

Minutes

Bronte Precinct Meeting Monday 12.02.24

Commenced 7.00pm (via Zoom)

Attendees

Alma Douglas	Grant Beard - Chair
Alex Ellis	
Clinton Reilly	
Terry Tobiansky	
Cr Tony Kay	
Marcelle	

1. **Grant welcomes everyone, Apologies** – Michael Donnan, Cr Fabiano
2. **Minutes Accepted from last meeting.** Moved Grant, Seconded Alma.

Mirimar Ave footpath response unacceptable, the matter is still unresolved.

Motion

Bronte Precinct requests that the remaining sections of footpath of Mirimar Avenue be replaced before 30 June 2024, as already authorized by Mr Joannides, without further reinspection.

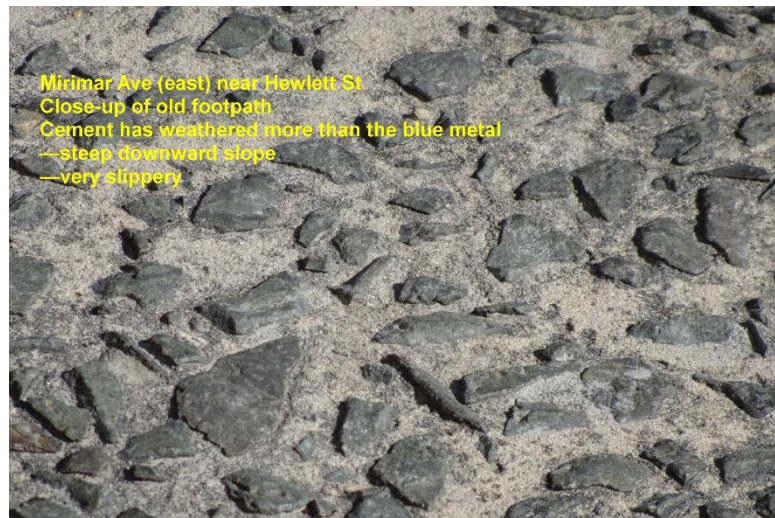
Background to Bronte Precinct motion on Mirimar Ave Footpath

About three-quarters of the eastern footpath in Mirimar Ave was replaced in 2019. Bronte Precinct asked Council to replace the remaining sections on the south-eastern side (near Hewlett St). The sections to be replaced are over 70 years old and are made of aggregate. Over time the cement has worn faster than the aggregate, leaving smooth aggregate chips higher than the cement and presenting a serious slip hazard given the steep downhill slope. (Slips have occurred.)

The site was inspected by Mr Joannides in 2022–23 and he determined that the footpath would be replaced. Mr Joannides informed Cr Kay of this assessment. Mr Joannides also advised Cr Kay that approximately one metre of path on the corner of Mirimar Ave and Hewlett St would be replaced in 2022–23 (and this was done almost immediately) and that the remaining sections of footpath would be replaced in 2023–24.

At its September 2023 meeting, Bronte Precinct asked Council when the replacement work was scheduled for completion. The Council's response that "Council officers will reinspect the site to ascertain if works are required" is completely unacceptable. As indicated above, the replacement was approved by My Joannides in 2022–23 and work commenced. There is no reason for a reinspection.

Bronte Precinct also notes that the reply says, “Advice to come shortly”. The question was raised in September 2023, but no advice has been received as at February 2024.



Moved: Alma
Seconded: Grant
Carried.

3. Aftermath of Christmas Day at Bronte Beach

Is it impossible to police? Pretty much. Controlling the rubbish and the collection of it is about the best we can do. Council had a large quantity of bins and the trucks ready for disposal, however the amount of people prevents this working effectively. You can't control the call-out for a party on social media. You can't block the streets and access.

4. Updates

- Confirmed that cash also now accepted at the Service Centre in Bondi Junction for rates payments etc. No change can be given—correct amount required or the difference is held in credit.
- *Sculpture by the Sea*—Thompson Street temporary one-way system generally reportedly went well. The traffic controller staff were not present on the final day. Cr Kay to check with Nik Zervos re the survey post Sculptures, Tamarama/South Bondi precincts could combine to answer the survey, or face to face also an option.
 - a) Has there been a debrief?
 - b) What were the recommendations?

- *Plan of Management and Have Your Say Day.* Alma of the opinion its fairly pointless asking people to complete a 'Have your say' questionnaire. There is a feeling that the decision may be already made at Council, the idea is already in motion. Why doesn't Council ask first for the opinion of the residents? *Tamarama PoM*—the meeting was at the cafe instead of the gully where the changes were intended to be made. Confusion amongst locals. *Bronte PoM*—The report referred to the 'majority' of respondents approving various proposals, but on another page we find that there were only 6 respondents. While 4 out of 6 is a majority, this is misleading.
- Precinct discussed the ineffectiveness of 'Have Your Say' days and community consultations.
- Cr Kay will take our comments and feedback to the officers.
- *Bronte Gully and Park.* Alex gives update on chance meeting with Sydney Water Maintenance staff who were fixing the sewerage opening in Bronte Gully and removing a large concrete blockage that was contributing to the sewerage overflow. New steel plate opening and concrete fixture added. This may be the final time raw sewerage and toilet paper flows to the stormwater and continues down to the beach contaminating the swimming water. Catalyst for fix? Perhaps the ABC social media news reports, Channel 9 and Channel 7 recent TV news reports, or Alex's recent communication with Sydney Water regarding their awareness of the issue for years prior to the news reports.

5. General Business

- **P3_Parking and Impact on Neighbourhoods**

Residential Parking Scheme (RPS). Cr Kay gives parking explanation. Generally, there will be a survey, followed by a report, and then a traffic meeting. Recommendations to Council for endorsement. There are usually 2 catalysts for a survey, more than 50% of residents must want it, or council officers decided to do a survey.

Disabled parking removal on Palmerston Avenue brought to the attention of the meeting by Marcelle. Marcelle has contacted the council more than five5 times. Cr Kay to put forward at the next Traffic Committee meeting.

Alex to photograph Hewlett Street Disabled Parking spot that is not getting used.

- **Letterbox drop**—Palmerston Ave, Brown St not received. Alfred and Murray St received.

6. Council Core Duties

- Why is Council entering a float in the Mardi Gras and not fixing the footpaths etc, such as in Mirimar Ave that has been identified by this Precinct several times? The

question is raised as a matter of what budget. Where is it allocated from? The Mayor may have had the opportunity to say yes or no. Decided under delegated authority means it doesn't require Mayor/Council authority. Officers may just go ahead.

- *Cats and Their Impact on Local Fauna/Wildlife Issue.*

In the Greater Sydney area, there are approximately 1 million pet cats. Roaming pet cats kill 112 million animals per year – 66 million of these are native.

A simple step to have cats contained within their own household and not allowed to roam free would have profound benefits for our wildlife diversity in Waverley Municipality. Additionally, Bunnings sell a cat deterrent sonar detractor. Sends out a blue light with successful results.

Motion

Bronte Precinct requests Council to liaise with Penny Sharpe, NSW Minister for the Environment, also Ron Hoeing, NSW Minister for Local Government to amend the law in NSW to permit local councils to implement 24/7 cat containment rules.

Proposed: Alma

Seconded: Grant

Carried.

Foxes are also an issue—discussion around the Brown St vegetation and fox presence. There are fox solutions out there. Council has previously hired specialist contractors to eradicate foxes. (Alma advised that Bunnings sell a cat deterrent sonar detractor. Sends out a blue light with successful results.)

Clinton Reilly will provide his email address and phone contacts to the council representative should they need a local contact on this issue.

- *Park Bench on Read St verge* outside 69 Read St has caused a stir with residents. Was there a survey of residents? Cr Kay is awaiting a response from officers. If the survey is still to occur, the park bench to remain. It doesn't present any privacy issues, and doesn't seem to be impacting anyone. However, does this set a precedent for items being placed on verge gardens and the safety issues that might arise from such things?
- *Bronte Surf Club DA* deferred by Planning Panel to after Easter. DA-455/2022.

Meeting closed 8.45pm.

Appendix

Images from Bronte Gully

