

Minutes

Manly Warringah War Memorial State Park Advisory Committee Meeting

Held on Monday 5 August 2024 at Civic Centre, 725 Pittwater Road, Dee Why in the Flannel Flower Room commencing at 5:00pm

ATTENDANCE

Committee Members

Cr Kristyn Glanville Northern Beaches Council - Council Representative

Community Members

David Beharrell Environment Representative

Paul Lidgard Recreational Representative

Robert Baker Community Representative

State Government Representatives

Mel Hall NSW National Parks & Wildlife Service

Council Officers

Jeremy Smith A/Executive Manager Parks & Recreation (Chair)

Damian Ham Manager, Open Space & Recreation Planning

Jodie Crawford Manager, Coast & Catchments

Max Payne Acting Manager, Environmental Health

Brendan Smith Acting Manager, Bushland & Biodiversity

James Brisebois Team Leader - Catchments

Apologies

Paul Harper Crown Lands - Department of Planning & Environment

1.0 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

2.0 WELCOME

- Jeremy Smith welcomed all attendees to the meeting

3.0 APOLOGIES

- Paul Harper, Crown Lands - Department of Planning & Environment

4.0 DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

- None

5.0 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

- Jodie Crawford informed the Advisory Committee of her proposed minor changes and it was agreed for the changes to be made and the minutes to be updated and distributed to the Advisory Committee after the meeting.
- Minutes of the Advisory Committee Meeting held 20 May 2024 were adopted.

ACTION

- Council to circulate the adopted minutes of the Committee Meeting held on 20 May 2024 to the Advisory Committee.

6.0 UPDATE ON ACTIONS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS & PLAN OF MANAGEMENT

- Damian Ham updated the Advisory Committee of the status of the Actions from the Manly Warringah War Memorial State Park Advisory Committee Meetings and Plan of Management Share Point spreadsheet.

7.0 AGENDA ITEMS

7.1 Standing Items:

7.1.1 Water Quality Matters

- **Forest High School site - Pollution Incident update**
 - Max Payne advised the meeting that the EPA have finalised their investigation into the pollution incident. The EPA have issued an advisory letter to ADCO (the Department of Education's contractor). He advised Council continues to liaise with the EPA.
 - Max Payne also advised that the EPA and not Council is the delegated authority for this pollution incident.
 - Councillor Glanville commented that the EPA response was weak and seems to be only enforcing the bare minimum requirements on ADCO with 'zero' consequences for polluting the catchment.
 - Rob Baker commented on the Madison Way Basin and asked about a maintenance plan. Jodie Crawford advised; she had visited the site, Council has no plans for Council to clean-out the structure at this time and Council would continue to undertake water quality monitoring.
 - David Beharrell asked could the Advisory Committee members make representations to MPs in the capacity as individuals not Committee members to voice their concerns with the pollution from the ADCO works. David also asked if there was a Code of Conduct for the Advisory Committee members in the instance a Committee member would like to raise an issue such as this pollution incident on a radio station.
 - Councillor Glanville spoke about the EPA being an independent agency and that she had spoken to Todd Dickinson Director of Environment &

Open Space about similar sites with storm water runoff issues such as the Mona Vale Road and Manly Vale Public School site projects. Council should do more advocacy. Council could promote their concerns which could be a more powerful message rather than a private citizen.

- Jeremy Smith; Council can promote issues through its media channels (via its Communications team), committee members cannot represent Council in the media (see the terms of reference)
- Max Payne left the meeting at 5.39pm

ACTION

- Council to inform the Advisory Committee on any updates from the EPA on the pollution incident.
- Council to report back to the Advisory Committee about the actions Council and the committee can take to prevent such pollution events occurring again.

7.1.2 Catchment Plan Project – James Brisebois

- James Brisebois gave a presentation to the Advisory Committee about Council's Catchment Rehabilitation Plan project and priority rehabilitation works for 2024. Updates will be provided throughout the life of the project and updates will also be provided about these works.
- A general discussion was held about the project including about the recommendations from the Manly Dam UTS project.

ACTION

- Council to provide a copy of the Catchment Rehabilitation Plan presentation to the Advisory Committee and regular updates on this project and any relevant rehabilitation works within the Manly Dam catchment.
- Council to provide the Advisory Committee with an update on how Council is planning to action the recommendations from the Manly Dam UTS project.

7.1.3 Planning Matters

- No planning matters raised.

7.1.4 Grants and Capital Works

- Lia Skountzos provided an update on the following projects.
- **Mountain Bike Trail Upgrade Project**
 - Works have not progressed as quickly as planned due to the weather.
 - Focus is on improving trail resilience and managing erosion.
 - 19th hole; upgrades to this area are in the final stages with a new ramp to be manufactured and installed and completion of replanting. Dave Beharrell mentioned drainage - this will be inspected and action taken as needed.
 - Manning Street section, Council is seeking approval from NSW Environment & Heritage to proceed.
 - Road safety works at the entry to the Wakehurst Golf Club are complete.
 - Bantry Reserve section; works underway to upgrade the trail adjacent to this reserve. New safety fencing also to be installed on the golf course / trail boundary.
 - Paul Lidgard; some new trail sections are very wet, a regeneration day would be good and sections of the Manning Street build are bland.

- **Boardwalk Project**

- This project is well progressed however there have been delays due to the weather. Sections of boardwalk have been manufactured and delivered to site, hand rail infrastructure is being manufactured.
- Regular water testing is being conducted as well as weekly site inspections with an Ecologist and Arborist in attendance.
- Works are planned to be completed in November 2024 weather permitting.
- David Beharrell asked what is planned for the boardwalk where it ends at picnic area / section 3. This matter has been raised previously that the boardwalk could link to facilities in section 3.

- **Memorial Shelter Project**

- This project was completed in time for ANZAC Day 2024 and has been well received. The only outstanding works are three pillars that will have commemorative plaques affixed. Council is consulting with the Trust about the plaques.

- **Accessibility Project**

- Council have put out a concept design for community feedback. There was support to create an accessible connection to the water at this location near the playground.

ACTION

- Council to arrange a separate meeting to discuss mountain bike trail matters with the Committee
- Council to report to the Advisory Committee at the next meeting about what is planned for the boardwalk where it ends at picnic area / section 3.

7.1.5 Community Use Matters

- **General Matters**

- Damian Ham presented the Risk Assessment for the Operation of a Proposed Corridor for swimmers and non-powered craft along or within the power boat zone at Manly Dam and Council's Risk Appetite Statement. The risk assessment outcome is that the residual risk (after proposed mitigation / controls are applied) is high which is outside Council's risk appetite for this activity (the community safety category applies). The proposed corridor is not supported.

ACTION

- Council to provide the Risk Assessment presentation to the Advisory Committee.

7.1.6 Policies, Strategies and Community Engagement Matters

- **General Matters**

8.0 GENERAL BUSINESS

- Rob Baker talked to the agenda item he had submitted for this meeting (see attachment 1 to these minutes).
- General discussion about how Council and the Advisory Committee should work more effectively and in a more timely manner with other agencies that undertake activities that impact Manly Dam so that potential impacts are minimised e.g. reducing future pollution incidents.

- Agencies could be invited to Advisory Committee meetings e.g. Sydney Water, Transport for NSW.
- Fire trial works
 - David Beharrell raised the issue of the poor quality of recent works on Manly Dam fire trails. He said these trails are also highly value walking trials – and he has received feedback from some walkers that this most current work was very distressing and poorly done. He requested mulching and any other action that could be done for these trails.
 - Brendan Smith advised there is generally no Review of Environmental Factors (REF) required for fire trail maintenance works. He said Council can flag with the Advisory Committee when Council does these works.
- Brendan Smith discussed fire trail maintenance works including that the priority for management of the trails was bush fire mitigation and that clearance to allow safe passage for Category 1 fire trucks is required in accordance with NSW Fire Trail Standards. Natural regeneration is expected after maintenance works on fire trails and some further follow-up ‘tidying’ had been planned.
- Aquatic Reserve
 - Jeremy Smith advised that Council is currently planning for the renewal of diamonds 2, 3, 4 and 5 in 24/25. The drainage improvements at diamond 1 have been completed. Works on diamonds 2-5 are scheduled to commence from November 2024.
- Discussion held about attendance at these meetings.

ACTION

- Council to investigate ways to work more effectively with other agencies that undertake activities that impact Manly Dam and report back to the Advisory Committee.
- Council to regularly invite a representative from agencies whose activities impact Manly Dam to future meetings e.g. Sydney Water.
- Council to report back on any regeneration or other works undertaken or planned for fire trials at Manly Dam and to provide the Advisory Committee with regular fire trail updates.
- Crown Lands representative to be requested to attend or provide a proxy.

9.0 NEXT MEETING

Monday, 25 November 2024	5pm - 7pm
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Meeting concluded at 7.13pm

Attachment over page

Attachment 1: Agenda Item Submitted by Robert Baker 22 July 2024

Agenda Item

Creating a co-operative understanding between Northern Beaches Council (herein NBC) and the various state instrumentalities (statutory, state owned or governed body) that carry out works within the Manly Dam Bushland Reserve Catchment Area (herein catchment) and, to begin the process of setting minimum standards and expectations with state instrumentalities for future works being carried out within the catchment.

Background

Works by various state instrumentalities have apparent legislative overrides to the powers of the NBC in relation to activity within the catchment. The role of The Manly Warringah War Memorial State Park Advisory Committee (herein committee) involves providing advice to Council (administrative and/or elected) about the strategic management and planning for the ecological health and sustainable recreational use of the State Park (Manly Dam). The committee's advisory capacity is often inhibited by the very nature that the work has already been carried out by the instrumentality prior to any opportunity of review or advice being provided. Often, the work or the practices being carried out may show no regard for the long-term ecological health of the catchment. Further, one of the committee's terms of reference is to facilitate and enable communication between the MWWMSPT, the community and stakeholders (including instrumentalities) with an interest in Manly Warringah War Memorial State Park.

With that in mind, the following motion attempts to establish a co-operative process between NBC and state instrumentalities so that opportunity is given to review future works prior to them being carried out and, to ensure they are aligned with the strategic management and planning for the catchment's ecological health and sustainable recreational use.

The Proposed Motion: That the following advice from the committee be given to The NBC:

"The Committee advises that the NBC begin the process of seeking co-operation with instrumentalities, either by way of a memorandum of understanding or the like, to the effect that the NBC and the committee are charged with the role of the overall strategic management in terms of the catchments' ecological health and sustainable recreation, and that NBC proposes that all future works to be carried out by instrumentalities within the catchment, are carried out with the following intended requirements to be provided by the instrumentality to the NBC:

- That adequate notice for the work be given;
- That the purpose of the work be provided;
- That a detailed scope of the work activity be provided;
- That a review of environmental factors carried out;
- That NBC and The Manly Warringah War Memorial State Park Advisory Committee (the committee) be given the opportunity to review the same and;
- That NBC appoint a properly trained and qualified council officer to physically supervise the work being carried out at the cost of the instrumentality."

End.

This is the final page of the Minutes of the Manly Warringah War Memorial State Park Advisory Committee Meeting held on Monday 5 August 2024.