

NAREMBURN PROGRESS ASSOCIATION

Founded 1901; Incorporated 2004

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MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING OF 11 NOVEMBER 2010

Meeting commenced at 7.40 pm.
Naremburn Community Centre 7 Central Street Naremburn

1. OPEN FORUM

- (a) **Frances O'Brien (Ruth Street)** – Noted that the slip lane from Willoughby Road into the Naremburn shops car park is flooded, drainage needs attention.
- (b) **Sharon Dirken (Walter Street)** – Who is responsible for cleaning up the extensive graffiti in the storm water channel running to the rear of Walter Street properties? Councillor Kate Lamb will investigate ownership of the channel.
- (c) **Paul Lehmann (Market Street)** – First attendance at the progress association, how does a new resident know about the organisation? Advised that Naremburn Matters is circulated to all houses in Naremburn. Paul could not recall seeing NM but would check at home.
- (d) **Trisha FitzPatrick (Central Street)** – A recent edition of the North Shore Times included an article about a person washed down the storm water channel to the west of Willoughby Road and then into the drainage tunnel that runs under Bicentennial Reserve. This is the second occurrence of this type to happen in not too many years and raises the question of the safety of this storm water system.
NPA to write to Council asking for a review of safety and for any suggested works to be carried out as a priority.

7.50 pm, order of business changed to accommodate presentation.

2. PRESENTATION BY GLADYS BEREJKLIAN, MEMBER FOR WILLOUGHBY

The NPA President Kevin FitzPatrick welcomed Gladys to the meeting.

Matters raised by Gladys.

The future of the urban environment is the biggest issue that needs to be addressed, particularly inadequate infrastructure in the areas of public transport and government schools.

The current state government seems to have very poor information, e.g. school demographics for the lower north shore.

Currently there are 14 different agencies that control transport planning in NSW and this needs to be rationalised and a co-ordination authority created.

The coalition website included a proposal for integrated transport two and a half years ago.

The Willoughby area has many great resources and we need to work to maintain the quality of life in the area and preserve the best of what we have.

Representations have been made to the NSW Minister for Roads and a requested reduction to the traffic speed limit from 60 kph to 50 kph along the stretch of Willoughby Road to the Warringah Freeway has been approved and will be introduced soon.

Under the NSW Parliament rules for sitting days in the period before a state election the number remaining is 6 until after the March 2011 election when Parliament reconvenes in April 2011.

Gladys then suggested a question and answer session.

- (a) **David Magin** - Does Gladys know why the Metrobus from Chatswood to Mascot does not go to the airport?
Reply: Sydney Airport has only one bus service so the 12,000 employees are very poorly served by buses. High on my agenda is the improvement of public transport to the airport, Chatswood Station to the airport would be a useful service.
The greatest way to improve patronage of public transport is to create and maintain a high frequency of service.
The current NSW Government does not have any integrated transport strategy, therefore co-ordination is poor.

- (b) **Frances Tan (Market Street)** – The 272/273 Wynyard to Chatswood bus services now depart from different stands. This is much less convenient than the previous situation where the buses left from the same stand.
Reply: There are big picture items that need to be started as soon as the coalition gains power, projects such as the 6 year North west heavy rail extension. However, improvements and rationalisation of transport services need to be ongoing at all levels.
- (c) **Donna Kessler (Waters Road)** – With the re-opening of the Ella Street bridge the vehicle traffic “rat run” through west Naremburn continues and in fact has increased.
Reply: I have observed the high weekend day traffic volumes through this area and will follow up efforts to minimize traffic in this area and raise it again with the Traffic Committee on the NPA’s behalf.
Royal North Shore Hospital has very poor public transport access and a more co-ordinated approach is required including WCC, the RTA and other transport bodies.
- (d) **Paul Lehmann (Market street)** – Noise generated by the ever increasing Brook Street traffic – there are now many buses, which seem to travel over the speed limit, This is becoming intolerable for those who live adjacent to Brook Street. Can noise abatement measures be implemented? Do noise rules apply to buses?
Reply: Brook Street is a State Road so the RTA has responsibility. The bus matter depends on whether the buses are “in service” or “out of service” and this makes a difference in the ability to control bus speeds.
- (e) **Brian Norton (Glenmore Street)** If elected in March 2011 would the coalition’s aims include increased public transport, better general planning remembering that additional development needs appropriate infrastructure and attention to school populations on the lower north shore.
Reply: Community transport needs to be improved for disadvantaged residents as it has not received any boost in funds for 12 years.
The North West and South West heavy rail extensions are a high priority and will start immediately on taking office.
Proper innovative integrated transport planning will take about 2 years but must be done to ensure the best outcomes. Overseas consultation is a key part of the planning process.
- (f) **Sharon Dirken (Walter Street)** – It is now 2 years since the Lane Cove tunnel was completed and the future of the government owned properties in Walter Street is still unknown.
Reply: I will follow up with the appropriate government body.
- (g) **George Farrell (Merrenburn Avenue)** – Graffiti on noise walls and other road side structures is out of control. What can be done to eradicate this unsightly mess? Planting seems a good preventative measure.
Reply: Best practice is that graffiti be removed within 24 hours of occurring but demarcation issues with ownership of the affected structures can slow treatment.
Community groups can help with removal and to deter re-application. This is an underestimated problem for Sydney transport corridors which seem to be more prone to attack than those in neighbouring countries.
- (h) **Graham Mills (Parkes Street)** – There has been no action on the much needed bicycle access at the north approach to the Harbour Bridge.
Reply: Dedicated bicycle paths are preferred over shared paths as they remove dangers of conflict between fast moving cyclists and pedestrians. I meet regularly with Bike NSW and agree that the north shore has good bike potential.
Walking is also an important issue and I also regularly meet with Harold Scruby of the Pedestrian Council.
As with so many aspects of transport, integrated planning and a state wide strategy are the keys to good outcomes.
- (i) **Marianne Shaw (Garland Road)** – An integrated electronic ticketing system must be essential to improving efficient public transport. What is happening in this area?
Reply: The problem is again the lack of integration of agencies. 6 months ago the NSW government signed a new contract which involves 3 years for implementation.
- (j) **Barry Shaw (Garland Road)** – When the coalition is voted into government in March 2011 will Gladys still have time for the local community?
Reply: Yes.
- (k) **Councillor Kate Lamb** – Infrastructure, particularly schools is a major issue with Naremburn being the epicentre of public schools overcrowding. What is the coalition’s view on this?
Reply: As we are still in opposition the coalition does not have the resources to develop overall planning but I am on top of this issue and talk regularly with local school principals. The school age population of the area is growing and facilities are not growing at the required rate to meet requirements. I believe that the overall number of students at a school is not the main issue so long as class sizes are appropriate and the site can accommodate the numbers. Each school needs to be looked at individually to determine needs.
- (l) **Eddy Patterson (Market Street)** – Raise issue of Brook Street traffic noise and sound barriers.
Reply: Noise all along the Warringah Freeway is a big issue as traffic volumes increase. Increased usage and extended infrastructure needs to consider all associated issues including noise.
Noted that Brook street residents had offered to contribute to the cost of noise barriers but the RTA had noted responded to the offer.

8.45 pm. NPA President Kevin FitzPatrick then called an end to the Q & A session and thanked Gladys for attending the meeting. The normal agenda was resumed.

3. CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

That the minutes of the General Meeting of 14 October 2010, as circulated, be confirmed as a true and accurate record of that meeting

Proposed: Martha Follent; Seconded: Beryl Batterham

4. NOMINATION OF NEW MEMBERS

Alex Tan

Proposed: Trisha FitzPatrick; Seconded: Don Swonnell.

5. CONFIRMATION OF NEW MEMBERS

Jenny Geddes, Justine Kelly, Lorraine Gallagher.

6. MATTER ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

- (a) **Ella Street Bridge closure and traffic issues** – NPA correspondence and WCC reply previously referred to various traffic management strategies suggested by the NPA to be implemented to improve traffic in this area of Naremburn. NPA wrote to Council requesting an update, no reply received to date.
- (b) **Oral History program** – Nothing to report other than to show picture of 1927 school picture of the St John's Catholic School in Market Street provided by one of the residents interviewed as part of the program.
- (c) **Naremburn Shops** – Real Estate Agency, corner of Willoughby Road & Rohan Street previously known as Hockeys First National has rebadged as Hockeys Real Estate. It is no longer with the First National Group. Barcellos to be run by Ruth Bacon is reopening at Shop 1 286 Willoughby Road, previously No Ordinary Chicken Café. Ruth was born & raised in Slade Street Naremburn. She will have a grand opening on Saturday December 4 - complimentary food, drink & live music. First trading day will be Sunday December 5. Rubbish disposal by two shops into the public garbage bins has been observed. Plastic Milk containers on the footpath near the bus stop outside the Naremburn Food Store continue to be a public eyesore in this important entrance to the Naremburn Shops Precinct.
- (d) **Long Gully Bridge, Northbridge** – The NPA has contacted Martin Gormley of the RTA requesting clarification of the official name of the Bridge through the RTA's Heritage Officer. We await a response.
- (e) **The Roles of Office-Bearers and Committee Members** – Development of tasks and rosters is ongoing. Membership Co-ordinator, Helene Kemp to work on a welcome pack for new Naremburn residents.
- (f) **Naremburn Park** – Donna Kessler, Julienne Blunck and Robyn Butler, residents living near the park, have volunteered their services for a Naremburn Park Advisory Body. NPA to contact Naremburn Ward Councillors to request their assistance in the establishment of a Naremburn Park advisory body.

In response to a members comment that the park was often littered after sporting events Brian Norton stated that Northbridge FC had policies in place to manage parks and that dogs are a problem for the playing surface. (see also Item 11 – Ward Councillors' Report)

- (g) **Willoughby Local Environmental Plan (Draft WLEP 2009)** – Trisha FitzPatrick reported that she had attended both the Public Forum on 20 October and the Special Council Meeting of 3 November and that she had been accompanied by Kevin for all of the Special Council Meeting due to her mobility and hearing problems. Kevin had arrived late to the Public Forum.

The Public Forum provided an opportunity for those who had made written submissions to Council, to address the Council for 3 minutes, by prior arrangement. Of the WLEP sites in Naremburn only two were represented: - Site 23 that comprises 2-8 Dalleys Road, 242-248 Willoughby Road, 31-33 Martin; and: Site 25, that comprises 35-39 and 30-34 Merrenburn, as well as 31-41 Donnelly Road. Both of these sites had representatives that spoke at the June NPA meeting. Some of the other Progress Associations in Willoughby City had elected to speak to Council and some of those PA statements were very strong, the Northbridge PA President claimed that the 500 or so members of that PA are opposed to R3 Medium density re-zoning in Northbridge.

Trisha said that she did not make a statement to Council at the Public Forum as there was no approval from the NPA to do so. However, all Councillors were aware of their presence at both meetings. At the 3 November Special Council Meeting, Councillors voted on the original recommendations from Council Officers, rezoning sites from low density to R3 Medium density, and also some Amendments.

It should be noted that some sites in Naremburn were passed according to the recommendations of Council Officers, i.e., rezoned to R3 medium density. There had been no submissions regarding some of the sites in Naremburn, most notable of these is Site 24 that comprises 32-48A Northcote and 1A Waters Road.

For the Dalleys, Willoughby, Martin site, Council voted for re-zoning from low density to R3 medium density but will enter into consultations with affected residents in relation to a Masterplan for the site. The big winner on the night was Site 25 – Merrenburn-Donnelly. These single dwelling houses survived and were not re-zoned R3 and, on a later amendment also achieved R2 zoning for the Department of Housing at 31-33 Donnelly and the RTA site that abuts the Expressway sound wall.

The Merrenburn-Donnelly group were well-prepared, spoke clearly and intelligently and were supported by neighbours who showed up to this Special Council Meeting. The R2 zoning for the Department of Housing and RTA site may not hold up. As Greg Woodhams, Environmental Services Director reminded Councillors – the State Government does what it likes with its sites no matter how Council has zoned them.

Trisha recommends that NPA members be more aware of the WLEP process as it affects the Naremburn of the future - and not ignore the changes. Although the re-zoning may not happen in your street, the end result affects everyone in Naremburn.

- (h) **Artarmon Loop Bus service** - Naremburn Bus Loop component – Kevin FitzPatrick spoke to WCC’s Transport Officer, Alison Jones. The route like others in Willoughby City is not well patronised. A report on the Services has been prepared, is currently with the Director & will be presented to Council for consideration this month. Alison asked for feedback from the Association - Suggestions? Does the route need changes? Is it too infrequent? Why aren’t people using it? Discussion followed indicating some are not aware of the service.
- (i) **WCC Traffic Committee Meetings** – Minutes of meeting 376 Herbert Street St Leonards drop off area at RNSH.
- (j) **School for Naremburn** – Letter received from Marcia Waller WCC Community Services Director, no action.
- (k) **Bicentennial Reserve & Flat Rock Gully Advisory Committee** – An email from Open Spaces Manager, Julie Whitfield noted the next meeting is Thursday 25 November at 6.30 pm and asked for any matters to be included in the Agenda. Sharon Dirken asked when the Incinerator would be opened. Matter to be raised for her.
- (l) **Gallery Development 96 Chandos Street** – Representatives of Greengate attended the meeting.

7. CORRESPONDENCE

In

- (a) Don Swonnell 11/10/2010 – Request to drop item 12 on the 14 October general meeting agenda, no further discussion to take place.
- (b) WCC 19/10/2010 - Summer season Sportground allocations
- (c) WCC 25/10/2010 - School for Naremburn – no further action since public meeting of 2/7/2010
- (d) WCC 1/11/2010 – Parking on footpaths and nature strips – action taken and to be monitored
- (e) Naremburn Over Fifties 4/11/2010 – agreed to allow shared use of store room in the Community Centre

Email Threads

- (a) George Farrell 28/10/2010 – Protocols for raising motions at meetings etc.
- (b) George Farrell 10 11 2010 - Graffiti
- (c) Jane Miura 11/10/2010 – Apology for 11/11 meeting, son involved in tree study for Central St.

Out

- (a) Don Swonnell 23/10/2010 – resolution of Executive Committee meeting 20/10 2010.
- (b) Copy of letter to Don Swonnell from Trisha FitzPatrick 5/11/2010 – Apology by Trisha FitzPatrick for hurt caused to Don Swonnell by “Motion of which due notice has been given” on agenda for the NPA general meeting of 14 October 2010. A description of the distribution process for the agenda item was included.
- (c) Mrs G Britliffe - Letter of condolence to the wife of the late Keith Britliffe, former Naremburn shopkeeper.

8. ACCOUNTS

Treasurer Barry Shaw presented his report.

Opening Bank balance as at 8 September 2010	\$6,779.28
<u>Add: Income :</u>	
Membership subs	\$120.00
	<u>\$6,899.28</u>

Less: Expenditure

Open Day exes	\$22.48	
Bank fees	\$12.00	
Photocopying stamps etc	\$5.70	\$40.18
Closing Bank balance as at 11 November 2010		<u>\$6,859.10</u>

Expenditure Approvals Requested

D. Lendrum, secretarial expenses	\$21.00
K. FitzPatrick, supper	\$6.08
K. FitzPatrick, stationary	\$57.76
Willoughby City Council, store key deposit	\$50.00

That these expenditures be approved:

Proposed: Martha Follent; Seconded: Trisha FitzPatrick

9. FEDERATION OF WILLOUGHBY PROGRESS ASSOCIATIONS REPORT

The Meeting was primarily concerned with the Draft WLEP 2009 with issues raised at the 20 October WCC meeting. Both Councillors Wendy Norton & Stuart Coppock clarified Council's procedures. There were 750 submissions, mainly from Artarmon and Northbridge. WCC decides on proposed developments at its November 3 meeting. There was discussion about a controversial proposal by Woolworths to develop a site on Smith & High Streets, previously Sundell Motors site. Also discussed was the development of the State owned property on Hercules Street for aged care.

A coming event is Carols in Willoughby Park on 11 December.

10. WARD COUNCILLORS' REPORT

Councillor Kate Lamb.

The management of Naremburn Park has been discussed with the Manager Infrastructure Services Steven Head to improve community input. She will raise the matter with WCC Open Spaces Manager, Julie Whitfield.

Artarmon Loop bus service, The St Leonards station to the Artarmon industrial area and the Artarmon shops is well patronized. It appears that Councillors want the off peak service to benefit their constituents. The Monday Artarmon to Naremburn off peak service is funded from the E Restore Levy and is the best Council can manage at the moment. WCC Transport Officer, Allison Jones is the best person to contact re these services.

Responsibility for the drain and graffiti within the drain is not clear. (Kate rang Steven Head during the meeting but the matter needs clarification. The Willoughby Guide has been reprinted.

A vehicle parking workshop is to be held and KL will attend. It will cover management, monitoring and charging policies.

11. SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS

(a) Development Applications

DA 2008/390/B	72-76 Chandos Street St Leonards	S96 modifications egress etc
DA 2009/641/C	20 Wheatleigh Street	S 96 addition of pergola
DA 2010/624	9 Talus street & 62 Dalleys Road	Alterations and additions to existing child care centre
DA 2010/639	264 Willoughby Road	Alterations and additions
DA 2020/654	219 Pacific Highway Artarmon	Fit out at approved industrial park
DA 2010/687	79 Garland Road	Alterations and additions
DA	20 Dargan Street	Alterations and additions
2010/689(2)		

(b) Naremburn Community Centre – The proposed redevelopment is still being delayed by the Bales Park proposal for the OOSH Centre.

A letter was sent by the Secretary to Over 50s President Margaret Willington stating our dire need for storage & requesting some shared storage arrangements with the Over 50s Club. Margaret has agreed to shared use & the President has requested a key from WCC through Centre Manager, Darius Turner. A \$50.00 deposit was requested.

(c) Events– There has been no enthusiasm shown for the NPA staging a celebration of Earth Hour in Naremburn Park next March so it is unlikely NPA will pursue any involvement in this event. The NPA will be celebrating its 110th birthday next year on 27 November and hopes to stage a suitable celebration to mark the event. One suggestion has been an avenue of appropriate trees to be planted on Central Street where the first meeting was held in 1901. It was noted at the meeting that member Jane Miura lives at Central Street. Jane's son & a close friend are completing a horticultural course & have taken planning of such a project as an assignment for their course. Clr Kate Lamb has suggested we notify WCC of our plans as soon as possible.

The annual visit of Santa to Naremburn Shops will take place on December 10 at 6:00pm Federal Member for North Sydney, Joe Hockey, has agreed to fill the roll again this year.

(d) Membership – This report would normally be given by Helene Kemp, however, her employer has sent her to Asia on a round of meetings. Helene, Trisha FitzPatrick and Barry Shaw have been following up with members who have not renewed.

Our membership year is the same as our financial year, January to December. Membership fees are reviewed at the AGM in March each year and as Treasurer, I can recommend an increase in the fee – or not! At the conclusion of the AGM the membership fees for that year are then due. If not paid by 15 June, the membership lapses. It is easy to forget to pay and from here on in we will be sending reminders to those who have not paid by the first week of June.

The results of our follow-ups thus far:-

2 members resigned – moved out of Naremburn

3 members resigned – nursing homes

1 member – no longer interested because of the NPA lack of success with regard to a School for Naremburn

9 members renewed - one of these is an unidentified Internet Resources CU Internet Deposit. .

More people on the unfinancial list are to be followed up.

Total number of financial members is currently - 90

(e) Naremburn Matters – Trisha FitzPatrick, the Editor, reported that she is waiting for several articles as well as approvals for advertisements. Four members are writing articles. It takes 50 or so hours for her to put an 8-page issue together, and more for a 12-page as in the December issue. On current projections advertising sales could be \$400 in excess of production costs which will mean a surplus for 2010 of approximately \$2,300 for the year. As stated, Santa at the Shops will be Friday 10 December, which gives the NPA a little leeway related to completion of the issue and distribution of copies.

(f) Open Space – A letter of thanks needs to go to WCC for their completion of the drain replacement program at the junction of Slade & Central Streets and the drain on the east side of Central Street. It has prevented any local flooding to this road junction despite our recent heavy rains. Some discussion took place re the recent rescue of a youth from a flooded drain in the Flat Rock Gully area. Trees adjacent to the Hair by Maree hair salon need trimming and paving in the dedicated dining area outside Bar-cellos and Olde Faishioned Fish Shop has been lifted by tree roots & is becoming dangerous. WCC should be notified before the December 4 & 10 celebrations. A matter raised in the Open Forum - flooding on the slip road into the shops has been caused by a blocked drain and requires attention by the RTA.

(g) Website – Nothing to report

(h) Young Parents – Nothing to report.

12. CIRCULATION OF THE ATTENDANCE BOOK - 18 Members, 10 Apologies, 8 Visitors

13. MOTIONS OF WHICH DUE NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN – None for this meeting

14. NEXT GENERAL MEETING - Thursday, 9 December 2010 at 7:30 pm, Community Centre, Central Street.

This being our last meeting for 2010 a Christmas celebration will follow the meeting.

Delicia at Naremburn Shops has generously donated dinner for 2 at their excellent Tapas café as a lucky door prize, thanks Martin.

15. CLOSURE – The meeting closed at 9.40 pm