



WAVERLEY COUNCIL

Combined Precinct Meeting

Thursday 6 July 2023



Acknowledgement of Country

Waverley Council would like to acknowledge the Bidjigal and Gadigal people, who traditionally occupied the Sydney Coast. We would also like to acknowledge Aboriginal Elders both past and present.



WAVERLEY
COUNCIL



Agenda

- Introductions
- Subcommittee Reports
 - Engagement
 - Special Projects
 - Operational Matters
 - Planning and Overdevelopment
- Meet our Community Planning Advocate
- 2022 Precinct Satisfaction Survey
- Workshop on Precinct Policy
- General Business



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Subcommittee Reports

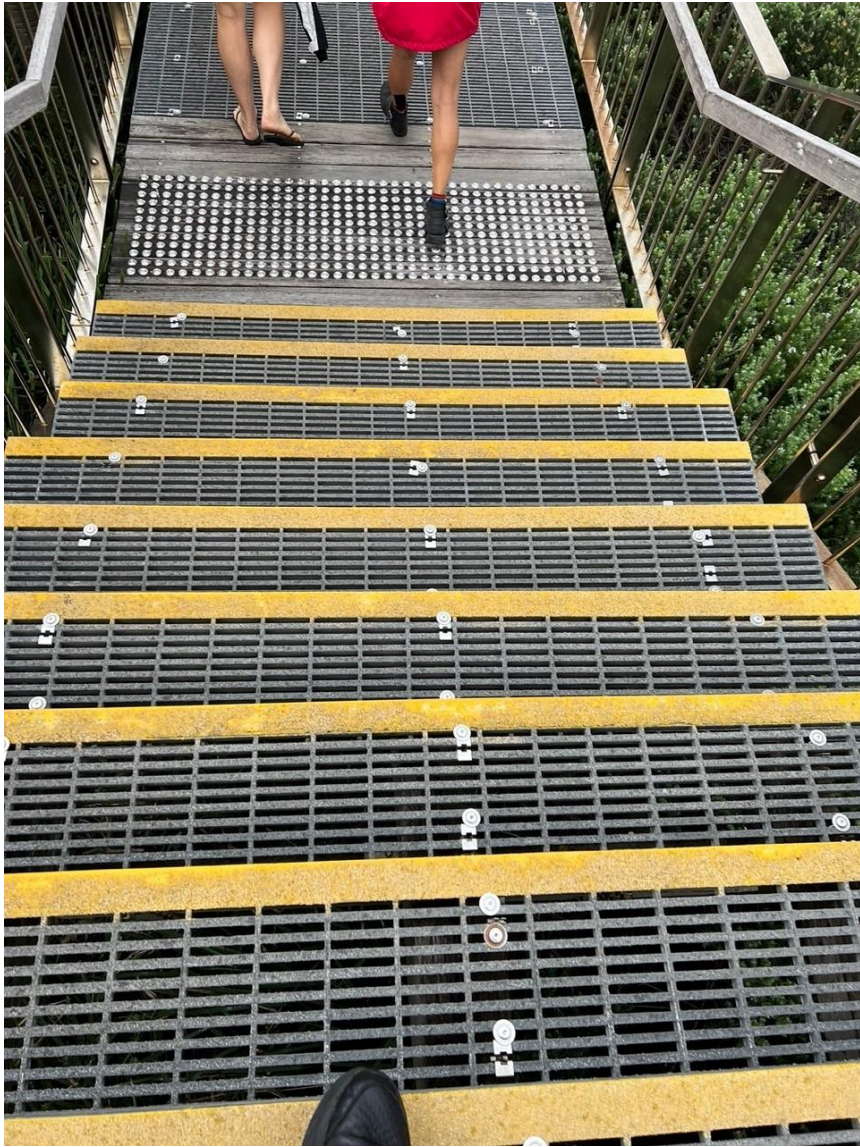
Subcommittee Reports

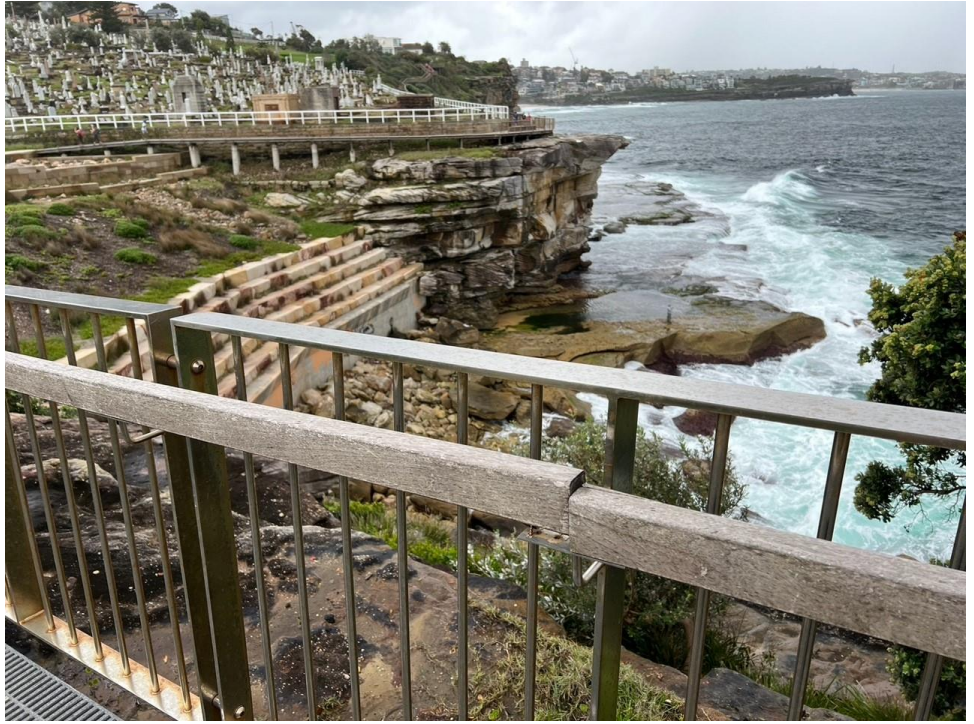
- Engagement
- Special Projects
- Operational Matters
- Planning and Overdevelopment













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Meet our Community Planning Advocate

Alana Novak

Purpose

- Working with the Executive Services Team and the Community Liaison Coordinator to assist in supporting Precinct Committees and other community members on Planning and Regulatory matters
- Providing regular education programs for residents about Planning and Regulatory matters
- Developing metrics which capture the cumulative, aggregate impacts of development



Providing support to community members preparing to attend the Waverley Local Planning Panel or other courts or panels



Educating the community via webinars, workshops, and forums to support residents understand the planning process



Supporting the community with DA enquiries, planning proposals and planning matters including, advice on how to write a submission, following up the status of DAs, explaining next steps in the assessment process, advice on the Social Impact Assessment process, information on compliance issues and information about processes post DA approval stage and triaging planning queries with the Executive Services team



Providing feedback to the Strategic Planning and DA Team regarding resident's planning and regulatory concerns and conducting surveys with residents, businesses, the community, and visitors about the impacts of development

Review DA decisions, assess any DA application/s or assist with the lodgement of DAs



Write submissions or objections





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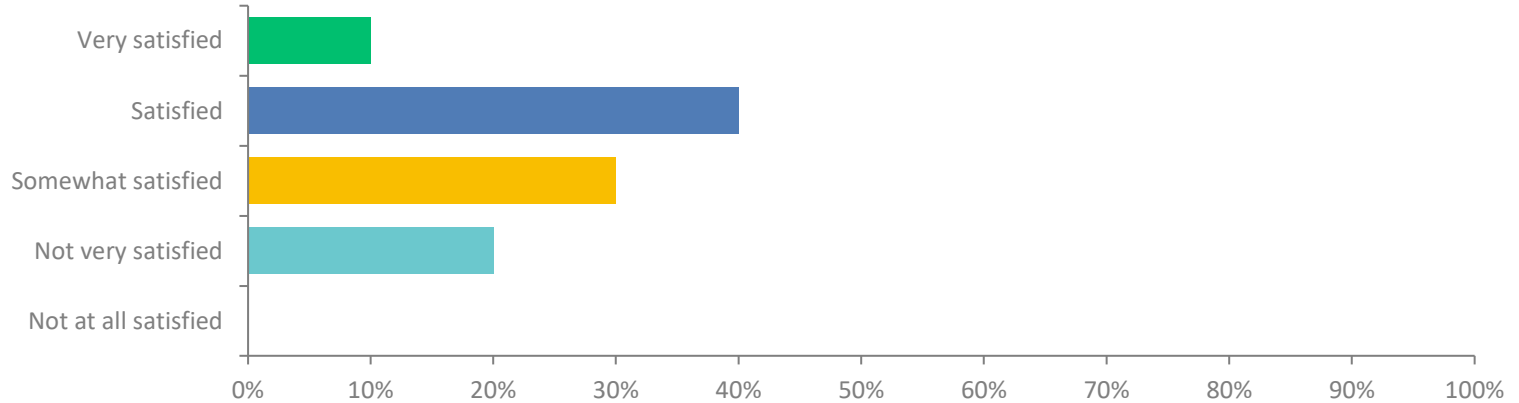
Precinct Executive Committee Members Satisfaction Survey 2022 Results

Background

- Council is committed to engaging Precincts on strategic issues and to improve Precinct access to Council decision making processes
- This commitment is set out in Council's Operational Plan 2022/23
- The survey (conducted in September 2022) was designed to measure levels of satisfaction with Precincts' ability to contribute to shaping the future of Waverley through the decision-making process
- Survey was anonymous
- Sent to all Precinct Executives
- Total of 20 respondents



Q1: Overall, for the last 12 months, how satisfied are you that Council has made opportunities available for you as a Precinct representative, to have input on strategic issues?

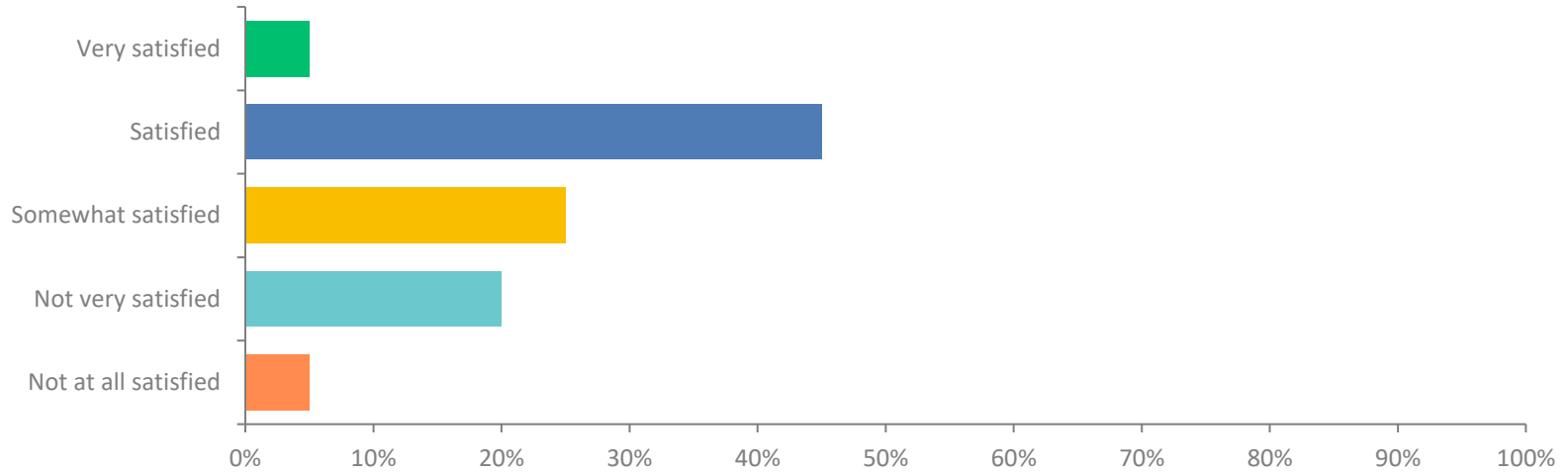


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Very satisfied	10.0%	2
Satisfied	40.0%	8
Somewhat satisfied	30.0%	6
Not very satisfied	20.0%	4
Not at all satisfied	0%	0
TOTAL		20

Q2. Thinking about your ability as a Precinct representative to contribute to shaping the future of Waverley by providing input to strategic issues, what could be done to improve your satisfaction with your ability to provide input on strategic issues?

- *“I'm very satisfied with the ability to contribute input. Not very satisfied that a lot of the input seems to be ignored by council.”*
- *“We need to streamline the communications process across Council and have a system to prioritise issues. Also feels like a lot of the consultation is 'tick a box'. ...we need to refresh the membership of the precincts to get diversity of views.”*
- *“Precinct input is mostly noted and ignored. However, I am not sure what the best solution is to fix this.”*
- *“If only one felt that Council's positions on matters would be acted upon rather than over-ruled by the State Government! That would bring mutual satisfaction to Waverley Council and its precinct members.”*
- *“Recognition in writing of our suggestions and feedback if they are put into action or not.”*
- *“Improved consultation and listening to community needs and aspirations. We have a very creative and committed residents... they want to contribute . On many occasions our Councillors and officers do not listen , engage far too late , have made strategic and operational decisions and pay lip service to the community voice...”*

Q3: Overall, for the last 12 months, how satisfied are you with the resolutions reached with regards to Action Requests you have raised with Council?



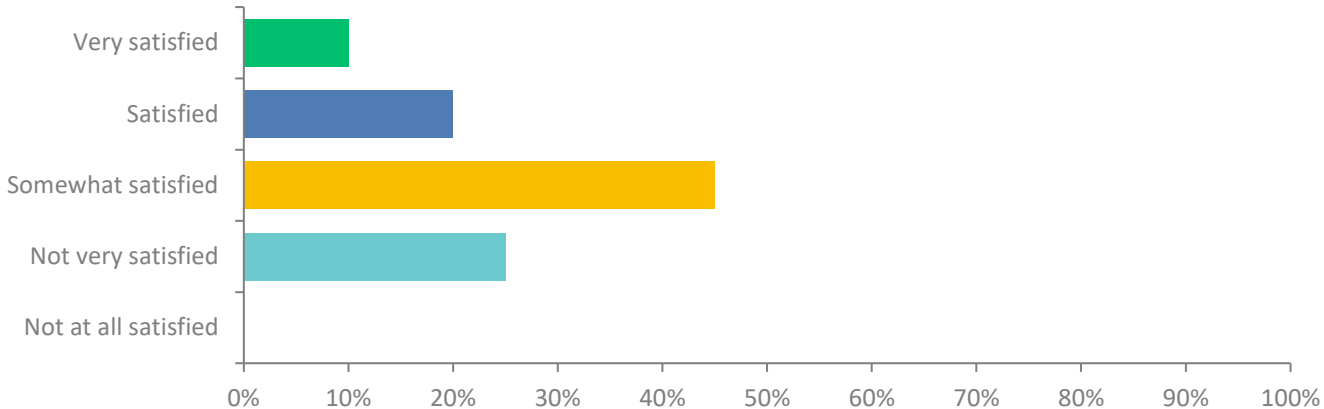
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Very satisfied	5.00%	1
Satisfied	45.00%	9
Somewhat satisfied	25.00%	5
Not very satisfied	20.0%	4
Not at all satisfied	5.00%	1
TOTAL		20

Q4. Thinking about your Action Requests to Council, what could be done to improve your satisfaction with their resolution?

- *“Overall the council does a fairly good job of closing out the action requests.”*
- *Getting actions resolved in a timely manner and giving feedback to our suggestions in a timely manner.”*
- *“1 - Actually complete what was requested 2 - Do not close action requests simply because they are scheduled. Any action request should remain open until the action is actually completed 3 - Motions passed by precincts regarding action requests should have higher value than a single resident's request 4 - Action requests that never get completed should be escalated to an ombudsman or resolutions person that can work to help in getting the request completed 5 - Any request that is still not resolved in 1 year should be escalated to the GM for special attention.”*
- *“Changes to state government control over planning and development approvals”*
- *“Our motions on planning matters are usually just brushed off ... the activities of that department really do need much closer scrutiny from governance, and perhaps also from Councillors.”*



Q5: Overall, for the last 12 months, how satisfied are you with the opportunities made available to you to influence Council’s decision making processes?



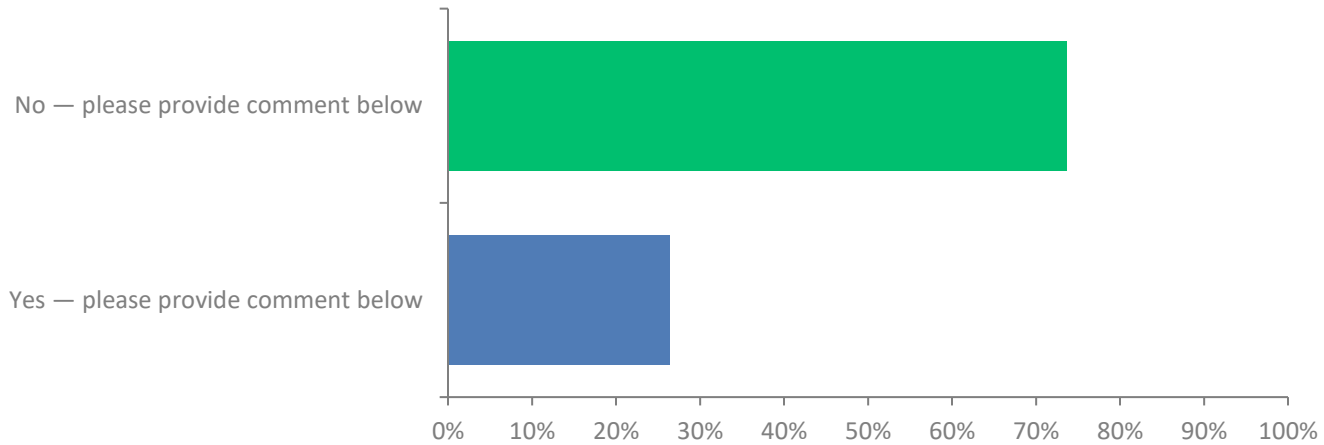
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Very satisfied	10.0%	2
Satisfied	20.0%	4
Somewhat satisfied	45.00%	9
Not very satisfied	25.00%	5
Not at all satisfied	0%	0
TOTAL		20

Q6. Thinking about your ability as a Precinct representative to contribute to shaping the future of Waverley through the decision making processes of Council, what could be done to improve your satisfaction with your ability to influence this process?

- *“The council's Planning Department needs to take more notice of the residences' concerns/ With developments we no longer have much input as the planning panel overrides any objections.”*
- *“Precinct motions and requests should be taken seriously and not simply noted and ignored.”*
- *“The precinct/s should be receiving good detail as to the reasons and arguments why a decision is made.”*
- *“Seeing that things changed because of what we suggested.”*
- *“More involvement before decisions are taken, not once they have been made.”*
- *More weight be accorded to Precincts, who, in the case of my particular Precinct, bring a wealth of expertise and local knowledge to the consideration of matters well exceeding what has to be deemed to be the narrower outlook of the professional..”*
- *“Have Council officers engage with precincts.”*



Q7: During the COVID-19 pandemic, Council has utilised online engagement to ensure continued Precinct participation in consultation forums. Has this impacted your ability to provide input on Council’s strategic projects and proposals?



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
No — please provide comment below	73.68%	14
Yes — please provide comment below	26.32%	5
TOTAL		19

8. Do you have any suggestions for improvement regarding online engagement?

- *“Its been a great way to increase more people and provide feedback in a timely way.”*
- *“Online engagement is great overall...but is there really a point to any engagement when the results of that engagement are mostly ignored?”*
- *“Would prefer to be engaging in real life so I hope we can offer a blend of both, moving forward. Or perhaps we can try and engage those few people in other ways - and have them attend virtually with other members in the group.”*
- *“I think that Zoom meetings for precincts has worked well, and that as familiarity with this medium grows, then this will provide greater access to our meetings with the public than heretofore. Moreover, no travel is involved and much time is saved.”*
- *“Ensure that results e.g. number of responses and views is provided .. when we respond it appears to go into a black box and we don’t see transparent results ... at least a petition etc we are able to gauge views etc.”*

Council actions from Precinct feedback

- Hybrid meetings in trial
- Additional Planning Support available via Community Planning Advocate
- Council Directors and Officers engaging more with Precincts
- Faster responses
- Feedback on suggestions
- Greater involvement with General Manager and Executive Leadership Team
- Increased advertising to increase Precinct attendance and encourage diversity of views

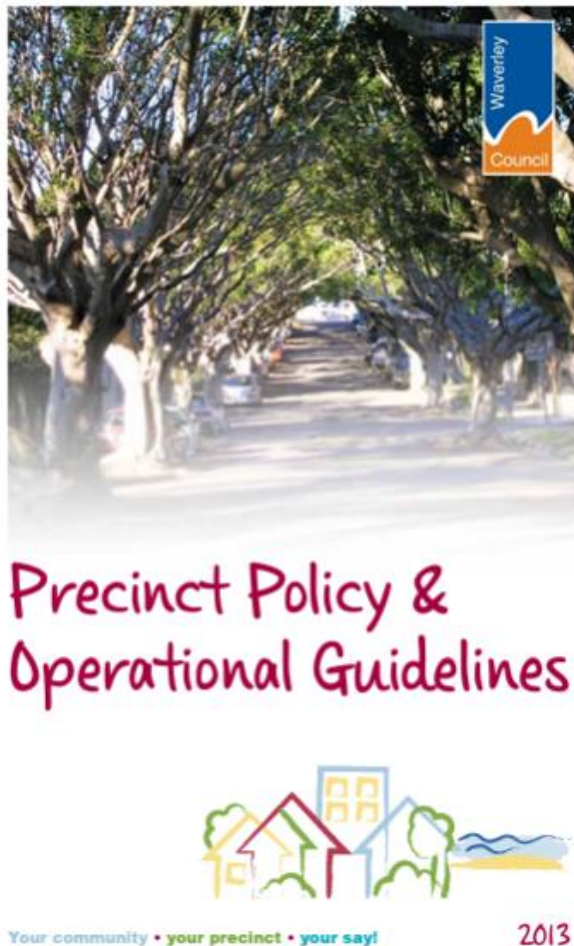
Questions / comments?



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Precinct Policy Review

Precinct Policy Review



- Waverley Council's Precinct Committees operate according to a Precinct Policy.
- The Policy should be reviewed every four years with the most recent review completed in 2013.
- The outcome of this process was a revised Policy and the development of a Precinct Handbook/resource which draws together in an integrated manual Council's Precinct Policy (2012), Code of Practice for Precinct Executives, Precinct Operational Guidelines and templates to ensure Waverley's precinct members are adequately supported.

Your feedback

- What's working well in the Policy?
- What's not?
- What needs to change / can be improved?

Next steps on Precinct Policy

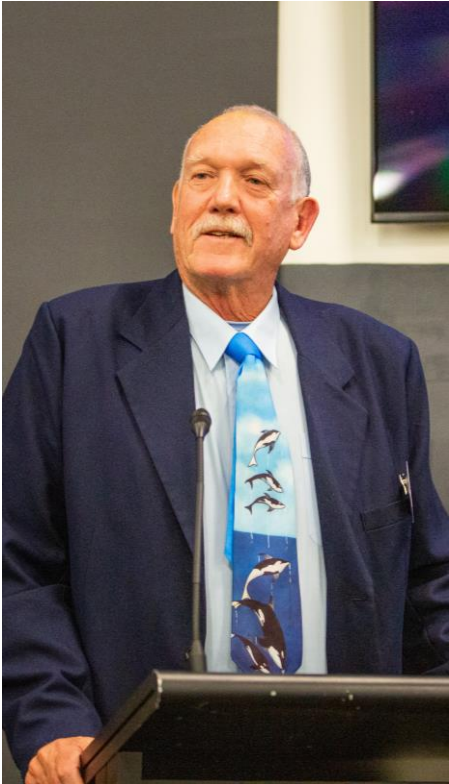
- Discussions with staff and Councillors for feedback on the current Policy
- Additional meeting with Precinct Executives to review the feedback received to date



WAVERLEY COUNCIL

General Business

Congratulations to our Local Hero Peter Quartly



**Special mention to Alma
Douglas for a Working
Together Commendation for
her work on Power to the
Future (P2F Wise)**





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