform scale, design type and construction and the materials palette reinforces the local identity or sense of place.
- Outstanding features may include stonework or grassed verges with no curb and gutter. There may be soft or strong light, and interesting shadows and textures.
- Unique topography or a natural feature will be considered.



Ruskin Rowe at Avalon is an example of a street that demonstrates a number of common themes. The nature strip is informal being wide and without curb and gutters and the property setbacks are deep. The public domain and the private domain relate well to each other and the street has a unique 'feel'.



Proposed Street Policy / Design Code

Following the compilation of the register, a Street Policy / Design Code will be developed. The policy will aim to:

1. Develop a management strategy for the streets contained in the register in order to conserve the identified characteristics of the streets. It is intended that the streets be managed such that:
 - developments for properties adjoining streets in the register will be assessed for any impact on the identified qualities of the road reserve;
 - vegetation management plans for parks and reserves will be developed to retain existing views;
 - guidelines will be provided for the maintenance of street trees and vegetation including activities that block views or access, particularly exotic hedging; and
 - guidelines will be provided for the provision and management of infrastructure.
2. Establish a streetcare program; similar to the existing bushcare program for parks and reserves, this program will assist residents to improve the qualities of their streets. Council will provide technical assistance.
3. Develop landscaping guidelines that will reinforce Pittwater's character at key streets, particularly areas with the most impact such as entry points to the LGA and arterial roads. Arterial roads are used by local residents on a regular basis and showcase the area to visitors. Arterial roads include Barrenjoey Road, Pittwater Road, Mona Vale Road and the Wakehurst Parkway.

How the Register and its Use Relates to Existing Documents

The streets on the register, and the above documents will not override the following existing documents:

- **Section 139 Consent (Roads Act, 1993)** - any work within the road reserve requires consent from Council. When construction in the road reserve is proposed, a Section 139 Consent must be obtained from Council.
- **Local Environmental Plan (LEP)** - a legal document that controls land use and development at the Council level including allowable land uses and restrictions on developments. Heritage items will continue to be managed in accordance with the LEP.
- **Plans of Management for parks and reserves** - provide an approved strategy for the long-term development and maintenance of a park, recreation or bushland reserve. The Plan generally includes an analysis, list of issues to be addressed and future permissible uses.

Glossary

Endangered Ecological Community (EEC) – plant communities under threat from a range of activities. EEC's are listed under Schedule 1 of the NSW Threatened Species Conservation Act, 1995.

Local indigenous species – plants that naturally occur in a very specific location. The plants have adapted to the conditions of the location over a long period of time – including climate, soil, availability of water and aspect.

Road reserve – includes the area from boundary to boundary including the roadway, road verge, nature strip and footpath.

Setback – distance from the property boundary / front fence to the dwelling.

View – unobstructed and wide view, from an altitude or distance, of an extensive area in all directions.

Vista – long, narrow view through an opening or between an avenue of trees or structures.



C8.3	Minutes of the Community, Recreation & Economic Development Reference Group Meeting held on 2 February 2011
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Meeting: Community, Recreation & Economic Development Committee

Date: 4 April 2011

STRATEGY: Business Management

ACTION: Maintain and Service Council's Range of Committees

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To present to Council for consideration, the Community, Recreation & Economic Development Reference Group Minutes of 2 February 2011 (**Refer Attachment 1**).

1.0 BACKGROUND

- 1.1 The Community, Recreation & Economic Development Reference Group was established by Council to consider matters involving goals and initiatives contained in the key directions of Council's Strategic Plan – Supporting and Connecting our Community and Enhancing our Working and Learning.
- 1.2 The strategic objectives within the associated key directions are:
- Building Communities
 - Recreational Management
 - Community Learning
 - Economic Development
- 1.3 To fulfil its role the Community, Recreation & Economic Development Reference Group provides:
- a link between Council and the community which enhances communication about the strategic direction of Council initiatives
 - input from Council and the community (historical, social and environmental) when considering possible solutions
 - consideration of implications from strategic initiatives and their likely impact on the local community, and
 - feedback to Council on behalf of the community

2.0 ISSUES

2.1 CRED4.1 - SHOROC Presentation – Shaping Our Future (Regional Directions)

Reference Points

- Council and SHOROC to give further consideration for improved Cab Services and Cab Ranks

- Council and SHOROC to give further consideration to advocate for a bus service from Palm Beach to Manly
- Reference Group would like to be included in consultations with SHOROC regarding their second stage strategy development especially concerning liveability.

2.2 CRED4.2 - Special Rate Variation process

2.3 CRED4.3 - Recruitment for Reference Groups

2.4 CRED4.4 - Land Use Planning Strategy

Reference Points

- Encourage all new dwellings to be built in accordance with Pittwater sustainability principles
- Recognise the need for variety of housing options within the Pittwater area
- Increased housing numbers should be complemented by social and physical infrastructure, including health, retail, transport etc.
- Liveability should be taken into account in all developments

3.0 SUSTAINABILITY ASSESSMENT

This report does not require a sustainability assessment.

4.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

To present to Council the Reference Points of the Community, Recreation and Economic Development Reference Group contained in the minutes of the meeting of 2 February 2011 for Council's consideration.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Minutes of the Community, Recreation and Economic Development Reference Group Meeting of 2 February 2011 (**Attachment 1**) be noted.

Report prepared by

Steve Evans

DIRECTOR, ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING & COMMUNITY

Minutes

Community, Recreation & Economic Development Reference Group

**held in the Training Room at the Coastal Environment Centre,
Lake Park Road, Narrabeen on**

2 February 2011

Commencing at 4.08pm



Attendance:

Cr Ian White, Chairperson

Members

Barrenjoey High School P&C – Ms Sandra Skelly
Bilgola Preservation Society, Mrs Anne Spencer
Community Care (Northern Beaches) Inc. – Ms Fiona Winter
Clareville and Bilgola Plateau Residents' Association – Mr John Waring
Manly Warringah & Pittwater historical Society – Mr Tony Dawson
Newport Residents Association – Dr Ruth A Fink Latukefu
Pittwater Community Arts – Ms Lorrie Morgan
West Pittwater Community Association – Mr Paul Purvis

Council Advisors

Mr Steve Evans, Director, Environmental Planning & Community
Mr Andrew Pigott, Principal Strategic Planner
Ms Jane Mulroney, Community Engagement Officer – Corporate Strategy
Ms Sherryn McPherson, Administration Officer/Minute Secretary

Community, Recreation & Economic Development Reference Group Meeting

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**The Director, Environmental Planning & Community
has approved the inclusion of
all reports in these Minutes.**

1.0 Apologies

Notes:

1. Apologies were received from Ms Jennie MacKenzie (Clareville & Bilgola Plateau Residents Association), Ms Lisa MacDonald (Scotland Island Residents Association), Mr Steve McInnes (Surf Life Saving Northern Beaches) and Ms Penny Gleen (West Pittwater Community Association) and leave of absence was granted from the Community Recreation and Economic Development Reference Group Meeting held on 2 February 2011.
 2. The Reference Group members accepted the apologies.
 3. Mrs Anne Spencer left the meeting at 4.25pm
-

2.0 Declarations of Pecuniary Interest - Nil

3.0 Confirmation of Minutes

REFERENCE GROUP RECOMMENDATION

That the Minutes of the Community Recreation and Economic Development Reference Group Meeting held on 3 November 2011, be confirmed as a true and accurate record of that meeting.

(Ms Lorrie Morgan / Mrs Anne Spencer)

Discussion Topics

CRED4.1 SHOROC PowerPoint Presentation – Shaping Our Future (Regional Directions) Report

Proceedings in Brief

Mr Ben Taylor, Executive Director of the SHOROC Regional Organisation of Councils, addressed the meeting on this item.

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REFERENCE POINTS

1. Council and SHOROC to give further consideration for improved Cab Services and Ranks
2. Council and SHOROC to give further consideration to advocate for a bus service from Palm Beach to Manly
3. Reference group would like to be included in consultations with SHOROC regarding there second stage strategy development especially concerning livability.
4. The Reference group thanked Ben Taylor from SHOROC for his presentation

(Ms Fiona Winter / Ms Lorrie Morgan)

CRED4.2 Special Rate Variation process

Proceedings in Brief

Steve Evans addressed the meeting on this item.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE DISCUSSION:

Accountability of spending additional funds has been made a priority.

Comprehensive community engagement has been made in relation to the Special Rate Variation proposal.

A Special Rate Variation (SRV) page has been created on the website to provide the community with additional information and to inform them on the program of works which the SRV revenue will finance. Council will establish a committee to monitor the expenditure and ensure it is being spent in accordance with the contract agreed with the community.

Two public meetings will be held to discuss the proposed special rate variation;

- Tuesday 1 March 2011 – 6.30pm at Avalon Recreation Centre, 59A Old Barrenjoey Road, Avalon
- Wednesday 2 March 2011 – 6.30pm at Mona Vale Memorial Hall, 1 Park Street, Mona Vale

CRED4.3 Recruitment for Reference Groups

Proceedings in Brief

Jane Mulroney addressed the meeting on this item.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE DISCUSSION:

A reference group report will be going to Council on the 21 February. Once approved by Council, a Recruitment process will occur to ensure new members will be appointed by the May Reference Group meeting.

It is recommended that additional positions will be available with up to 16 members to be appointed to each Reference Group. This will include up to 14 community organisation/registered community group representatives and up to 4 individuals.

Expressions of Interest will be available to current Reference Group members who will receive documentation via email.

A fact sheet is in the process of being created to encourage new members and the community to take part in the Reference Groups.

CRED4.4 Land Use Planning Strategy

Proceedings in Brief

Andrew Piggott addressed the meeting on this item.

A copy of the Land Use Planning Strategy PowerPoint presentation is attached to the Minutes (**Attachment 2**).

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE DISCUSSION:

Q: Pittwater consists of an aging population whom are outgrowing the area and due to the lack of smaller dwellings are considering leaving the area and moving to the outer suburbs?

A: In Church Point the average age is 65 years old. Research has also shown the average house size will fall to 2.51 people by 2021. Families are downsizing and children are leaving the family home. Elderly residents are selling their properties as the cost of an Aged Care Facility or a smaller 1 – 2 bedroom dwelling is close to the price of the family home.

Q: Are Council planning to change? Begin building smaller dwellings on smaller blocks?

A: Aged dwelling legislation has been introduced encouraging change and greater flexibility of usage of land. A report on affordable housing is going to Council which will include details on new forms of development for lower income earners being taken into consideration and to be located in various areas.

- Q: Seeing Pittwater must expand by 4600 dwellings by 2031, with the consideration of retail to increase by 106,708sqm, and Special use Facilities to increase to 54,348 will they be considering utilising the area around Ingleside?
- A: The Council is considering other areas prior to looking at Ingleside as it may not be a viable area for many reasons, such as;
- lack of passing trade and accessibility for retail,
 - contains a significant amount of Flora / Fauna,
 - large capitalisation :- equestrian centres and mansions,
 - high risk bushfire zone and
 - would be costly for the Government as it would require additional funding for Infrastructure costs. E.g Mona Vale Road will require updating.
- For the above reasons, other areas will be considered for development prior to the land at Ingleside.
- Q: Are there strategies in place to encourage the new developments to build in accordance with sustainability requirements to design an environmentally friendly future?
- A: A Sustainability Checklist and Principles has been created in conjunction with the Planning a Built Environment Reference Group. Also DCP reflects sustainability principles. The brochures are available at the Customer Service Centres and additional information is also on the Councils internet site under Sustainability.
- Q: As Queensland is recovering from serious flooding, has the necessary Council Codes been created to adapt in the event of a flash flooding?
- A: Strict Council Codes are in place and they have legally exceeded there limits for any projected high risk flood event with additional safety provisions in place.

REFERENCE POINTS

1. Encourage all new dwellings to be built in accordance with Pittwater sustainability principles
2. Recognise the need for variety of housing options within the Pittwater area
3. Increased housing numbers should be complimented by social and physical infrastructure including health, retail, transport etc.
4. Livability should be taken into account in all developments
5. The Reference Group thanked Andrew for his presentation

5.0 Emerging Business

Community Recreation And Economic Development Reference Group Meeting Dates for 2011;

- Wednesday, 4 May
- Wednesday, 3 August
- Wednesday, 2 November

6.0 Next Meeting

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

That the next meeting of the Community Recreation and Economic Development Reference Group will be held on 4 May 2011 at Coastal Environment Centre commencing at 4.00pm.

**THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS
THE MEETING CONCLUDED AT 6.16pm
ON WEDNESDAY, 2 FEBRUARY 2011.**

Natural Environment Committee

9.0 Natural Environment Committee Business

C9.1	Minutes of the Narrabeen Lagoon Floodplain Risk Management Working Group Meeting on 17 February 2011
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Meeting: Natural Environment Committee

Date: 04 April 2011

STRATEGY: Community Engagement, Education & Awareness

ACTION: Undertake community consultation regarding all major Councils plans and projects

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To consider the Minutes of the Narrabeen Lagoon Floodplain Risk Management Working Group (NLFRMWG) meeting held at Pittwater Council on 17 February 2011 (refer **Attachment 1**).

1.0 BACKGROUND

The NLFRMWG is a forum that assists Warringah and Pittwater Councils in the preparation, development and implementation of floodplain management plans for Narrabeen Lagoon. The Working Group is administered on a rotational basis with Warringah Council and this function currently resides with Pittwater Council.

2.0 ISSUES

- 2.1 A report recommending the appointment of the preferred consultant for the Narrabeen Lagoon Flood Study update was considered by Warringah Council on 8 February 2011. BMT WBM Pty Ltd was the preferred consultant and costed the project at \$173,268 ex GST. It is anticipated that the Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water (DECCW) contribute two-thirds of this costs (NSW Floodplain Management Program) and the remainder be split equally between Warringah and Pittwater Councils. Further information on Council's resolution will be provided at the Working Group meeting.
- 2.2 The first stage of the Narrabeen Lagoon Flood Study commenced with the inception meeting on 15 February 2011. The project is divided into the following five components and each component will be presented to the Working Group/Community Committee:
- Stage 1: Review of Data – completion July 2011
 - Stage 2: Hydrologic Modelling – completion October 2011
 - Stage 3: Hydraulic Modelling – completion April 2012
 - Stage 4: Climate Change Impact Assessment – completion August 2012
 - Stage 5: Draft & Final Flood Study Report – completion October 2012
- 2.3 Cardno Pty Ltd is currently preparing a Review of Environmental Factors (REF) for the Narrabeen Lagoon Flood Mitigation (Entrance Clearance) works to assess the environmental impacts of the proposed works and determine the protective measures to be implemented before, during and after the works. The finalised REF will be submitted to relevant State Agencies with applications for the licences, permits and approvals necessary to undertake works during May-July 2011. The total project cost including the REF is estimated at \$1,200,000. It is anticipated that State Government will be funding two-thirds of the cost under the Floodplain Management Program and the remainder split equally between Warringah and Pittwater Councils.

- 2.4 Pittwater Council has identified the Lower Narrabeen Creek Coastal Risk Investigation Area for the purpose of informing strategic land use planning, regarding preparation of the Pittwater Land Use Strategy, until the revised Narrabeen Lagoon Flood Study is available. This will complement the 'Climate Change' mapping for the draft strategy which already aims at including sea level rise affected areas below 4.0 m AHD. An extents map of the investigation area will be made available via Council's website.

3.0 SUSTAINABILITY ASSESSMENT

This report does not require a sustainability assessment.

4.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 4.1 BMT WBM Pty Ltd is the consultant selected to update the Narrabeen Lagoon Flood Study.
- 4.2 There are five stages involved in the Narrabeen Lagoon Flood Study update with an estimated completion date for the Draft & Final Flood Study Report in October 2012.
- 4.3 Cardno Pty Ltd is currently preparing a Review of Environmental Factors (REF) for the Narrabeen Lagoon Flood Mitigation (Entrance Clearance) proposed works. It is anticipated that the works will be undertaken in the period May-July 2011 and take up to 12 weeks.
- 4.4 The Lower Narrabeen Creek Coastal Risk Investigation Area was established by Council under the *NSW Coastal Planning Guideline – Adapting to Sea Level Rise* (NSW Planning, 2010) for the purpose of informing strategic land use planning until the revised Narrabeen Lagoon Flood Study is available. An extents map of the investigation area will be available on Council's website.

RECOMMENDATION

That the minutes of the Narrabeen Lagoon Floodplain Risk Management Working Group Meeting held at Pittwater Council on 17 February 2011 (**Attachment 1**) be noted.

Report prepared by
Janell Keegan - Catchment Management Officer

Jennifer Pang
TEAM LEADER, CATCHMENT MANAGEMENT & CLIMATE CHANGE

Minutes

Narrabeen Lagoon Floodplain Risk Management Working Group Meeting

Held in the Conference Room, Mona Vale Customer Service Centre, Village Park, 1 Park Street, Mona Vale on

17 February 2011

Commenced at 5:11pm



Attendance:

Pittwater Council Members

Cr Harvey Rose

Warringah Council Members

Cr Conny Harris (Warringah)

Cr Michelle Ray (Warringah)

Citizen Representatives & Stakeholder Representatives

Mr Richard Steven (Pittwater)

Mr Spiro Daher (Pittwater)

Ms Jarell Keegan (Pittwater)

Mr David Loomes (Warringah)

Mr Todd Dickinson (Warringah)

Ms Debbi Millener (Warringah)

Mr Gareth Curtis (Warringah)

Dr Paul Hackney (Warringah)

Mr Greg Davis (DECCW)

Mr Phillip Oswald (Pittwater Floodplain)

Ms Joy Gough (Narrabeen Lakes Sailing Club)

State Government Representatives

Mr Greg Davis (DECCW)

Mr Steve Black (NSW Maritime)

Mr Marcel Green (Fisheries Ecosystems, Industry and Investment NSW)

and the following Council Advisors

Ms Jennifer Pang, Team Leader CM&CC (Pittwater)

Ms Sue Ribbons, Project Leader Floodplain Management (Pittwater)

Narrabeen Lagoon Floodplain Risk Management Working Group

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Note:

1. The Narrabeen Lagoon Floodplain Risk Management Working Group Meeting commenced at 5.11pm.
 2. Cr Rose assumed the Chair.
-

1.0 Apologies

The following apologies were received and accepted by the Committee Working Group Members:

Cr David James (Pittwater Council)
Cr Jacqui Townsend (Pittwater Council)
Cr Jason Falinski (Warringah Council)
Mr Tony Carr (Friends of Narrabeen Lagoon Catchment Inc.)
Mr David Avery (DECCW)
Mr Arthur Michos (DECCW)
Ms Santina Camroux (Department of Planning)
Mr Chris Grudnoff (NSW National Parks & Wildlife Service)
Ms Karen Kennedy (Sydney Metropolitan Catchment Management Authority)
Mr Les Munn, (Pittwater)
Mr Stephen Lynch (Sydney Metropolitan Catchment Management Authority)
Ms Gayle Sloan, (Warringah)
Ms Kara Fleming (Warringah)
Ms Valerie Tulk (Warringah)
Mr Brendan Barrett (Sydney Academy of Sport and Recreation)
Mr Bernard Kates (State Emergency Service Sydney Northern Region)
Mr Norm Nikolich (Sydney Water)
Mr Dan Cross (Land & Property Management Authority)

(Cr Conny Harris / Michelle Ray)

2.0 Declarations of Pecuniary Interest – Nil

3.0 Confirmation of Minutes

Note:

As this is the inaugural meeting of the Narrabeen Lagoon Floodplain Risk Management Working Group there were no previous Minutes of Meetings to be confirmed.

4.0 Committee Business

NLF4.1 Narrabeen Lagoon Flood Study

Proceedings in Brief

Debbi Millener addressed the meeting on this item.

A copy of the Narrabeen Lagoon Flood Study presentation is attached to the minutes as (Attachment 1)

WORKING GROUP RECOMMENDATION

1. The Committee / Working Group thanked Debbi Millener for the presentation.
2. That the Working Group note the information contained in the Narrabeen Lagoon Flood Study report.

(Cr Conny Harris / Michelle Ray)

NLF4.2 Narrabeen Lagoon Flood Mitigation (Entrance Clearance)

Proceedings in Brief

Debbi Millener addressed the meeting on this item.

WORKING GROUP RECOMMENDATION

That the Working Group note the information contained in the Narrabeen Lagoon Flood Mitigation (Entrance Clearance) report.

(Ms Michelle Ray / Cr Conny Harris)

NLF4.3 Lower Narrabeen Creek Coastal Risk Investigation Area

Proceedings in Brief

Jennifer Pang addressed the meeting on this item.

A copy of the Lower Narrabeen Creek Coastal Risk Investigation Map is attached to the minutes (Attachment 2)

WORKING GROUP RECOMMENDATION

That the information regarding the establishment of the Lower Narrabeen Creek Coastal Risk Investigation Area be noted.

(Ms Michelle Ray / Cr Conny Harris)

5.0 General Business

5.1 Insurance – Impact of the recent flooding in Queensland

Proceedings in Brief

Mr Phil Oswald addressed the meeting on this item.

Matters arising from the discussion

The recent flooding in Queensland has raised community concerns nationally in regards to Flood Insurance and the need to seek further clarification as to exactly what their Home and Contents Insurance covers.

Australia's insurance industry has now agreed to establish a standard definition for flood insurance which is being driven by the Federal Government as approximately half of all homeowners affected by the summer floods in eastern Australia did not have insurance to cover for the disaster. Meetings commenced on the 3 February 2011 with the Insurance Council of Australia in Sydney and the industry has agreed to apply a standard definition to flood insurance and write policies in a simpler language in regards to Home and Contents Insurance cover.

Ms Sue Ribbons will be attending the 2011 Floodplain Management Authorities (FMA) Conference in Tamworth from the 22-25 February 2011 and will be chairing a discussion session on flood insurance. The FMA is accepted by State and Federal Government agencies as representing the interests of floodplain communities in NSW and the authorities responsible for managing the floodplains to reduce future flood losses.

WORKING GROUP RECOMMENDATION

Sue Ribbons to provide a report to the working group at the next meeting regarding the flood insurance discussions from the 2011 Floodplain Management Authorities (FMA) Conference.

6.0 Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Narrabeen Lagoon Floodplain Risk Management Working Group is scheduled to be held on 12 May 2011 commencing at 5.00pm in the Conference Room at the Mona Vale Customer Service Centre, Village Park, 1 Park Street, Mona Vale.

The meeting dates for the Narrabeen Lagoon Floodplain Risk Management Working Group during Pittwater Council's administrative term are as follows:

- * 17 February 2011
- * 12 May 2011
- * 1 September 2011
- * 1 December 2011

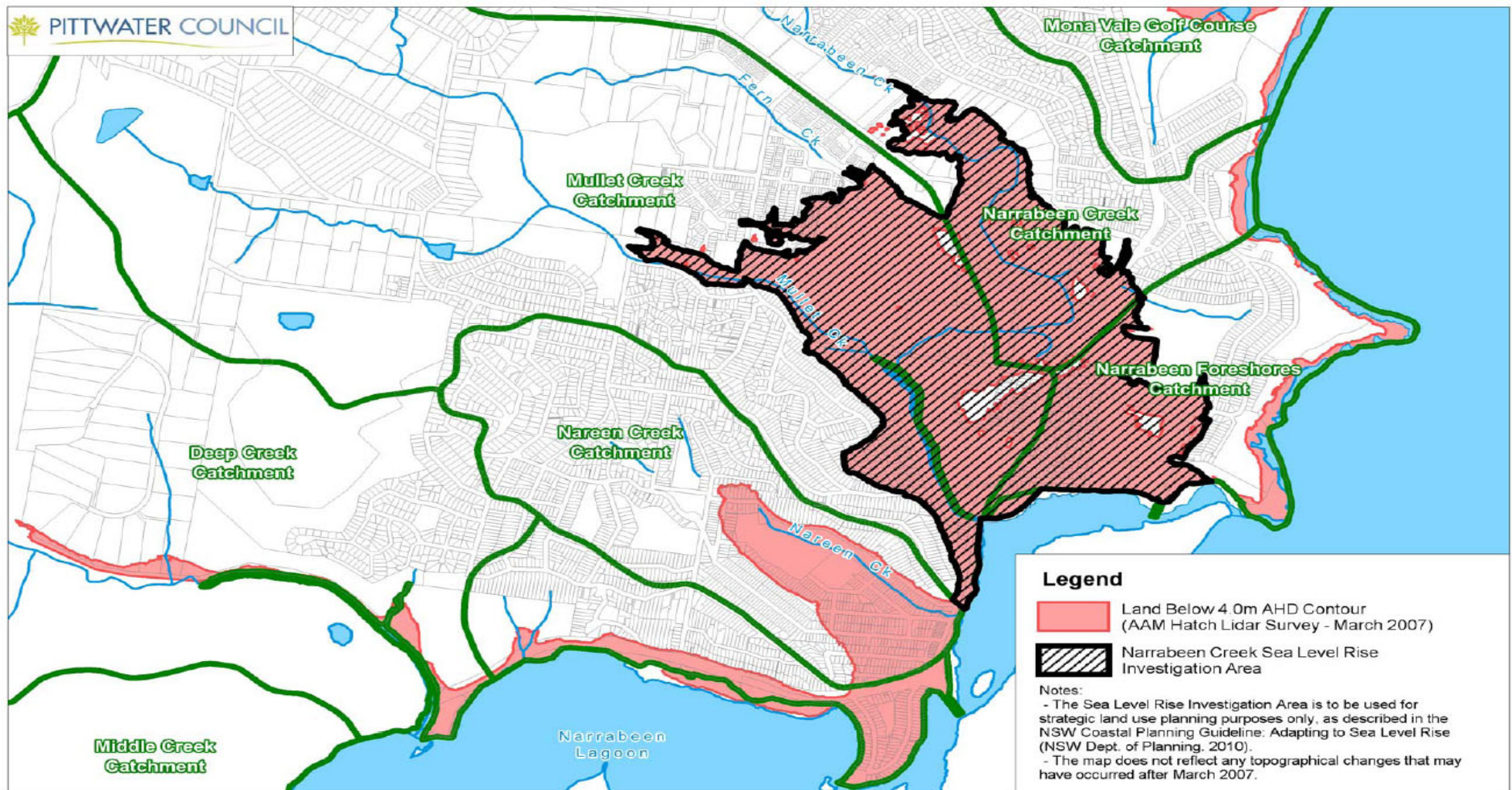
**THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS
THE MEETING CONCLUDED AT 5.54PM ON
17 FEBRUARY 2011**

Narrabeen Lagoon Flood Study



BMT WBM
Warringah Council
Pittwater Council
DECCW





A4 Scale 1:2000

Narrabeen Creek Sea Level Rise Investigation Area



C9.2	Minutes of the Natural Environment Reference Group Meeting held on 9 February 2011
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Meeting: Natural Environment Committee

Date: 4 April 2011

STRATEGY: Business Management

ACTION: Maintain and Service Council's Range of Committees

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To present to Council for consideration, the Natural Environment Reference Group Minutes of 9 February 2011 (see **Attachment 1**).

1.0 BACKGROUND

- 1.1 The Natural Environment Reference Group has a primary role of assisting the Pittwater 2020 Strategic Plan process by critically analysing and reviewing the Strategic Goals aligned to the Pittwater Natural Environment and providing Reference Points for further consideration by Council.
- 1.2 The Natural Environment Reference Group has previously established a priority order to eventually consider each of the aligned Strategic Goals. The attached Minutes relate, in part, to a review of a subset topic on:

“Stormwater Quality Improvement Devices (SQIDs) in Pittwater”

This highlighted what Council along with the community has/is doing and where gaps currently exist.

2.0 ISSUES

- 2.1 **NE4.1: SHOROC PowerPoint Presentation – Shaping our Future (Regional Directions) Report**
- 2.2 **NE4.2: Stormwater Quality Improvement Devices (SQIDs) in Pittwater**

Summary of Reference Points

- Members of the Natural Environment Reference Group expressed concern over the problem of stormwater runoff and pollutants entering local waterways. One of the major problems is with leaf litter. It was requested that Council implement an education campaign which could advise residents of the problem of leaf litter and seek their assistance by sweeping up leaf litter from their gutters and placing it on their gardens.
- Professional gardeners using blowers should be targeted during this campaign as they contribute significantly to this situation.
- The community education program could be promoted through registered community groups. The ‘Yellow Fish’ symbol, which is painted on kerbs near stormwater drains to remind people that ‘rubbish in this drain flows into waterways’ should also be revived.
- The Natural Environment Reference Group requested assistance from Council’s Natural Environment & Education (NEE) Business Unit with the launching of this campaign.

- They also requested that NEE be involved in organising local communities to work together and form volunteer working groups who could assist with the required cleaning works.

2.3 NE4.3: Land Use Planning

2.4 NE4.4: Special Rate Variation Process

2.5 NE4.5: Recruitment Processes – Reference Group Members

3.0 SUSTAINABILITY ASSESSMENT

This report does not require a sustainability assessment.

4.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 4.1 The Natural Environment Reference Group assists the review of Council's 2020 Strategic Plan, in particular the goals aligned to the Pittwater Natural Environment.

The attached Minutes of the Meeting held 9 February 2011 relate, in part, to a review of a subset topic on:

“Stormwater Quality Improvement Devices (SQIDs) in Pittwater”

- 4.2 The Natural Environment Reference Group requested Council's Natural Environment & Education Business Unit's assistance with the launching of a community based education program which would raise people's awareness of the problems of leaf litter in gutters which then finds its way into waterways.
- 4.3 As part of the campaign, it was requested that Council revive a program of painting the 'Yellow Fish' symbol on drains.
-

RECOMMENDATION

That the Minutes of the Natural Environment Reference Group Meeting held on 9 February 2011 (**Attachment 1**) that relate, in part, to a review of a subset topic on:

“Stormwater Quality Improvement Devices (SQIDs) in Pittwater”

and the Actions and Progress to date, along with further initiatives and reference points to strengthen future water quality management be noted and this information be taken into consideration as part of Council's Strategic Plan and Management Plan processes.

Report prepared by

Les Munn

MANAGER – RESERVES, RECREATION & BUILDING SERVICES

Minutes

Natural Environment Reference Group

held in the Training Room at the Coastal Environment Centre,
Lake Park Road, North Narrabeen on

9 February 2010

Commencing at 4:05pm

Chris Hunt
DIRECTOR, URBAN & ENVIRONMENTAL ASSETS



Attendance:

Cr Peter Hock, Chairperson

Members:

Ms Gloria Carroll, Manly Warringah and Pittwater Historical Society
Ms Sharon Kinnison, Scotland Island Residents Association
Mr Richard McIntyre, Warriewood Valley Rezoning Association Inc.
Ms Kristine Martin, Careel Bay Pittwater Protection Association Inc.
Mr Martin Porter, Surfrider Foundation
Mr John Waring, Clareville and Bilgola Residents Association
Mr Alan Yuille, West Pittwater Community Association

Council Officers:

Mr Les Munn, Acting Director, Urban & Environmental Assets
Ms Jennifer Pang, Team Leader, Water Management & Climate Change
Ms Melanie Schwecke, Project Leader, Water Management
Ms Jane Mulroney, Community Engagement Officer
Mr Andrew Pigott, Principal Officer, Strategic Planning
Ms Pamela Tasker, Administration Officer/Minute Secretary

Observers:

Ms Susan Young, Newport Residents Association
Mr Ben Taylor, Executive Director of SHOROC

Natural Environment Reference Group Meeting

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1.0	Apologies
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1.1 Apologies were received from:

Mr Kyle Hill, Newport Residents Association
Ms Selena Webber, Newport Residents Association
Ms Diane Campbell, Scotland Island Residents Association
Mr Trevor Holman, Palm Beach Whale Beach Association
Mr David Palmer, Pittwater Natural Heritage Association

and leave of absence was granted from the Natural Environment Reference Group Meeting held on 9 February 2011.

1.2 The Reference Group members accepted the apologies.

2.0	Declarations of Pecuniary Interest/Non-Pecuniary Conflict of Interest - Nil
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3.0	Confirmation of Minutes
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REFERENCE GROUP RECOMMENDATION

That the Minutes of the Natural Environment Reference Group Meeting held on 10 November 2010 be confirmed as a true and accurate record of that meeting.

(Mr Richard McIntyre / Ms Kristine Martin)

4.0	Discussion Topics
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Notes:

1. Mr Ben Taylor of SHOROC had advised that he would be delayed and would not attend the meeting until approximately 5.30pm.
2. As Mr Taylor was not present, the Chairperson suggested the meeting proceed directly to consider Item NE4.2.

NE4.2	STORMWATER QUALITY IMPROVEMENT DEVICES (SQIDS) IN PITTWATER
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Proceedings in Brief

Ms Melanie Schwecke, Project Leader – Water Management, addressed the meeting on this item.

Questions & Answers:

Q: How often are the devices inspected and what does it cost?

A: The budget to cover all SQIDs and Gross Pollutant Traps (GPT's) is \$130,000 per annum. They are inspected monthly, and are cleaned on reaching a 70% full rate (of sediments and pollutants).

Q: Are the cleansing ponds in the Warriewood Valley maintained by Council?

A: Some of the cleansing ponds are on private property, eg: Shearwater Estate. These are not maintained by Council.

Q: Are there any cleansing ponds in the Narrabeen Creek area?

A: Those on the Ferntree Estate cover Narrabeen Creek.

Q: Can more sediment ponds be installed as they are very effective in stopping silt and sediment build up?

A: Sediment ponds are effective, but in general they can't be put into high density areas as a lot of land is needed to accommodate the ponds.

Q: Please explain grass swales?

A: These are grassy slopes usually used on roads where no kerb and guttering exists. They collect silt and sediment which then slowly disperses.

Q: What are the long term effects of having privately maintained traps – will they fall into neglect as they are not being maintained by Council? Can Council enforce maintenance by land owners?

A: Only three or four GPTs are privately maintained. Sediment ponds are more common on private property. When a private property is developed, GPTs and/or sediment ponds can be placed on the Conditions of Consent. A positive covenant can be placed on the property title to enforce compliance.

Q: What can residents do when Council requires development approval for something as simple as planting a tree on the nature strip?

A: Council encourages residents to plant on nature strips, but does require prior contact as there are several points to consider: maintaining viewlines for motor vehicle safety, postal delivery and pedestrian access, the planning of appropriate species, underground cables, etc.

General Discussion Points:

- Street cleaners no longer regularly attend and leaf litter builds up in gutters. How can we encourage residents to clean their kerbs and gutters so that it is not washed down to the beach. Maybe an educational campaign to alert residents to this problem?
- I recently observed Council workers clearing the area around the stormwater drains but the leaf litter was piled up and left. If there was an education campaign initiated, perhaps it could reintroduce the yellow fish symbol to remind residents that stormwater drains through to beaches / oceans.
- Education programs could be tied in with school programs.
- Perhaps a local community action initiative – leaflets being distributed to the neighbours organising a local clean up day for instance. This ensures the gutters are cleaned and encourage ownership within the community. Natural Environment & Education (NEE) could assist in this.
- The installation of more GPTs and SQIDs in the catchment areas is needed if we are to limit the number of plastic bottles and other rubbish getting into the waterways and ocean. It is good to see that pollution entrapment devices are prevalent in the Warriewood Valley development.
- Pollution has hopefully been reduced from building sites due to the increased diligence in policing run off from developments.
- Pittwater is protected by gross pollutant traps to capture bottles and rubbish – sediment is part of the natural run off and it is debatable how much authorities can do, or should do to interfere with natural processes.
- Professional gardeners using blowers are the worst offenders in blowing leaf litter into gutters. Any education program should target this community.
- A SHOROC initiative in conjunction with Kimbriki is currently being planned in which the green waste bins would include everything compostable. This creates better compost and limits landfill.

REFERENCE POINTS:

- **That the report on Stormwater Quality Improvement Devices (SQIDs) in Pittwater be endorsed.**
- **That we introduce a community education program re the effects of pollution on waterways, beaches and ocean.**
- **That the community education program includes the yellow fish symbol (or similar) to be placed near stormwater drains as a reminder to residents.**
- **That all registered community groups in the LGA be advised of the proposed education program and their assistance be sought.**
- **That the NEE be involved in organising local communities to work together on clearing leaf litter, vegetation and pollutants from kerbs and gutters in their neighbourhood.**

- That the Manager, NEE, be invited to the next meeting of the Natural Environment Reference Group to discuss these initiatives.
- That the community education program to minimise pollution of waterways, beaches and the ocean, together with other initiatives, be brought to Council for endorsement.

NE4.3 LAND USE PLANNING STRATEGY

Proceedings in Brief

Mr Andrew Pigott, Principal Officer, Strategic Planning, addressed the meeting on this item.

Questions & Answers:

Q: Is there any opportunity to zone for space being put aside for the greening of communities, such as the inclusion of community gardens.

A: There is always some provision for parks in communities, but in terms of community gardens it is more difficult.

On private property, even at development stage, it is not possible to add a requirement for a vegetable garden into the Conditions of Consent. If the need for such gardens is to be addressed it would have to be through an educational initiative.

On public land, there is a need to select the site very carefully. The requirements include access to sunshine, water, drainage, good soil, secure structures such as garden sheds, access to utilities, and even vandalism proofing / adequate security measures which may include fencing. This becomes expensive as it takes quite a bit of administration and infrastructure. Community gardens also require quite a lot of land to create a formally shared community space.

NE4.5 RECRUITMENT PROCESSES – REFERENCE GROUP MEMBERS

Proceedings in Brief

A report is being presented to Council at its meeting on 21 February 2011. The report confirms the terms of reference and outlines the changes to membership.

It is suggested that to broaden membership and give all Pittwater residents the opportunity to participate in the reference groups that the following changes will be made:

- Up to 14 members from registered community groups and local community organisations
- Up to 4 individual members representing residents of Pittwater
- A total of 16 members can be appointed to each Reference Group

Once the report's recommendations have been approved by Council, an Expression of Interest process will be initiated. All members are welcome to apply again and will receive documentation by email and mail. A panel, including Chairs of Reference Groups, will review the Expression of Interest applications and determine final membership.

For further information, Reference Group members were advised to contact Ms Jane Mulroney, Community Engagement Officer, on 02 9970 1108 or 0417 499 557 (Monday to Thursday).

NE4.4 SPECIAL RATE VARIATION PROCESS

Proceedings in Brief

A report was presented to Council at its meeting on 7 February 2011. Council gave approval for community consultation to be conducted in relation to the Special Rate Variation proposal.

For further information please view the Council report, Item C7.5, via the link below:

http://www.pittwater.nsw.gov.au/council/meetings/council_meetings/council_meetings/2011/february/7_february_2011_-_council_cred_ne

NE4.1 SHOROC POWERPOINT PRESENTATION – SHAPING OUR FUTURE (REGIONAL DIRECTIONS) REPORT

Proceedings in Brief

Mr Ben Taylor, Executive Director of the SHOROC Regional Organisation of Councils, addressed the meeting on this item.

5.0 Reference Points / Action Items

- That we introduce a community education program re the effects of pollution on waterways, beaches and ocean.
- That the community education program includes the yellow fish symbol (or similar) to be placed near stormwater drains as a reminder to residents.
- That all registered community groups in the LGA be advised of the proposed education program and their assistance be sought.
- That the NEE be involved in organising local communities to work together on clearing leaf litter, vegetation and pollutants from kerbs and gutters in their neighbourhood.
- That the Manager, NEE, be invited to the next meeting of the Natural Environment Reference Group to discuss these initiatives.
- That the community education program to minimise pollution of waterways, beaches and the ocean, together with other initiatives, be brought to Council for endorsement.

6.0	Next Meeting
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The next meeting of the Natural Environment Reference Group will be held on 11 May 2011 at the Coastal Environment Centre, North Narrabeen, commencing at 4.00pm.

Notes:

1. Ms Marita Macrae left the meeting at 5.20pm.
2. Ms Selena Webber joined the meeting at 5.32pm.
3. Mr Ben Taylor joined the meeting at 5.45pm.
4. Mr Martin Porter left the meeting at 6.03pm.
5. Mr Richard McIntyre left the meeting at 6.05pm.
6. Ms Gloria Carroll left the meeting at 6.15pm.
7. Mr John Waring left the meeting at 6.18pm.

**THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS
THE MEETING CONCLUDED AT 6.28PM
ON WEDNESDAY, 9 FEBRUARY, 2011.**

Council Meeting

**10.0 Adoption of Community, Recreation and Economic
Development Committee Recommendations**

**11.0 Adoption of Natural Environment Committee
Recommendations**

12.0 Councillor Questions
