

Greenwich Community Association

General Meeting

Held at Greenwich Memorial Community Hall, 46 Greenwich Road, Greenwich
14 December 2016

Minutes of Meeting

The meeting opened at 7:35pm

Present: As per the attendance book

1) Welcome

President Merri Southwood chaired the meeting and welcomed community members.

2) Apologies

Apologies were received from Penny Mabbutt, Patricia Quealey and Michael Carr.

3) Confirmation of Minutes of previous general meeting 19 October 2016

The minutes of the GCA General Meeting held 19 October 2016 were tabled.

Motion: The previous meeting's minutes are accepted.

Moved by John Southwood, seconded by Rod Tudge and passed.

4) Matters arising from the Minutes

- Crown Lands – despite Auditor General's report that cited poor management of such by local councils and thus ineffective operation of the Act, recent amendments were passed.
- Parking amendments between Landenburg and Chisholm is yet to be implemented. Proposed changes for a section of Vista Street have been made.

Any other matters arising from the minutes were discussed during the meeting.

5) Report on the Activities of the Association

a) President's Report

Merri identified the areas that drew the GCA's attention during 2016, each to be discussed further in Notified Business;

- Council Amalgamations
- Gore Bay Terminal
- Crown Lands
- St Leonard's development and Greater Sydney Commission
- Greenwich Baths

b) Secretary's Report

Since the General Meeting of 19 October 2016 the following correspondence was received:

Date	From	Subject
21 October 2016	Greater Sydney Commission	Expression of Interest to attend Community Group Briefing for draft Northern District Plan (21 Nov)
4 November 2016	Department of Primary Industry / Lands	Copy of Crown Lands Inventory in Lane Cove LGA
4 November 2016	Harbourline	(phone) acknowledging receipt of letter re: Christmas Carols
5 November 2016	Lisa Perry (resident)	Greenwich Baths – asbestos discovery and site improvement management concerns
7 November	Lane Cove Council – Chris Pelcz, Strategic Planning	Status of St Leonards South Master Plan; LEP timing & any amendments
7 November	Cllr. Pam Palmer	Suggestion that Council funding could support The Hub using space in GCA Newsletter
10 November	Craig Knight (resident)	DA206/2015 Gore St development over BCO
14 November	Lane Cove Council - Rajiv Shankar	Advice re: GCA submission on DA206/2015 Gore St
21 November	Lane Cove Council – Michael Mason	Planning Proposal 24 (LEP 2009) – Housekeeping Amendments
21 November	Greater Sydney Commission	draft Northern District Plan & accompanying brochures
22 November 2016	Lane Cove Council – Chris Pelcz	Acknowledged GCA request for inclusion at all St Leonards South Plan meetings
24 November	EPA Jane Burgett	Advice EPA will respond to GCA review of Licence 661 renewal conditions
24 November	Mayor Hutchens, Lane Cove Council	Christmas Civic Reception - invitation
24 November	MP Trent Zimmerman	Community Christmas Drinks - invitation
24 November	Lane Cove Bushcare	Golden Whistler - Spring Newsletter

6 December	EPA SEC Branch Coordinator	EPA Stakeholder Survey
14 December	Marsden's (solicitors)	Advice re: DA206/2015 Gore St – DA withdrawn by proposer.

The following correspondence has been sent:

Date	To	Subject
24 October 2016	Harbourline Real Estate	(phone & letter) Greenwich Community Christmas Carols
26 October 2016	Greater Sydney Commission	Registration of Interest in attending District Plan Community Group Briefing (21 Nov)
28 October 2016	SafeWork NSW	Summary of meeting 19 Oct with NSW EPA
28 October 2016	NSW Environment Protection Authority	Summary of meeting 19 Oct with SafeWork NSW
28 October 2016	Department of Primary Industry / Lands	Request for Crown Lands Inventory in Lane Cove LGA
11 November 2016	Cllr. Pam Palmer	(email) Feedback re: regular Hub section in GCA Newsletter
14 November 2016	Craig Knight (resident)	Advice re: DA206/2015 Gore St
17 November 2016	Harbourline Real Estate	Greenwich Community Christmas Carol arrangements
21 November 2016	Marsdens Law Group	DA206/2015 – GCA intention to make submission at L&E Court Appeal
22 November 2016	EPA – Jane Burgett	(email) Request for response to letter re: Review of EPA Licence 661 (Gore Bay – Viva Energy)
22 November 2016	Lane Cove Council – Chris Pelcz	(email) Request for GCA inclusion at all St Leonards South Plan meetings
1 December 2016	Dr. Arthur Chesterfield-Evans	Follow-up re: review of HHRA (Gore Bay Terminal health risks)

7 December 2016	Lane Cove Council	(phone) RSVP – Christmas Drinks (decline due clash with GCA meeting)
7 December 2016	MP Trent Zimmerman	(phone) RSVP – Christmas Drinks (accepted)
7 December 2016	MaryEd Hartnell	Invitation to GCA meeting 14 Dec, to all Newsletter deliverers
13 December 2016	MP Trent Zimmerman	(verbal) Invitation for ‘walk & talk’ around Greenwich peninsula, Mann’s Point Q1 2017.
14 December 2016	Craigh Knight (resident)	Advice re: DA206/2016 Gore St – DA withdrawn by proposer
14 December 2016	EPA Stakeholder Survey	GCA survey responses

c) Treasurer’s Report

The Treasurer addressed the meeting and advised;

- 182 paid members for 2016, of approx. 2,500 residents
- The tables at the Greenwich Village Games produced 35 (2017) subscriptions, 31 new. The sign that was made will assist with further membership drives, such as the Village Shops.
- Net Income 2016 = (\$628.45), noting \$500 donation to the GCA History publication. FY2016 Forecast is for (\$1,150).
- ~ \$12,000 term deposit remains in place.
- Recruitment Drive: in addition to direct follow-up of current membership base, courtesy of agreement with Greenwich Village Games committee, the GCA will be able use Games registrations data base to seek 2017 member subscriptions.
- Printing costs require review and funding assistance from Council should be sought.

6) Notified Business

a) Council Amalgamations – report

The President advised that this could on, well into 2017. The Council appears to be losing many good people. The Woollahra hearing is scheduled for February. Hunter’s Hill and North Sydney appear set to take their appeal to the High Court if required. As outlined previously, our proposal to the Minister for Local Government to merge with the St Leonards council(s) will go nowhere until the current litigation is settled.

b) Greater Sydney Commission & St Leonards South LEP – report

Albert & Anita Jubian spoke about non-zoned residents that are lobbying Council and the GSC for amendment of the St Leonards South LEP. Such an extension is concerning as the inputs, costs and benefits are unexplored by the community. It is understood the amendment proposal includes removal of heritage listing on several premises in Park Road. Prior discussion with Council has indicated that any amendment would require a new LEP (Gateway) approval, the earliest of which could be sought in March.

Motion: that the GCA be authorised to meet with Dr. Deborah Dearing, Northern District Commissioner, Greater Sydney Commission, for urgent consultation due community concern regarding possible extension of St Leonards South LEP and the unexplored inputs thereof.

Moved by Rob Hunter, seconded by Michael Ryland. Passed unanimously.

c) Gore St DA 205/2106

Local residents brought to the GCA's attention a proposal for large development on Gore St, that would see 5 townhouses and 12 car spaces accommodated on a steep, sloping block on the western end of Gore St. There would be a significant visual impact on the northern end of Bob Campbell Oval.

Council had formally lodged its concern, refusing to grant DA approval, as on several merits the proposal was not within the LEP. A contest was scheduled to be heard in the Land & Environment Court, following an apparently failed mediation hearing in June. The GCA had supported Council in voicing its concern.

As per Correspondence Received, notice was provided earlier in the day that the proponent had withdrawn the DA.

d) Talus St (NSTA / "Love 'n Deuce"

- Talus Reserve is Crown Land managed under trust by Willoughby Council. For the past 18 years, Council has leased the Reserve to Love 'N Deuce Pty Ltd who operate a private tennis club on behalf of NSTA.
- Under the recent Crown Land Management Act amendments, the Talus Trust sought ministerial consent to sub-let the Reserve to Love 'N Deuce.
- Equity Division Supreme Court Judge Brereton, formed the view that the 2000 lease was invalid and in effect upheld the Rutledge judgement.

Motion: that the Talus St judgement be made available on the GCA website, with a brief statement that it was being made available in the context of Crown Land Reserves in Lane Cove.

Moved by Alan Winney, seconded by Rod Tudge. Passed unanimously.

e) Greenwich Baths

Merri addressed the meeting and made the following observations and comments;

- Council has spent considerable funds on the Baths recently, for a very modest return. Works include \$250k on the foreshore track and \$600k on the Caretaker Cottage and ablution block upgrades, to mark the Bath's Centenary Year.

- There is no formal Bath's sub-committee currently operating, noting the Friends of the Baths focus on issues of regular resident swimmers.
- There have been a few occasions recently where Council has made changes to the Bath's operations with little or poor community consultation.
- In the context of the above and the Crown Land Management Act amendments, an amalgamated Council view of the Baths is not clear and there would be little motivation for Council to agree a formal Advisory Committee. There is also a risk of loss of Crown land either through sale or leases for commercial gain since the passage of the Crown Land Management Bill.
- There are issues specific to the Baths, well beyond those that could be encompassed within a global Crown Lands subcommittee. The expiration of the current sub-lease of the Baths is 30/6/2017.

Motion: that the GCA establish a Greenwich Baths Subcommittee, with accompanying terms of reference and due process.

- The GCA affirms its support of Greenwich Baths as a significant enhancement to the amenity of Lane Cove.
- In the light of recent amendments to Crown Lands legislation in NSW, the potential amalgamation of Lane Cove Council with Ryde and Hunters Hill and the expiration of the sub-lease for Greenwich Baths on 30 June 2017, the GCA affirms its support for the preservation of Greenwich Baths as a public recreation area.
- The GCA hereby establishes a sub-committee to be known as the Greenwich Baths Sub-committee.
- The principal objective of the Greenwich Baths Sub-committee is to take all steps required to ensure the preservation of Greenwich Baths as a public recreation area.
- The Greenwich Baths Sub-committee will be convened by a current member of the GCA committee.
- The convenor shall invite members of the community to nominate for membership of the sub-committee.
- The convenor will present to the GCA Committee for approval at its January 2017 meeting draft objectives and rules and proposed sub-committee members.

Moved by Michael Ryland. Seconded by Rod Tudge. Passed unanimously.

Alan Winney accepted the role of Subcommittee Convener and welcomes those interested.

f) RMS funding of infrastructure near Greenwich Public School

Don Murchison advised that there had been success in obtaining further funding to extend the Shared User Pathway (SUP) along River Road, from opposite St Vincents Road through to Lane Cove Golf Club. Several obstacles were overcome, including moving back the bus shelter (route 261, near Bushland Park) and cut-back and securing of the rock face, west of the school yards. Combined with \$340k from Council, RMS will match with \$340k for works scheduled in the New Year. In addition to the obvious safety improvements due the current narrow, < 2m wide single file path and rock fall / overhang, will be the connectivity of the Epping Road Cycleway to Greenwich Wharf and Willoughby Station and linking of Lane Cove to Greenwich on this key arterial.

7) Report of Subcommittee(s)

a) Gore Bay Terminal SubCommittee

Subcommittee Convener Stuart Warden addressed the meeting.

At the 23 November meeting (Ian Meller apology) the following two items were discussed;

1. draft Human Health Risk Assessment

We await Dr. Chesterfield-Evans' questions that can be put to technical experts, such as Toxics Network Australia. Complexity arises in that the draft HHRA spoke to prior crude oil based operations, as opposed to current refined products, and there are both retrospective and prospective (pre-existing) health related issues.

2. Review of renewed EPA Licence 661 (Gore Bay Terminal)

A letter was sent in September to the EPA expressing our disappointment in the renewal conditions applied to the license. On balance, it is considered that the EPA left us underwhelmed. There has been no formal response.

Actions:

- Follow-up Dr. Chesterfield-Evans for review of HHRA, with time limit.
- Stuart to seek a formal response to our letter of disappointment to EPA re: renewal conditions applied to Licence 661.
- Merri and Stuart to produce a technical summary of the 19 October meeting with SafeWork NSW and NSW EPA
- Stuart or Merri to obtain in writing which Agency has regulatory responsibility for the pipeline linking Gore Bay Terminal and Clyde. Start with SafeWork NSW.
- Karen and Penny to write to Premier cc Minister for Energy re: lack of action relevant to NSW Health recommendations to EPA / Planning during SSD period.
- Request meeting with MP Julian Skinner, Minister for Health, re: NSW Health's air monitoring recommendation that has not be acted upon during EPA renewal of Licence 661.
- Follow-up SafeWork NSW offer to host co-regulator meeting re; terminal. Propose AMSA, RMS at next meeting.
- GIPA minutes of any Agency (incl. Badgerys Creek Development Authority) meetings with Viva to determine the terminal, pipeline and Clyde capability or development partner proposals with respect to jet fuel capabilities and/or delivery to Badgerys Creek airport precinct.
- Contact resident David Moorehead re: who could support (re)production of thermal heat flux mapping, observing change in products

8) Councillor's Report

Cllr. Pam Palmer provided the below;

Council Amalgamations

Council has resolved to appeal the L&E Court's judgement. But we are seeking orders to adjourn the appeal until after Woollahra's appeal decision has been handed down. An Extraordinary Meeting will then be convened to consider further legal advice.

Otherwise, it's business as usual with Council set to complete its 10-year Major Projects Plan on time after recently signing off on the \$80million redevelopment of Rosenthal Ave Carpark. The existing carpark will be transformed into a major shopping precinct with Coles and Aldi supermarkets and underground parking for 500 cars. At street level there will be a new landscaped open space area with cafes and playgrounds. The project is fully funded without Council having to take on any debt.

We have also recently chosen the developer for an over-55s residential and aged-care project on a 99-year lease at 266 Longueville Rd (above the golf course).

And the new community spaces at Pottery Lane, located opposite the Council Chambers, are now nearly ready for use.

New Greenwich Community Centre?

The Greenwich Community Centre is not really functioning well for the community.

The hall itself is not available for use except at weekends; the pre-school has no direct access to its playground; there is no on-site parking for staff; the Greenwich Hub meeting room is not fully accessible and the Seniors Hall is also difficult to access; the library space is used to capacity; the community may prefer to have long day-care rather than the current pre-school model. These and other problems for the site need to be addressed. Does Greenwich want a hall more suited to current-day needs? Let's start the discussion.

St Leonards South

The proposed LEP changes will not be placed on public exhibition until sometime in the new year.

We are currently seeking feedback from North Sydney and Willoughby Councils as we develop a transport plan for the St Leonards area.

The Greater Sydney Commission appears to support Council's plan for a rail plaza at St Leonards.

Cockatoo Island

The 'Ninja Warriors' has been filmed on the island over the past couple of weeks, generating high noise levels until after 2am. If this has been disturbing you, please write to the Trust or Council expressing your concerns.

New Year's Eve

A number of residents feel the road closure from 5.30pm til 2am is unreasonable. It would be good to get some feedback after the event to see if people were inconvenienced. Of course, it would be good to also have the opinions of visitors to the area who were possibly unable to leave after the 9pm fireworks.

The police brought in the extended closure times this year to match other foreshore areas, such as Milsons Point. However, the problem for Greenwich is that there is not a lot to do between 9pm and midnight so this may encourage anti-social behaviour. Perhaps a 6pm to 10pm closure would be better.

9) General Business

Those attending were keen to toast the festive season ... and did so.

10) Close

In closing the meeting, the Secretary requested the community's support in thanking the President for her leadership and contribution to the GCA during 2016. She was warmly applauded.

The meeting closed at 9.45pm.

Next General Meeting, the February 2017 AGM, is t.b.a.