

ADMINISTRATOR'S MINUTES BOOKLET

Notice is hereby given that an Extraordinary Meeting of Council will be held at the Civic Centre, Dee Why on

Thursday 16 June 2016

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



Mark Ferguson
General Manager

Issued: 16/06/2016

**Administrator’s Minutes for an Extraordinary Meeting of Council
to be held on Thursday 16 June 2016
at the Civic Centre, Dee Why
Commencing at 6:30pm**

5.0 ADMINISTRATOR’S MINUTES1

5.1 Administrator's Minute No 4/2016 - Future of Playgrounds - Accessibility and
Inclusion1

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Ku-ring-gai Chase National Park.....3

ITEM 5.1	ADMINISTRATOR'S MINUTE NO 4/2016 - FUTURE OF PLAYGROUNDS - ACCESSIBILITY AND INCLUSION
TRIM FILE REF	2016/139692
ATTACHMENTS	NIL

BACKGROUND

The former Mayor of Warringah met with a resident, Ms Caroline Ghatt regarding the future designing of playgrounds. Ms Ghatt raised attention of the importance of designing for "inclusivity" (not only "accessibility") into future playgrounds and in the upgrade of playgrounds.

Ms Ghatt is passionate about this issue and started a Facebook Group - Play For All Australia:

"We are a group of parents, families and friends who believe in the power of play. We want to see more playgrounds across Australia inclusive to all children. We are campaigning for new and upgrading local council playgrounds to be made accessible and inclusive to all kids - including those children with special needs. Playgrounds bring kids together, and help them learn, grow and share in fun. Play is for everyone."

I am pleased to hear, that as Administrator, the key focus of future playground planning and strategy for the Northern Beaches Council is "Accessibility and Inclusion" for all playgrounds and this planning together has commenced. Playgrounds will be rationalised and recategorised for consistency, equality and distance/ amenity to ensure fairness in the provision and distribution of play spaces across the region.

The staff teams commenced working this week towards the amalgamation of relevant planning documents for a consistent approach to playgrounds across the Northern Beaches Local Government Area. This will be developed in consultation with the community. Documents were disseminated to relevant teams for their review and reporting to the next meeting at the end of June 2016.

The principles of Accessibility and Inclusiveness for play will be key inclusions through out the planning and delivery of playgrounds for all of the community.

The Northern Beaches Playground Strategy will meet the request of the resident Ms Ghatt:

"to have safe and accessible open spaces that support inclusion and foster a sense of belonging."

and:

"... taking the design beyond ACCESS and into the INCLUSION of all members of the community. Access means making concessions to enable persons with differences to use a space like ramps or special amenities. Inclusion empowers people of all abilities to utilise a space."

As the starting point for all new and upgraded playgrounds across the northern beaches, as Administrator, I am keen to advocate for playgrounds in the region of the northern beaches to be accessible and inclusive in design and delivery.

I want our playgrounds to provide rich and multi-sensory play experiences for all children including those with special needs. This important issue will be addressed in the Northern Beaches Council Disability Inclusion Plan.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council ensure Accessible and Inclusive design is the starting point for all new playgrounds and all playgrounds to be refurbished in the future for this region.



Dick Persson
Administrator

- ITEM 5.2** **ADMINISTRATOR'S MINUTE NO 5/2016 - THE INCORPORATION OF COUNCIL LANDS INTO KU-RING-GAI CHASE NATIONAL PARK**
- TRIM FILE REF** **2016/179600**
- ATTACHMENTS** **1 Indicative Map of Land Parcels Available to be Transferred to Ku-ring-gai Chase National Park**

BACKGROUND

Northern Beaches Council has extensive land holdings on the Western Foreshores of the Pittwater waterway that can be readily transferred into the National park. The majority of these land parcels are contiguous and indiscernible from Kur-ring-gai Chase National Park with side by side lots being in different land ownership. I understand that this is a historical legacy of past dedications and gazettals that has been ongoing over time. To simplify the management of the land and ensure its protection in perpetuity I propose to transfer this land to NSW Office of Environment and Heritage for incorporation into the Kur-ring-gai Chase National Park.

I am advised that all identified Council owned lots on the west foreshore are classified as community lands under the *Local Government Act 1993*. Additionally, the majority of the parcels are zoned E2 - Environmental Conservation, with the remaining lands zoned RE1 - Public Recreation.

Section 45(4) of *Local Government Act 1993* allows Council the "selling, exchanging or otherwise disposing of community land for the purpose of enabling that land to become, or be added to, a Crown reserve or to become, or be added to, land that is reserved or dedicated under the National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974".

PROPOSAL

Maintaining and protecting the scenic character and recognising the outstanding natural values of lands on the western foreshore is a high priority for this Council. There are approximately 20 hectares that can be readily transferred with a mix of lot sizes. I propose that the enlargement of the national park be progressed for lands that are contiguous with the National Park.

Before deciding which parcels could be included, it is important to consider the economic value they provide to the community relative to their environmental or recreational value. Additionally, there would be specific exclusion in relation to parcels that are:

- not contiguous with the National Park;
- encumbered lands that can't be readily transferred;
- required to provide ready access to or from wharves;
- lands that form part of the Currawong Reserve Trust;
- lands that contain Council assets, for example Rural Fire Brigade stations.

CONSULTATION

The tenure of some of these land parcels is complex and requires consultation with the Office of Environment and Heritage and interested stakeholders before determining how they can best be included in the Kur-ring-gai Chase National Park. I will request a report into these parcels before making a final recommendation.

Obviously the transfer of the unique area of the Northern Beaches Council is an advantage to most and I would like to encourage strong community support for the settling of the long-term management for these land parcels.

TIMING

The transfer of lands will require further investigation, and prior to finalising a list of parcels for inclusion I would like staff to report on the costs, opportunities and constraints of including these land parcels. I understand this report can be prepared within 3 months. I recognise that the transfer of lands and the gazettal of the Ku-ring-gai Chase National Park expansion will be determined by the workload of the Office of Environment and Heritage, however I will write to the Member for Pittwater, the Hon. Rob Stokes to seek his assistance in prioritising the expansion.

COST

I am advised that the initial costs are in the areas of both due diligence investigations and the preparation and completion of the transfer of lands. I will ask the General Manager to determine what costs are likely to be incurred and these costs included in the staff report mentioned above.

CONCLUSION

There is an opportunity for the improved protection and management of the unique environment of the Western Foreshores of Pittwater. These land transfers create the opportunity to progress this unique opportunity to expand the conservation area around environmental boundaries removing the differing land tenures of the artificial administrative boundaries, and improve the long-term strategic management of this important asset.

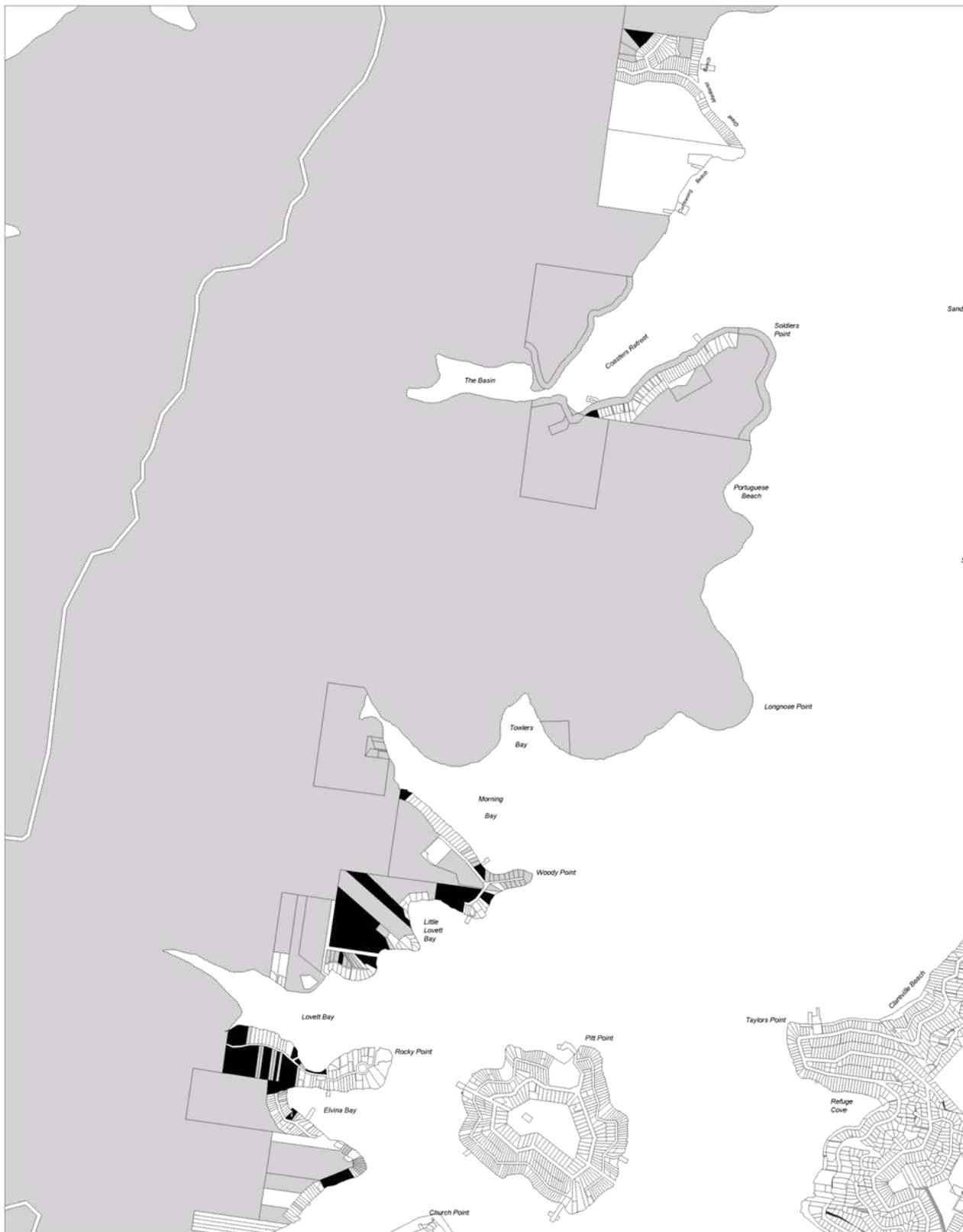
RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- A. Consult with relevant State Government departments and other stakeholders regarding the transfer of identified Council lands into Ku-ring-gai Chase National Park.
- B. Undertake the required investigations to identify any encumbrances, opportunities or constraints to the transfer of these lands into Ku-ring-gai Chase National Park.
- C. Write a letter to the Member for Pittwater, the Hon. Rob Stokes MP to seek his support to expedite the land transfer.
- D. Prepare a report within three (3) months outlining the progress of this and any other matters relevant to the transfer of the land into Ku-ring-gai Chase National Park.



Dick Persson
ADMINISTRATOR



Western Foreshore
Northern Beaches Council and National Parks Owned Land

- National Parks Owned
- Northern Beaches Council Owned



Date: 01/06/16
Scale: 1cm = 255m

NORTHERN BEACHES COUNCIL

