

# NAREMBURN PROGRESS ASSOCIATION

*Founded 1901; Incorporated 2004*

**PO Box 393 St Leonards NSW 1590**

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## MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING OF 13 OCTOBER 2011

Meeting commenced at 7:30 pm

Naremburn Community Centre, 7 Central Street, Naremburn

### 1. OPEN FORUM

- (a) **Helene Kemp (Olympia Road)** – raised two issues. 1) the footpath on the left or southern side of Grandview Street be sealed for better pedestrian access. 2) A large ficus in front of 14 Olympia Road attracts bats twice a year. Bat droppings are evil smelling and cause damage to cars parked under it. Roots from the tree are lifting adjacent paving.
- (b) **Doug Armstrong (Martin Street)** – 2 issues 1) 2012 has been declared the National Year of Reading and will be launched on 14 February 2012 with Reading Hour. For more information visit [www.love2read.org.au](http://www.love2read.org.au). 2) SERVO is a recently released book and is available from Constant Reader. It contains pictures of many Service Stations throughout Australia and features some local locations. Doug took six of the pictures in the collection.
- (c) **Trisha FitzPatrick (Central Street)** – 2 issues 1) Need for a sealed footpath along the south side of Ruth Street from the corner of Dargan Street to the viaduct. 2) Vehicles have been parked close to the bend at the junction of Ruth Street, Park and Olympia Roads where there are double lines.
- (d) **Frances O'Brien (Ruth Street)** - Olympia Road is not wide enough for through traffic when vehicles are parked on each side of the road. Locals report damage to wing mirrors from passing traffic.
- (e) **Kevin FitzPatrick (Central Street)** – Moved that a letter of appreciation and congratulations be sent to the Mayor, Councillors, General Manager and Staff for the wonderful official opening of The Concourse and the successful Spring Festival. Frances O'Brien, Kevin & Trisha FitzPatrick, Martha Follent and immediate past Secretary David Lendrum were invited to the Official Opening of The Concourse. This letter should include mention of Eilis O'Beirne and the WCC Events Team. Approved by a show of hands.
- (f) **Margaret Stewart (Willoughby Road)** – Parking in Dodds Street west. Cars are illegally parked affecting access to Cornerstone Unit Block car park. It would be helpful if an area close to their gate on the south side could be available for people moving in and out of the building and also for shopping drop-off for residents. It was suggested that the WCC Ranger should be contacted and this number put on the NPA website
- (g) **Alan Gray (Donnelly Road east)** – expressed the concerns of a group of Donnelly Road east residents about the proposed Child Care Centre in their Expressway-affected street that is only 3 cars wide and 5 cottages long. It is nearly impossible to do a U turn to exit without using one of the driveways. Police Community Liaison Officer, Matt Jewell and prominent child safety activist, Ron Delezio, have supported residents in opposing the development on child safety grounds. WCC has rejected the development three times; the developer has taken it to the Land & Environment Court each time. Council is now considering a DA yet again. Peter Johnson, owner of the neighbouring property had been approached to sell to the developer but eventually declined; he expressed the following concerns to the meeting: (a) Safe evacuation of the children in the event of an emergency; (b) use of RTA land for such an evacuation; (c) the applicant meeting requirements of his development by using assets outside his property, eg. storage of bins; (d) areas of the street affected by increased driveway access to the site, (e) trees would need to be removed, involving both WCC and NSC as this street is a boundary for both councils; (f) the Johnsons have to back out of their property and are blind-sighted on the side of the proposed site; (g) impact on the local community as some parents would walk their children to the pre-school after parking in neighbouring streets. He claimed WCC is only focusing on the landscaping issue rather than wider issues. It has been suggested a deal may have been done with a Merrenburn resident to provide egress via that already busy street. Member, Alan Gray, requested the support of the NPA. Resolved by a show of hands; the President requested the Secretary to write to Council expressing residents and community concerns.

### 2. CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

That the minutes of the General Meeting of 8 September 2011, as circulated, be confirmed as a true and accurate record of that meeting.

Proposed: Roger Promnitz ; Seconded: Viviane Leveaux

### 3. NOMINATION OF NEW MEMBERS

Sandra Borrie, Ian Nathan, Peter Witcombe

Proposed: Trisha FitzPatrick; Seconded: Helene Kemp

#### 4. CONFIRMATION OF NEW MEMBERS

Joann Morand, Andrew de Graaff, Sonia Hay, Robyn De Lange, Adrian De Lange, Darren Campbell, Michele Martin, Matthew Bevan, Alan Gray

#### 5. MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

- (a) **Western area of Naremburn – Traffic and Parking Safety issues** – Several additional issues were raised in Open Forum; letters to be sent to Council.
- (b) **Oral History Program** – Kevin informally interviewed Enid Frazel and her daughter, Bev, in Woolworths, Crows Nest. Enid preferred an off-the-cuff approach rather than a home tape recorded interview. Enid was born in the Glenmore Street home over 90 years ago. Her father, a tailor, made suits for many local residents including local Parish Priest Father Rohan (Naremburn's Catholic Parish in the 1930s and 1940s). She also provided information about particular shops in our local centre. NPA member Cyril Clark provided contact details for Mrs Shirley Rawlings of Northbridge. Her father FW Rawlings owned a Grocer Store at the corner of Slade Street and Willoughby Road. FW Rawlings had similar stores at Artarmon and Castlecrag. Kevin said that he will follow up with further information and pictures.
- (c) **Naremburn Shops – Ponding on the Slip Road:** a Council engineer had inspected the site and said Council would include it on their works program. Council subsequently sent a letter saying the matter had been referred to the RTA as this road is RTA responsibility. We await the RTA's response.
- (d) **OPS Manual for Office-Bearers and Committee Members** – NPA Public Officer, Trisha reported that the OPs manual – 18 pages in total – has been emailed to the Executive Committee and will be reviewed at Executive Committee Meetings. The Manual details meeting format, agendas, minutes, sub-committees and so on, all in the context of the requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act and the NPA Constitution that was registered under that Act in June 2004.
- (e) **Willoughby Local Environment Plan 2009** – pending legislation. The NPA was invited to attend a NSW Planning System Review workshop held at Club Willoughby 13 October. NSW Minister for Planning & Infrastructure, Hon. Brad Hazzard MP, had appointed Hon. Tim Moore and Hon. Ron Dyer to undertake a review of the planning system in NSW. It was to be a listening and consultation process conducted in 43 centres throughout the state and seeks views on what should be the broad underpinning principles for legislation to replace the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979. This legislation covers many diverse areas of NSW, rural and residential, where a one size fits all is not possible. It is seeking objectives and philosophy that should underpin the new legislative structure. The Review Panel will publish an issues paper in early December 2011 and is asking for submissions from interested parties by 4 November 2011. Feedback and comment on this paper will be invited by 17 February 2012. A Green Paper will then be provided to the NSW Government and published end of April 2012. Kevin attended on behalf of the NPA; other PAs were represented, in attendance were Willoughby Councillors, planners from neighbouring Councils and other interested parties.
- (f) **Traffic Committee Report (RTA, Police, State Member, WCC)** – No Naremburn items to report from the last meeting but we will be following up on matters raised in Open Forum.
- (g) **School for Naremburn** – on the agenda until the new Government indicates any change in policy

#### 6. CORRESPONDENCE

##### In

- (a) 13/09/2011 - email – John Berry, Naremburn resident – volunteering services – website.
- (b) 16/09/2011 – letter – WCC – Paul Gomez Infrastructure & Parking Management – Slip Road drainage
- (c) 18/09/2011 – letter – WCC – Invitation to attend Official Opening Chatswood Library
- (d) 19/09/2011 – letter – Gladys Berejiklian MP – Community Building Partnerships Program
- (e) 20/09/2011 – letter – Gladys Berejiklian MP – NSW Planning Review meetings Club Willoughby
- (f) 21/09/2011 – letter – WCC – Exhibition of Draft Section 94A Contribution Plan
- (g) 22/09/2011 – letter – WCC – Julie Whitfield Manager Open Space – Central Street Tree Replacement

##### Out

- (a) 09/09/2011 – letter – Peter Witcombe – Thank you for volunteering to be NPA webmaster
- (b) 14/09/2011 - email – John Berry, Naremburn resident – acknowledging his offer to assist with website
- (c) 25/09/2011 – letter – Peter Chauncy, McGrath Real Estate – Thank you for being Guest Speaker
- (d) 26/09/2011 – letter – WCC – Nick Tobin – Request for WCC assistance for NPA's 110<sup>th</sup> celebration
- (e) 05/10/2011 – letter – WCC – Julie Whitfield, Manager Open Space – Central Street Tree Replacement
- (f) 10/10/2011 – letter – WCC – Nick Tobin – 60 Brook Street Naremburn Questionable renovations
- (g) 12/10/2011 – letter – Mrs Madeleine Prior wife of former NPA member Michael – letter of condolence

#### 7. ACCOUNTS

The Treasurer Barry Shaw presented the financial report for the period 9 June to 11 October 2011

Opening Balance as at 8 June 2011		\$7,974.08
<u>Add: Income:</u>		
Membership subscriptions	305.00	
WCC Grant for Earth Hour 2012	3,000.00	
Naremburn Matters advertising	3,480.00	
Bank Interest	12.72	
		<u>\$6,797.72</u>
		\$14,771.80
<u>Less: Expenditure</u>		
Helene Kemp –meeting refreshments	134.36	
NM - production costs - 2 issues	4,902.49	
FWPA - Annual Fee	20.00	
FWPA - Annual Insurance Premium	125.00	
Website – Domain Registration/Renewal	33.00	
		<u>\$5,214.85</u>

Expenditure Approvals Requested:

Helene Kemp – refreshments expenses \$26.92  
 Kevin FitzPatrick – office supplies \$85.99

That the above expenses be approved.

Proposed: Roger Promnitz; Seconded: Beryl Batterham

## 8. FEDERATION OF WILLOUGHBY PROGRESS ASSOCIATIONS (FWPA)

**Built Heritage:** Bob McKillop a member of the Walter Burley Griffin Society reported on a DA for a property adjacent to a heritage listed property in the WBG estate; the Society is recommending that WCC seek heritage listing for Castle Cove Golf Club originally designed by Griffin as a Country Club. As Curator of the Willoughby District Historical Society, Bob reported the Society had won the ImaginE Museums & Galleries of NSW & ACT award for the best Exhibition & Public Engagement by a Voluntary organisation for its exhibition, 'Tales of Flat Rock Gully, Rugged, Ruined and Reclaimed'. Bob is writing a book as a complement to the exhibition.

**Masterplan CBD:** All delegates agreed the opening of The Concourse was a great success, the Concert Hall is spectacular, the Bicentennial banners are beautifully presented in The Pavilion; the Library currently has 4000 visitors a day. Delegates agreed a letter of congratulations be sent to Mayor Pat Reilly and Councillors. [Frances O'Brien, Kevin & Trisha FitzPatrick, Martha Follent & former NPA Secretary David Lendrum were among the invited guests to the opening.] Although cranes have been erected on the property planned for development, adjacent to the railway line, there have been no signs of substantial development of the project.

**Traffic Report:** The Traffic Committee consists of the RTA, Police, the Local State Member, and a WCC officer. While the public can attend monthly meetings, they are not entitled to speak on issues of concern. It was suggested the RTA is showing signs of listening to the community, perhaps as a result of policy changes of the new government. Consultation is one thing but more important is participation, otherwise it is just a ticking of the box process. [Nothing affecting Naremburn]

**Parking at Chatswood Police Station** is inadequate; the police have requested WCC provide additional on-street parking in the vicinity of CPS to cope with an increase in police numbers at the station. While this increase was applauded, WCC's Director of Infrastructure, Steven Head, said this was another example of commercial space being developed without adequate parking facilities. A Motion was put that the Federation write supporting WCC's opinion, at the same time expressing understanding of the Police Commander's dilemma.

**NSW State Planning Laws:** John Lightfoot, Northbridge delegate reported on the previous Thursday night's public meeting organised by his PA and commented on the excellence of WCC Environmental Services Director Greg Woodham's presentation. John explained that in accordance with its election promise, the government is carrying out a review of the NSW Planning Laws and had appointed a Planning Review Panel chaired by a former Environment Minister and a Land and Environment Court Commissioner to make recommendations to the government. The review panel is holding meetings at Club Willoughby, Thursday 13 October (3:00 – 5:00 pm and 6:00 -7:30 pm) to hear the community's views. While the Section 3A (Ministerial fiat) has been abolished, the Joint Regional Planning Panels remain without any change at this stage. Similarly the Land and Environment Court is still being used to circumvent council control. The Federation believes it is imperative that all members attend the Review meetings in order to have their views heard – the developers have already submitted their wish list. He said the amalgamation of Councils would dilute their influence and remove planning responsibility from Councils, and place such activities in the hands of private certifiers.

**Cultural Events:** The review of the Spring Festival, Street Fair and the Official Opening of The Concourse will take place on 1 November and a report on these events will be made at the next FWPA meeting. All FWPA delegates who attended these events commented on their excellence and the professionalism of the Events Team. A letter congratulating this team will be sent on behalf of the Federation. The Concourse has been booked out with a schedule of international and local events, including some from the Festival of Sydney program for the next two years. The first two performances of the Willoughby Symphony Orchestra and Choir were both booked out (50 – Friday; 200 – Sunday were unable to gain seats)

**General Business** included discussion on (a) Bushland Development – Stringy Bark Creek bushland redevelopment approval by Land and Environment Court had set a dangerous precedent for the bushland areas around the National Acoustic Laboratory which borders Lane Cove Park Reserve. (b) Question of Section 94 Funds being invested in works in areas where they had been levied. The Federation is writing to WCC asking how projects are identified for Section 94 funding and for a review of current and intended projects, particularly in the CBD. (c) Community participation in PAs. A workshop had been held earlier in the year. A report of the results will be given to participants and will be an agenda item for the next meeting of the FWPA. (d) Meeting dates for 2012 are to be set and the Dougherty Centre meeting room booked. (Naremburn had requested WCC and the FWPA to update the Associations meeting dates on Council's website. (The 2011 meeting dates had not been noted on Council's website.)

## 9. WARD COUNCILLORS

None of the three Naremburn Ward Councillors were present at this meeting.

## 10. SUB-COMMITTEES REPORTS

### (a) Development Applications received since the August meeting – 9 tabled

DA-2010/726	39 Waters Road	Demolish existing, erect 2 storey, amended plans
DA-2011/411	13 Oxley Street	Alts, adds, loft level add, carport
DA-2011/428	29 Station Street	Alts, adds, to existing dwelling
DA-2011/428	29 Station Street	Rectifications
DA-2011/431	2 Dawson Street	Alts, adds, new fencing, double garage
DA-2011/443	11 Martin Street	Alts, adds, and loft level addition.
DA-2011/450	27 Station Street	Double garage, amenities, loft above
DA-2011/470	51 Dalleys Road	Alts and adds
DA-2011/477	18A Station Street	Carport with metal frame, associated works

**(b) Bicentennial Reserve and Flat Rock Gully Advisory Group**

Frances O'Brien stated that the next meeting is scheduled for 24 November at 6:30 pm.

**(c) Events**

**110<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the foundation of the NPA – 27 November**

Frances O'Brien, Events convener, reported that due to financial constraints the formal event scheduled for Saturday 26 November has been cancelled. The Executive and the Events sub-committee agreed to continue planning for the Central Street Community Street Party. Several residents from Central Street have volunteered to assist with this Street Party as they have had previous experience in hosting similar events. The NPA is very grateful for the assistance offered by the residents. Planning for this event is progressing very well and the Party will be a wonderful event for the whole Community. Invitations will be circulated to all Naremburn residents over the coming fortnight.

Carmen Loecherer, a member of the Events Sub-committee spoke about the Calendar Project. Naremburn children will be invited to submit a drawing of their favourite place in Naremburn. Twelve winners will be chosen and featured in each of the 12 months of a 2012 calendar. Each winner will be given a copy of the calendar. Calendars will be on sale at the 110<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration and would be a great Christmas present. Children can put in their entries at the Naremburn Library in a box provided.

**Earth Hour 2012**

Trisha as Public Officer reported that WCC held a grants presentation 12 October, to formally handover \$3,000 for Naremburn's EH 2012. Fran, Kevin, Helene and Trisha attended. The grant will cover the costs of African drummers, a Port-a-loo, hire of tables and chairs, candles, and so on. She phoned and booked Josh Oshlak's group for EH 2012 on 31 March. Josh will assist with car park layout for the NPA's mud map lodgement required for closure of the car park.

- (d) Membership** – Helene Kemp reported that there are 132 financial members with 14 still to pay their 2011 subscription. At this stage they are not entitled to vote on NPA decisions.
- (e) Naremburn Community Centre** – Centre Manager, Knud Heldt has informed us that OOSH will be moving to Bales Park in the second term 2012; the DA for upgrading the Centre has been activated. The NPA is to write to WCC GM to support an application by Council as part of the State Government's 2011 Community Grants Infrastructure recently announced.
- (f) Naremburn Matters** – Trisha as Editor, stated that timetable to delay production and distribution of Naremburn Matters until after Sunday 27 November – the celebration of our 110th anniversary – has been agreed to with rocketdesign
- (g) Naremburn Park** – we will contact our members who live adjacent to the park and invite them to monitor it.
- (h) Open Space** – A WCC engineer visited the Slip Road and inspected ponding caused by a blocked drain. He had promised Council's rectification of the problem. However, a subsequent letter from Council indicated the matter had been referred to the RTA. Frances again commented on the untidy nature of the corner occupied by 1<sup>st</sup> Choice Liquor Superstore. Kevin read a letter from WCC Director of Infrastructure, Steven Head dated 10 December 2009 responding to our letter of 28 August 2009 stating that a letter had been sent to the owners of the property requesting a clean-up of the landscaped area adjacent to public footpaths. We have recently written to WCC GM requesting cleaning up the area and await a response. Kevin drew attention to the poor landscaping on 'Naremburn Hill'. The Naremburn sign is obstructed by an overhanging tree branch. Some of the plantings have died including a black butt wattle tree. An earlier letter from Council stated that maintenance of this area would take place on a monthly basis. It was resolved to write to Council requesting a review of maintenance of the Naremburn Hill area. As already noted in Correspondence, WCC Open Space Manager, Julie Whitfield, recommended tree replacement and planting in Central Street to mark the NPA's 110<sup>th</sup> celebration. Central Street residents will be notified by mail about the project with the hope of completing it in the spring months.
- (h) Website** – Trisha reported that at the suggestion of Helene Kemp, the September issue of Naremburn Matters carried an appeal for a volunteer to become our webmaster. Previous minutes report that options had been explored and that it may be that the NPA needed to engage in a bidding process to find someone to convert our website from HTML NM September brought us a much-welcomed response from Peter Witcombe who is Imagineers, a website design and development company. We were very happy to welcome Peter as a new member of the NPA and as our webmaster. Nigel Smith supplied Peter with all the necessary information to access our website and then let us know that this had occurred. Trisha said that within a few days, Peter had upgraded the website. She then introduced Peter Witcombe to the meeting. Peter then addressed the meeting with his hopes for the NPA website. He has been a resident of Naremburn for 17 years and in the web development business for 12 years. A regular reader of Naremburn Matters he decided to volunteer his services. He sees an opportunity for the website 'moving forward' to be an effective way of communicating with members and has potential to speed up the application for membership process.

**11 CIRCULATION OF THE ATTENDANCE BOOK** – 17 Members, 7 Apologies from Members, 3 Visitors

**12. MOTION OF WHICH DUE NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN** – none for this meeting

**13. NEXT GENERAL MEETING:** - Thursday, 10 November 2011 at 7:30 pm, in the Community Centre: Refreshments from 7:00 pm. This is an opportunity to informally greet other members of the Association and our visitors prior to the meeting.

**14. CLOSURE:** The meeting closed at 8:55 pm