

MINUTES

MANLY WARRINGAH WAR MEMORIAL STATE PARK ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

Held at Civic Centre, 725 Pittwater Road, Dee Why in the Flannel Flower room on

Monday 17 July 2023

Beginning at 5:00pm

Minutes of the Manly Warringah War Memorial State Park Advisory Committee Meeting held on Monday 17 July 2023 commencing at 5:00pm.

ATTENDANCE

Committee Members

Cr Kristyn Glanville Northern Beaches Council - Council Representative (online)

Community Members

David Beharrell Environment Representative

Paul Lidgard Recreational Representative

Robert Baker Rate Payer / Community Representative

State Government Representative

Mel Hall NSW National Parks & Wildlife Service

Council Officers

Steven Lawler Executive Manager, Parks & Recreation

Damian Ham Manager, Open Space & Recreation Planning

Jeremy Smith Manager, Park Assets - Planning Design & Delivery

Chris Buckley Coordinator, Manly Dam & Stony Range

Neil Cocks Manager, Strategic & Place Planning (online)

Brendan Smith Acting Manager, Bushland & Biodiversity

Guest

Stephen Hancock

Apologies

Peter Bergman NSW National Parks & Wildlife Service

Chad Weston NSW National Parks & Wildlife Service

Stan Rees NSW Department of Planning & Environment

1. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

2. WELCOME

3. APOLOGIES

4. DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

- Mr. Lidgard is a member of Trail Care and Manly Warringah District Baseball Association.

5. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Minutes of the Advisory Committee Meeting held 24 April 2023 agreed pending these updates.

- 6.2 The team preparing the REF [for the Pipeline active transport corridor project] to investigate and report back water quality impacts and mitigations including the impact that water running over concrete has on water quality including PH levels. (raised by Cr Glanville)
- 6.2 The proposal to take into consideration water sensitive urban design (WSUD) and be consistent with Council's policies and guidelines [with reference to the Pipeline active transport corridor project]
- 6.5 Update to underway 5 dot point - A question was raised about a water catchment plan – Mr Fallowfield said a catchment plan is underway and will provide the Advisory Committee with updates
- 7.4 Action Update agreed – Mr. Beharrell raised several matters and considered them unresolved about water-skiing at Manly Dam including regarding the August 2022 resolution of Council, annual review of use, stakeholder involvement in decisions / actions and that the signs recently installed along the lake's edge may not be accurate, other stakeholders need to be consulted, justification for the staff recommendations to retain existing hours, actions in response to the Council resolution, e.g., fees, use by others when no/low use for skiing, creation of channel for others to use. Cr. Glanville also commented on water skiing matters. Mr. Lawler and Mr. Ham provided verbal responses.

6. UPDATED ACTIONS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS & PLAN OF MANAGEMENT ACTIONS

- The online platform for the actions log from previous Advisory Committee meetings and actions log for the Plan of Management 2014 (PoM) is working and the link was distributed to the Advisory Committee.
- A question was raised around when a new Plan of Management will be developed for the State Park. Mr. Ham confirmed that there are other Plans of Management that are a higher priority to update at this time.

7. AGENDA ITEMS

7.1 Conservation Zones Review Update

- Mr. Cocks provided a confidential update on the Conservations Zones Review project, noting the details will be released to the public later in the week via Council's website <https://yoursay.northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au/planning-ezones>.
- The Department of Planning and Environment is concerned with anything that will impact housing matters and criteria used to analyse certain use.
- Mapping issues were discussed including about RE1 zones and C2 zones and conservation values.
- It was asked how this effects the Manly Dam catchment. Discussion including about the area surrounding Manly Dam and C4 zone (low density residential area).
- Cr Glanville noted that zoning can also be used to manage fire risk.

7.2 Guest Speaker – Stephen Hancock

- Mr. Hancock addressed the Advisory Committee. He lives in close proximity to Manly Dam.

He raised his concerns and disappointment about the quality of maintenance and lack of improvement of the trails and that it is not keeping up with rider and community needs and increasing patronage of approximately 40 – 50% and is inconsistent with the Plan of Management. There's only glacial progress e.g., Manning Street trail project. Also, that the trail is degraded / degrading and this will continue unless there is ongoing action.

- Raised questions on the mountain bike trail budget. It was confirmed there is \$90,000 in 23/24 \$80,000 for maintenance and \$10,000 for trail volunteer works including materials. This is an increase of \$40,000 from a few years ago. There is \$1 million budgeted to improve the mountain bike trail – planning is continuing.
- Mr. Lawler noted that Council's funding of trails has improved over the years. Though grant funding is not usually available for maintenance use. It was further noted by Mr. Smith that the budget is an annual estimate which cannot factor in extreme / multiple weather events such as the significant wet weather in recent years which has impacted trails – nor matters such as COVID-19 where use of trails was much higher than usual. Council made every effort to keep trails open over COVID-19 to ensure that people could still them.
- There was discussion around the difficulties of resourcing of trail maintenance contractors and this is an ongoing issue and not limited to Northern Beaches Council. Mr Smith said that Council was upskilling its staff to undertake trail works including for the current trail upgrade project.
- Mr Hancock raised his concerns around the transparency of the Advisory Committee and the lack of availability of the minutes online (it takes months and months for the minutes to be published) and no access to the Committee members and their contact details. It was confirmed that enquiries can be emailed using the email council@northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au or via link provided on Council's Manly Warringah War Memorial State Park Advisory Committee webpage <https://www.northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au/council/meetings/committees/manly-warringah-war-memorial-state-park-advisory-committee>. Mr. Lawler said yes we can improve our uploading of minutes – and that the minutes will be uploaded as soon as possible after the committee adopts the minutes. Other than that no change to the minute approval process was proposed. Mr. Lawler reiterated that releasing personal details of committee members was not Council's practice and left it to individual Committee members if they wanted to release them.
- The main issues raised by Mr. Hancock were around the degradation of trails, lack of / poor maintenance, transparency of the Advisory Committee, limitations arising from the PoM which is not fit for purpose and outstanding PoM actions and the Manning Street trail project.
- Mr. Ham said the outstanding PoM actions for the trail will be considered for the current trail upgrade project. The Advisory Committee will receive regular updates on the trail upgrade project and the PoM.
- In regard to the Manning Street trail project Council is close to finalising the REF and identifying a trail alignment and plan that complies with the relevant environmental and other legislation and that meets the key needs of riders.
- Mr. Hancock was thanked for his presentation.

7.3 Grants and Capital Works

Boardwalk Project

- Mr. Smith provided an update on the project and noted that staff are working to find a way to deliver this project on budget due to increased costs. This project is grant funded.
- Mr. Beharrell asked about the Review of Environmental Factors (REF) and operational and maintenance concerns including about the impact of fires. An online link to the REF and the Your Say page will be provided.

- Mr. Lidgard raised the matter of footings for the fibre-reinforced plastic (FRP) noting that at Bantry Bay the plastic footings burnt. Mr. Smith confirmed that steel structure footings would be used however could not be used for the surface as it is slippery and that the proposed material smoulders rather than burns and individual panels can be replaced rather than the entirety.

[Link to Manly Dam Link Trail - Review of Environmental Factors](#)

[Link to Project Page - Your Say Manly Dam Link Trail](#)

Memorial Shelter Project

- Mr. Smith provided an update on the project including the design and history. Noting that this design has been well considered and Council has consulted with the Manly Warringah War Memorial Remembrance Trust.

It was advised that the community engagement about the concept plan will commence this week including with key stakeholders. The aim is to have this project complete by ANZAC Day 2024.

ACTION

- That Council provide the Advisory Committee with details about the Memorial Shelter Project including the, concept plan, REF and other relevant information.
- The Memorial Shelter Project to be discussed at the next meeting.
- A site visit be scheduled to discuss the Memorial Shelter Project including the concept plan.

Mountain Bike Trail Upgrade

- Mr. Smith gave an overview of the project. It was agreed that an onsite meeting be held with the Advisory Committee about the Trail Upgrade project
- A design reference group has been set up for the project.
- Manning Street REF will be published on Council's website once approved. There was conversation around the trail alignment, sensitive environmental areas, protecting flora and fauna, erosion and drainage and acknowledgement the solution may be a compromise for riders. It was agreed that the REF and trail map be shared with the Advisory committee before being published.
- It was noted that Staff are actively working on drainage solutions for the existing trails.
- Staff are developing a webpage to including a map to demonstrate where upgrades are up to.

ACTION

- That Council provide the Manning Street REF and proposed trail map to the Advisory Committee before finalising.

7.4 Water Quality Matters

- Chris Buckley provided an update on water quality and the UTS water quality study into nutrient inputs.
- It was confirmed the final draft of the UTS water quality study into nutrient inputs will be provided when available and UTS will also present the findings at an Advisory Committee meeting.
- The findings of the UTS water quality study will inform the Catchment Management Plan.
- Mr. Buckley gave an overview of some preliminary findings that are yet to be confirmed.
- Cr Glanville raised the point that if the Golf Course is doing something that is causing environmental impact such as increasing the nitrogen and other levels in the lake - that Council should take relevant action. It was noted that UTS are yet to finalise their findings

including related to the Golf Course.

- Chris noted that mixer unit used to maintain water quality has failed and he is waiting on the maintenance contractor to repair or replace the unit in the coming weeks. The current water quality is good and not yet impacted.

ACTION

- The Council provides the Advisory Committee the draft UTS water quality report when available and Council implement relevant actions arising from the final report.
- That UTS present the findings at an Advisory Committee meeting.

7.5 Planning Matters

- Mr. Jemison did not attend this meeting though provided and email update on planning matters which are summarised below:

Forest High School relocation project.

- Demolition work at the new location commenced February 2023 and is scheduled to finish in August 2023.
- Current steps include the Department of Education procuring the main works construction contract and the State's determination of the State Significant Development (SSD) application. Dates for construction will not be confirmed until the outcome of the SSD application is known.
- The question was raised about what the plans are to manage the additional traffic from the new school e.g., are there plans to upgrade the intersection at Aquatic Drive where it meets Wakehurst Parkway. This question was taken on notice and a response to be provided when information is available.
- Environmental assessments, mitigation of impacts and controls were raised, with a request for detailed information. Mr Smith said that Council has provided input into environmental matters for this school project.

ACTION

- That Council seek from the Department of Education detailed information about environmental assessments, mitigation and controls and information about traffic management including for the additional traffic from the new school e.g., are there plans to upgrade the intersection at Aquatic Drive where it meets Wakehurst Parkway.
- Staff seek advice from Council's compliance unit as to what actions will be taken regarding pollution incidents, eg, POEO breaches, Will they be investigated, considering the receiving waters are have high biodiversity value (categorised as Grade A)?

8. GENERAL BUSINESS

8.1 Water-Skiing

- There was a conversation around water-skiing and the process around the public exhibition of the water-skiing times and usage when water-skiing is not booked during the approved times. It was agreed that a meeting would be held onsite about the idea of a channel through the power boat zone and other use during low usage times for water skiing.

ACTION

- That an onsite meeting held with the Advisory Committee to discuss the idea of a channel on the edge of the power boat zone, between the bouys and shore, other use during low usage times for water skiing and signage wording

8.2 Maps

- A copy of the fire trails map to be provided to the Advisory Committee.
- A map of Manly Dam to be displayed throughout each meeting.

ACTION

- That a Manly Dam fire trails map be provided to the Advisory Committee.
- A map of Manly Dam to be displayed throughout each meeting.

8.3 Maintenance

- Mr. Beharrell raised the issue that the recent maintenance work on the trails looked very heavy handed. It was agreed to review this section of trail. Can these types of works be done more sensitively in the future.

ACTION

- That Council review the works on the trail raised in this meeting with Mr. Beharrell.

8.4 Priorities and process

- Mr. Baker raised questions about managing priorities for Manly Dam, what the key role of the Community Representative is and when Agenda items can be raised.
- Mr. Lawler said that a key role is to act as a sounding board for matters raised from the community and stakeholders and raise at these meetings or directly with staff. Agenda item requests / suggestions can be raised at any time during meetings or with staff who will respond; Standing items have been established in response to Advisory Committee requests and suggestion to update or add can be made at any time.

8.5 Pipeline Active Transport Corridor Concept

- There was no update on the Pipeline Project available. Staff to provide an update at the next meeting.
- Staff to provide an update on the Pipeline Project at next meeting including about how water quality and quantity is being managed, consistent with Council policies and guidelines (eg, Grade A catchment) and other matters raised at the previous meeting.

8.6 Next meeting to be held on Monday 18 September 2023

The meeting concluded at 7.30pm.

This is the final page of the Minutes of the Manly Warringah War Memorial State Park Advisory Committee Meeting held on Monday 17 July 2023.