

SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA

Notice is hereby given that an Ordinary Meeting of Council will be held at Manly Chambers on

Tuesday 25 October 2016

Beginning at 6:30pm for the purpose of considering and determining matters included in this agenda.



Mark Ferguson
General Manager

Issued: 25/10/2016

OUR VALUES

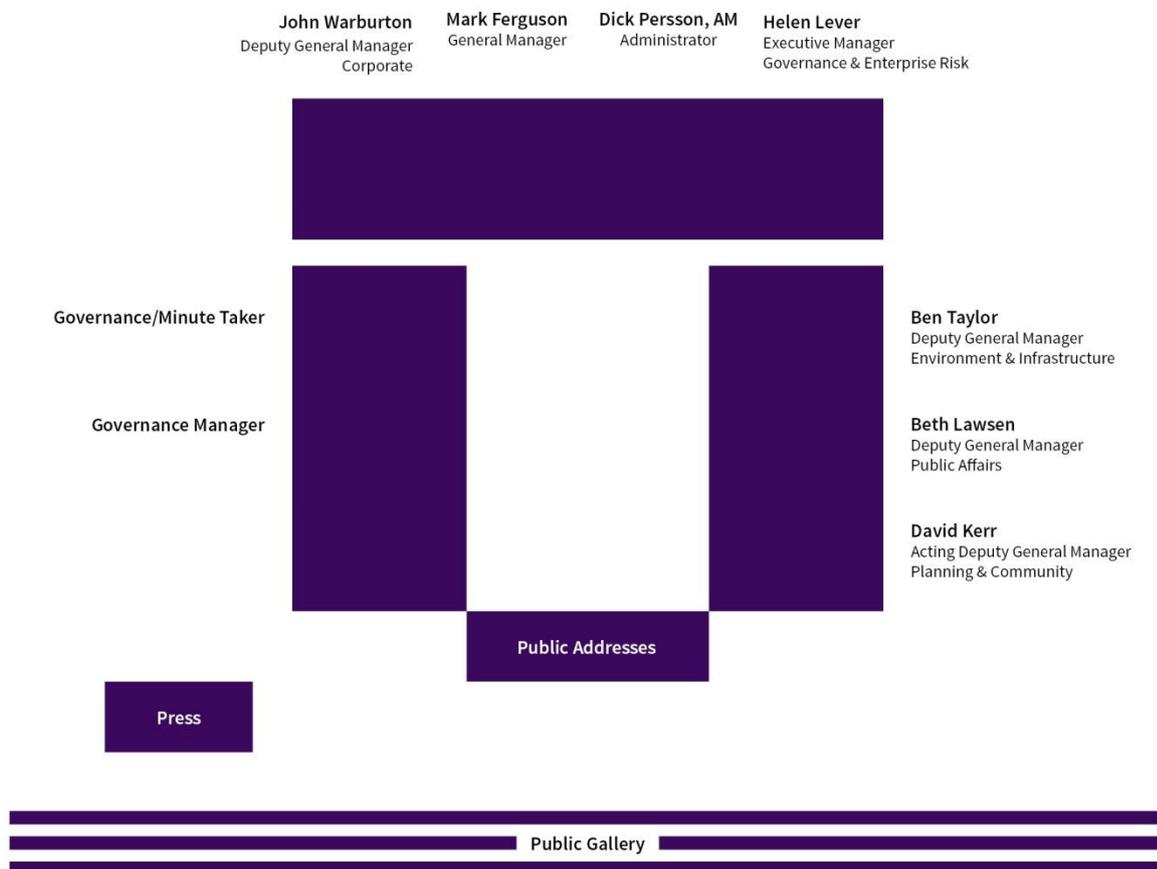
Respect

Empowerment

Service

Wellbeing

Equity



**Agenda for an Ordinary Meeting of Council
to be held on Tuesday 25 October 2016
at Manly Chambers
Commencing at 6:30pm**

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5.0 ADMINISTRATOR'S MINUTES

ITEM 5.1	ADMINISTRATOR MINUTE NO 8/2016 - TREE VANDALISM
TRIM FILE REF	2016/349191
ATTACHMENTS	NIL

BACKGROUND

This week saw another blatant act of vandalism of public trees, in this instance at Bayview. Fourteen 40-60 year old trees on the shoreline of the Pittwater were poisoned, most likely in an attempt to expand the already lovely water view. This follows another recent incident at Clontarf.

I am appalled at this of type behaviour and consider Council needs to send a strong message that this is not acceptable. Trees are regularly cut down, poisoned, lopped and otherwise vandalised on public land and reserves and this is a serious criminal offence

It is clear that these acts are carried out in an attempt to given an enhanced view to a nearby resident. I am determined that such tree vandalism is not rewarded by improving someone's view.

Council requires a clear policy in order for staff to deal with this issue. This policy will provide a framework for council responses to tree vandalism that are consistent with council's Tree and Bushland strategies and apply to any trees vandalised on land owned or managed by Northern Beaches Council. Tree vandalism is the unlawful destruction, damage or injury to trees through methods including, but not limited to poisoning, pruning, cutting, ringbarking or removal.

I support the actions staff have taken to date and want to go further to provide council staff with guidelines for a consistent and appropriate response to acts of tree vandalism on public land.

My objective is to protect the Northern Beaches tree canopy, minimise the instances of tree vandalism and promote public awareness of the value of trees. Encouraging the public to provide council with information regarding acts of tree vandalism and deter potential acts of tree vandalism. Facilitating legal action against these acts.

Notification of such vandalism is paramount in deterring potential vandals in the pursuit of views or other tree destruction in public areas. I would like to implement appropriate actions according to the severity of the vandalism, with 3 categories such as low impact incidence, medium impact incidents and high impact incidents.

An approach that I consider is warranted is to install large banners or shrouding on affected trees. When installed this both acts as a deterrent to vandals and also precludes the offender from gaining the intended 'better' view.

It is clear to me also that in significant cases of vandalism the Northern Beaches Council should pay a reward of up to \$10,000 for information which leads to the successful prosecution of any person or persons who willfully damage trees in this area.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

I am advised that signage related to vandalism could be undertaken with existing resources.

RECOMMENDATION

- A. That Council:
- i. Implement use of large banners or shrouding of affected trees where appropriate as a deterrent to vandals, or to preclude the offender from gaining the intended view.

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- ii. Offer a reward of up to \$10,000 to persons with information leading to a successful prosecution of persons vandalising trees and or vegetation of high impact incidents.
- B. That a tree vandalism policy be prepared and provided for the endorsement of Council.
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Dick Persson
ADMINISTRATOR

ITEM 5.2	ADMINISTRATOR MINUTE NO 9/2016 - PALM BEACH WALKWAY
TRIM FILE REF	2016/349204
ATTACHMENTS	NIL

BACKGROUND

Palm Beach is an iconic local resident and tourist destination located on the very north of the Northern Beaches peninsular that is a popular destination with visitors, many of whom walk to local attractions such as the Palm Beach Light House, local restaurants, markets and the beach itself.

The only existing pedestrian route between Palm Beach Wharf and Governor Phillip Park is via Barrenjoey Road, which acts as a gateway to these local attractions. The pedestrian access on Barrenjoey Road is difficult with no continuous designated path which provides pedestrians no alternative but to share the road with vehicles at some locations. This has been highlighted as a significant safety concern by Council and the local community.

The connection of local communities is a priority for the Northern Beaches Council with the Palm Beach Walkway remaining a critical project in achieving this objective. Council has been working with a Project Working Group consisting of interested stakeholders towards this objective and has undertaken significant design and investigation into the project.

This is a complicated project due to the difficult terrain, location of existing structures and needs for input and advice from external agencies. Council has developed concept designs for a continuous and largely cantilevered walkway travelling from the Palm Beach Ferry Wharf to Governor Phillip Park, estimated at around \$1.7 million for construction.

Full funding for the project is not yet confirmed however I remain confident that with the support of the Member for Pittwater the Hon. Rob Stokes MP that the NSW Government will jointly fund this project with Council.

Consequently I request that Council staff proceed with the community engagement and detailed design with the intent of proceeding with construction as soon as practicably possible once funding is confirmed.

Connectivity and safety are both critical elements to the Northern Beaches Council and one that I advocate across the northern beaches region. The Palm Beach Walkway is a priority project which provides these outcomes for the Community.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- A. Proceed with the community engagement and detailed design of the Palm Beach Walkway to enable the project to be construction-ready.
 - B. Following confirmation of the NSW Government's funding contribution for the project, proceed to tender and construction as soon as possible.
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Dick Persson
ADMINISTRATOR

NORTHERN BEACHES COUNCIL

