

GREENWICH COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION INC

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 21 FEBRUARY 2007 AT THE GREENWICH COMMUNITY CENTRE 46 GREENWICH ROAD

Opening

After determining that a quorum was present the meeting commenced at 8.05pm with Pam Palmer presiding.

Apologies

Councillor Lawson, Dorothy Taylor

Minutes of Previous Meeting

The Minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting of the Association held on 15 February 2006 were tabled and accepted.

Denis Smith/Peter Walton

The Minutes of the previous General Meeting of the Association held on 13 December 2006 were tabled and accepted.

Pam Palmer/ Denis Smith

Matters Arising from Minutes of Annual General Meeting and General Meeting

Pam advised that a resident has again written re the condition of Greenwich Wharf advising that the waiting area was dirty and railings unsafe. Pam suggested that we should write to Council again. Councillor Tudge suggested that lighting would be a good solar power project.

Liz Gill expressed concern that Council does not appear to enforce compliance with the Heritage Conservation zone. Pam explained that this is the purpose behind the proposed implementation of a Development Control Plan for the area.

Correspondence In

Letter from N White re wharf and planting near school.

Citizenship Awards Nomination information from Council.

Letter from Pike Pike & Fenwick re Land and Environment Court hearing of Development Application for 73 Carlotta Street.

Miscellaneous Christmas cards.

Letter from Council re Bushcare activities.

Multiple DAs.

Correspondence Out

Follow up letter to Council re 12 George St.

President's Report

Pam delivered her report:

"Firstly, my thanks to all committee members. Particular thanks go to our office bearers: Treasurer, Peter Walton, and Secretary, Meri Southwood, who keep all the paperwork up to date on an ongoing basis.

Thanks also to our newsletter deliverers.

Review of 2006

As always, GCA has a dual role in the community – one is social and the other is where we interface with Council, mainly on development issues.

As far as that social role is concerned, one of the main things we do is deliver our bi-monthly newsletter to nearly 2,000 households in Greenwich. In the newsletter we keep you informed about local events such as fundraisers for the Isabelle Heim Trust, Santa at the Wharf, Carols by Candlelight, Friends of Greenwich School activities, Bushcare Groups, the Marjorie Propsting Library and our big neighbour Shell.

We had a big social event this past year when we gathered to farewell Dr Raema Prowse who served the community for 20 years. She still maintains a role with Lane Cove's Community Aid service.

We have also assisted the community by purchasing a PA system and BBQs which are available for use at community-based functions.

As far as our role with Council is concerned, it isn't all about Development Applications. We made submissions to the Heritage Review of the Greenwich Conservation Area. Council's Manager of Strategic Planning, Stephanie Bashford, addressed our June Meeting. This may well be a big issue for 2007.

We also canvassed community views on the future of this hall which, as you probably know is owned by Council but managed by a community-based committee – (not the GCA). In 2007, the Hall will celebrate 50 years since its official opening. The hall has been a useful focus for community events during that time. Many will remember the square dancing, school Trivia Nights, our own GCA meetings and of course the preschool. Acquiring the site has provided a location for Brownies, the Library, Senior Citizens and the Gem Club and various fund raising events. It also provides a playground suitable for very young children, something of a rare thing in Lane Cove.

Getting back to DAs, however, we have played a role this past year in the Waterbrook "saga" and the Tesrol re-development plans.

Waterbrook is building 79 units with a further 70 units planned for Stage II. There are still issues of safety with the overhead crane – the huge one you can see labelled "Parkview" – and work commencing well before the appointed start time of 7a each day.

The Tesrol development was approved in September for 5 housing lots plus the hostel. The developer had applied for 7 housing lots so will be appealing the decision in the L&E Court next month.

We have also been a witness at other matters, two in Carlotta St and two in Mitchell St. Council spent nearly \$60,000 of ratepayers' money on the DA at 1 Mitchell St and it didn't even proceed to Court!

The long-running Australand development in Duntroon Ave was approved on 19 June last year for 186 apartments and that work is underway now.

The St Leonards Regional Strategy and re-development of RNSH were issues last year and will lead to huge changes to that area.

We are also represented on the Lane Cove Tunnel Action Group and are awaiting the Tunnel opening – sometime AFTER the state election, it now seems. We will see what traffic flows are improved and where the backlogs occur very soon. And we'll await the election outcome to see the truth of promises on filtering pollution from the exhaust stacks. Don't hold your breath – or maybe you should!

We are confronted again by the sale of public lands which is occurring here in Lane Cove and further up the line in Ku-ring-gai. Council has already effectively sold the Austin St carpark site, leased to commercial interests for 99 years. The other two council carpark areas will probably similarly be leased or sold – in Rosenthal Ave (behind the main shopping strip) and in Little St, by the Aquatic Centre. Also, parkland at Charlish Park adjoining the LCWBC and in Stokes St, adjoining the Meeting House. Council will soon be issuing a full list of the community lands it is considering for development.

Another Council-related issue, the suspension of covenants, was defeated – at least for the moment.

On a positive note to finish the list, Council acted on our request to restore a footpath in St Vincents Rd, so that's now a safer area for pedestrians, particularly school children.

Now it's time to look forward to what will be on our agenda in 2007. To this end, at our last meeting we canvassed ideas for community improvements. We now have a list of very sound suggestions to pursue.

To end, thank you all for your support and please remember that we always value your input."

Treasurer's Report

Financial Report was tabled as attached.

Peter Walton presented the report to the meeting. Peter thanked Bryan Bird for conducting the audit.

Election of Office Bearers

Pam Palmer vacated the chair and Councillor Tudge presided over the election of office bearers. Councillor Tudge thanked Pam for her outstanding job as President and then declared all positions vacant.

The following office bearers and Committee members were elected:-

President	Pam Palmer	<i>Liz Gill/Richard Muller</i>
Vice President	Richard Muller	<i>Alan Winney/Pam Palmer</i>
	Alan Winney	<i>Richard Muller/Pam Palmer</i>
Secretary	Merri Southwood	<i>Liz Gill/Alan Winney</i>
Treasurer	Peter Walton	<i>Pam Palmer/Denis Smith</i>
Committee Members	Liz Gill	
	Sally Dowling	
	John Gebler	
	Nicola Khoury	<i>Pam Palmer/Alan Winney</i>
	Alison Bird	
	John Dowey	
	Stan Fitzroy-Mendis	

Appointment of Honorary Auditor

Bryan Bird

Pam Palmer/Alan Winney

Councillor Tudge congratulated the Committee and vacated the chair.

Pam Palmer resumed the chair and thanked Councillor Tudge for presiding.

Councillors' Reports

Councillor Tudge reported as follows:

Proposed LEP has been with the Department of Planning for a long period of time. It had originally been planned to put general provisions re a Heritage Zone in the LEP with greater detail in a DCP. However, the Department of Planning is now requiring LEPs to go into more detail.

Northwood is no longer part of the Lane Cove Heritage Review but Greenwich is still included.

A review is also being conducted as to the appropriateness of some street trees.

Councillor Tudge expressed concern that Council is proposing to dispose of public land without a clear vision as to the use of funds derived from such disposal. He feels there is a need for a clear strategy to be developed.

Council is proposing a sustainability/environmental levy to commence July 1 2007.

Councillor Tudge foreshadowed a change in smoking policy to forbid smoking in public areas where food is served.

Current Developments

Tesrol

It may be necessary for Council to reconvene at the beginning of March to consider revised plans for the Billy Blue site submitted by Tesrol. At this stage the Land and Environment Court case is due to proceed March 12-14.

General Business

Denis Smith raised a number of matters:

- As FOGS president, he outlined a proposal to wind up that organisation and to bring its role under the umbrella of the GCA.
- Denis also expressed concern that there is a proliferation of For Sale signs on footpaths.
- He suggested that stainless steel wires be used at Wharf instead of galvanized iron.
- He advised that concern was expressed at a Historical Society Meeting about the lack of consultation re the demolition of a house at Poole Street.
- Denis thanked Councillor Tudge for his great service to the community.

Close

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.45 pm.