

**MPNUTES**  
**General Meeting**  
of the  
**Chatswood West Ward Progress Association**

At the Dougherty Centre, Victor Street Chatswood  
**7:30 PM, Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> May 2017**

**Meeting Commenced at:** 7:35 PM in the courtyard of the Dougherty Centre and moved inside around 8:15PM.

**Chair:** The President (Kay Fruedenstein-Hayes welcomed members and guests)

**Acknowledgement to country:** I wish to acknowledge the traditional custodians of these lands on which we gather and show our respect to their elders past and present.

**Declarations of interest? Alan Hall-Watson re Chatswood Golf Club**

**Becoming a member: Membership fees are due on 1<sup>st</sup> January 2017**

We respectfully request that visitors attending our meeting and receiving our West Ward Bytes consider becoming a member of the Association. To join, please see the Treasurer after the meeting or send \$10 and your name to 032-090 54-8083 plus send your name, address and email to [cwwpa.org@gmail.com](mailto:cwwpa.org@gmail.com)

**Present:** 20 pax as recorded in the attendance book

**Apologies:** Jim McCredie, Tim Hobbs, Greg Brown and Craig Campbell (belated)

**Any matters for General Business?**

1. Impact of Fire and Emergency Services Levy
2. Basis of Rating
3. Chatswood CBD Strategy
4. Council Budget

The **Minutes** of the April General Meeting having been circulated were tabled, moved, seconded and accepted.

**At this point it was moved, seconded and carried that standing orders be put aside to allow consider of a personal matter (in confidence). The nature of any determination to be released when appropriate.**

**Treasurer's Report:** The Treasurer provided a belated apology and will forward his report when he returns to Sydney.

**Councillor's Report:** On our request, Clr. Saville provided a short report on Metro CLC; Chatswood Park; Currey Park; State Emergency Procedures (**she undertook to clarify which agency is in charge during an emergency**). Chatswood Pool and the Community Garden in Artarmon.

**GOVERNANCE**

**Council elections:** Confirmed for 9 September. We have contacted the FWPA's who will host a Meet the Mayoral Candidates session likely on the 22 August. We have arranged to have the large front room for our August meeting and Meet the Candidates session on the 17 August.

## **Proposed changes to the Constitution**

Proposed changes have been circulated and discussed. Generally the proposed changes seemed agreeable to members. We will vote on the changes at our July meeting. In the interim, any comments should be sent to the Secretary.

## **FEDERATION OF WILLOUGHBY PROGRESS ASSOCIATIONS**

**1-5 Railway Street:** Possible interchange. We had contacted the Federation who wrote to the Mayor. The Mayor then recently raised the issue with the Premier.

### **OPEN SPACE**

**Currey Park:** Clr Saville has written to Council expressing her concern at how issues have been handled. **The response received was unsatisfactory and Clr. Saville undertook to further pursue.**

**Crown Lands:** Clr Saville will seek further details as to the possible implications for West Ward open space.

**Golf course Crown Land Reservation:** Clr. Saville undertook to continue to follow up particularly in relation to the zoning of Private Open Space.

**Chatswood Golf Club:** Clr. Saville will check the specific form of the ‘reservation’ (e.g. Public Recreation?) of the Crown land leased from Council.

**Golf course proposed redevelopment:** Alan Hall-Watson reported that the project has submitted an Application of Site Compatibility to Council Officers. It is hoped that there will be feedback on this by our July meetings

**OH Reid:** The new line markings are still incorrect. Ian Campbell will follow up. Work has started on the memorial seat which is expected to be made by a large wood carving. Request to repair broken play equipment has not been undertaken. **Clr. Saville will follow up.**

**Mowbray School Oval:** Council’s Open Space Managers addressed the next School P&C Meeting. There was a report that most residents were generally accepting of the proposal.

**Greville Park (Greville St Park):** On our request the citation for the park has been amended to include reference to the Rifle Range. *“The land formed a boundary with the Army Rifle Range until its relocation in 1955.”*

## **TRAFFIC & TRANSPORT**

### **Metro South:**

- Council Saville successfully moved a motion at Council calling for the establishment of a local consultative committee..

**Beaconsfield Lights:** Tentative contact has been made with Steven Head. Perhaps an alternative would be to seek a review by the RTA Regional Traffic Panel (if they still exist). **Craig Campbell will be asked to pursue.**

**Coolaroo/Dalrymple:** Works is in train for the installation of the traffic calming.

## **MAJOR LEGISLATION CHANGES**

Nil.

## MAJOR DEVELOPMENTS

**Metro South:** The building on the Dive Site at the corner of the Pacific Highway and Mowbray Rd have started to be demolished. The heritage Mowbray House school building is to be spared.

**Childcare – Dalrymple Ave:** The development application to extend the trading hours has been approved.

## GENERAL BUSINESS

**Educational Facilities Strategy:** Development of this Strategy is progress. Peter Hayes has joined the conversation. New funding and standards for schools could see Chatswood Primary redeveloped as a high rise school. The Secretary outlined some of the aspects of the recently release Schools Infrastructure Initiatives such as Primary Schools capped at 1,000; 10m2 of active area per student and that where land is expensive, expansion is likely to be by high-rise buildings.

### Impact of Fire and Emergency Services Levy (from Richard Lambert)

Article in SMH 29/30 April said median UCV WCC was \$1,490,000. (Hunters Hill was \$1,620,000) Using calculator on FESL web site levy will be \$415. Government has been quoting average of \$185 (SMH 12 May)

#### Proposed motion

Federation supports, in principle, the change to a fire and emergency services levy, it believes that the charges for properties in Willoughby City Council are exorbitant and a form of Land Tax on owner occupied residential properties and there should be a maximum charge of less than \$300. **Carried.**

### Basis of Rating (from Richard Lambert)

IPART has, I believe, submitted its final report to the government in December. If it followed its draft, it will have recommended changing from Unimproved Capital Value to Capital Improved Value. Assuming total rate revenue remains the same, this will probably result in a reduction for single dwellings and an increase for home units. **More information to be sent to the Treasurer and if appropriate forwarded to Federation.**

### Chatswood CBD Strategy (from Richard Lambert)

In NST on 11 May there is a planning proposal to increase heights on Chatswood Chase. This is one of the indicative proposals in the papers. It appears to me to be a failure in process to select this one to go ahead now. (WCC probably does not have a choice as it originated from Greater Sydney Commission). Reference should also be made to the recent Woolworths decision in Smith St. **This issue to be raised with the Federation President as to what is the best way to pursue.**

### Council Budget

Budget now on display for comment. We know that the Council is flush with funds. Also reflected in some new budget items such as \$10,000 for a cat and dog fair after representations by the Chair of Companion animals to the GM at the recent Fauna Fair. Are there projects we know off that should be funded? *Suggestions were made for:*

- *the greening of the footpath in front of CPS;*
- *greening of eastern side of the Highway between Boundary St and Mowbray Rd;*
- *updating of signage on the Rail to River Walk.*
- *Upgrade of open space at Whitton Rd and Eddy Rd.*
- *All weather awnings along bus stops in Victoria Ave (south side) between railway and Pacific Highway*
- *potential re-use of the former heritage Chatswood Station awning brackets in reasonable proximity to the station*

- *an increasing population/children and subsequent need for more playspaces in west ward.*

**Clr Saville agreed to pursue the above items during budget consideration by Council.  
The Association will lodge a submission.**

**Clrs crying poor:** Council has been reclassified as a Metropolitan Small Council (not surprising given other Councils have been amalgamated). As a consequence Councillors pay will be reduced. Despite many protestations that “we do not do it for the money” Council unanimously decided to protest this travesty Clr. Saville seconded the motion.

**Newsletter & Bytes:** May Bytes distributed. Newsletter being planned.

**Visit by General Manager:** Due to a bad accident at her home in Adelaide. The GM had to cancel her planned visit this month. It is now scheduled for our July meeting.

**Council events:** Speed date a sustainability expert & Turning your dream home into a reality (see our website)

**WurlitZor Organ:** It came to our attention after the close of the meeting that the following motion will be considered next Monday night by Council:

That Council Officers be asked to investigate, with the assistance of an independent expert experienced in organ restoration if considered necessary, whether it is feasible to fund and achieve the completion of the restoration and refurbishment of the organ in The Concourse in the following way:

- Receipt of between \$30,000 and \$40,000 in donations
- All manual labour to complete the project is provided as a gift and volunteer work
- Council receives a Conservation Grant from the NSW Government up to the maximum value of \$5,000
- Council funds up to \$20,000 (GST exclusive)

### **Community Garden**

The Community Garden and Repair cafe, located in the church grounds, corner Mowbray and Pacific Highway need to re-locate. Currently situated in Lane Cove at the boundary of CWW, a number of the organisers and users are WW residents. **Contact Clr. Saville if you are interested in this matter.**

### **Clr attendance at meetings**

Over the past two years, one Councilor has skipped 52% of meetings; two have skipped 30% and two have skipped 27%; 25% one and 23% one. There are 12 Councilors, six of them have skipped over 20% of meetings. The Mayor on the other hand has attended every meeting (as well has hundreds of community events). Unfortunately, she is hit the hardest by the pay cuts.

In West Ward, we have been particularly underrepresented at meetings. Clr Saville has only missed 2 meetings. Our other representatives missed 52% and 27%.

**Correspondence OUT/IN** – treated in main agenda.

**NOTE: No meeting in June**

**Next meeting: Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> July 2017**

**Meeting closed at: 9:10PM.**