

BRONTE BEACH PRECINCT

A meeting of the BBPrecinct was held on Wednesday April 17th.2024 at the Lugar Brae Church hall.

No. Present 25

Councillors Present The Mayor Paula Masselos , Councillor Angela Burrill.

Apologies Sandy Bruns, Greg Vaughan, Mora Main

The meeting was opened by Chair Virginia Milson welcoming those in attendance. A minute of silence was held out of respect for all those affected by Bondi Junction's shocking events.

Business Arising : Council's response to the previous motion at 161 MacPherson St. and the request for Council to appoint a surveyor to check proposed heights and all measurements on recently lodged plans was read to the meeting. The Dept. of Planning, Sustainability & Compliance responded that the DA will be assessed and determined by the local planning panel and those making submissions could attend that Panel meeting.

VM proposed that last month's Minutes had omitted the item on Footpath Planting noting that there had been concerns expressed over the intrusion of the Agave outside cnr. of Evans/Yanko Ave. with Agave posing a potential trip hazard. It was noted that this had already been rectified by Council but outside 26 Yanko a known noxious weed Prickly Pear, appeared to have been planted in three places and should be removed urgently.

The Minutes were proposed by Michel Hudson, seconded by John Batts . Passed unanimously.

The Mayor's Update:

- 1.Charing X upgrade - this would begin this month with the overhead wires being put underground by Ausgrid with access to shops NOT to be prevented.
- 2.Affordable Housing – Govt. changes only provides for AH for 15years in return for extra height & FSR concessions. The Council is opposing the consolidation of sites which can remove numbers of people from their homes as unit blocks etc. are consolidated and sold as luxury apartments.
- 3.Changes to Outdoor Seating – to be assessed differently from numbers to need based.
- 4.Mapping safe walkways in Waverley for residents to move around the Municipality on foot, particularly to school via walking buses.
5. Boot Factory at BJ – to be opened soon as a technology hub.
6. The Westfield stabbings. The Mayor praised authorities noting that some members of the public had shown considerable courage. There was spontaneous grief. The Community is in a state of shock. Council is concerned for safety of women. Half-mast flags for 2 weeks. News of community reflection day at Westfield and a wreath is to be laid on Thursday with a later Vigil at Bondi Beach the following Sunday. Families of the slain may be present. Support agencies particularly for mental health were available. A memorial is to be built at the Junction.

Special Guest : Allegra Spender Local Member for Wentworth.

Allegra spoke to the residents about her recent activities following the Mayor's address highlighting her concerns about mental health advising that Counselling is available for those who experienced the BJ events at Westfield including children as well.

Violence and hate incitement on social media can be reported to the E Safety Commissioner and Allegra's office.

She is establishing a Youth Action Committee which is drawn from a diverse number of communities in the Electorate.

She's concerned about Violence against women. A new public school at Edgecliff as part of the Centre's reconstruction is being considered while there is a \$40million merger of Randwick Boys & Girls High Schools underway.

Electric Vehicles are supported, Allegra has one herself but charging is difficult without a garage - super charges are to be installed at the Waverley Library.

Allegra also raised the proposed legislation on Fuel Efficiency standards which places Australia on a par with Russia and can cause this country to be the dumping ground of fuel inefficient vehicles.

She acknowledged the financial pressure on residents and believes that Solar development can help relieve some of the expense incurred by energy costs .Cost of living assistance could be introduced by the Commonwealth through rental assistance.

In response to questions she noted that immigration was challenging as there was a need to increase numbers for both skilled and unskilled to respond to business needs but additional infrastructure is needed.

Additional questions raised from the floor covered: War Memorial Hospital and the Mens' Shed; affordable housing & impacts on social cohesion; gaps in mental health treatment; availability of illicit drugs (the health impact, not simply the criminality); balancing infrastructure Vs immigration levels. Allegra was warmly thanked for her attendance and interest.

Precinct Elections:

The Mayor moved to conduct the meeting :

Co-conveners: Virginia Milson & Greg Vaughan were elected unopposed along with the following:

Secretary John Batts

Committee : Michael Hudson, Sally Kendall, Roger Rajarathan, Susan Hely, Sally Bassett.

Lorren Townsend was co opted at the end of the meeting.

General Business: Concerns were expressed regarding the frequent notices on Bronte Beach advising of sewage pollution.The meeting was advised that this is the responsibility of Sydney Water but the pollution is due to recent heavy rain events and the inability of the pipes to cope with the runoff and the possibility of illegal connections of sewage into the stormwater. Council can be contacted when the Beach notices are not removed

13 Calga Ave: an update from Michael Hudson, especially on the matter of the breached set-back. Council has extraordinarily agreed with the builder to alter the measurement requirement. W.C. lawyers in addition to Mitchell Reid had stated in writing that the developer had breached the rear setback control. Michael has lodged an FOI to follow the proceedings through Council. An extension of time was granted following a request by WC.

The meeting was closed at 9.21pm.

