

# NAREMBURN PROGRESS ASSOCIATION

*Founded 1901; Incorporated 2004*

**PO Box 393 St Leonards NSW 1590**

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## REVISED MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING OF 12 APRIL 2012

Meeting commenced at 7.40 pm at the  
Naremburn Community Centre, 7 Central Street, Naremburn

### 1. OPEN FORUM

- (a) **Michael Wright (Central Street)** – Michael updated the meeting and advised that the new trees in Central Street had not been planted. The tree in front of his house is a security issue and he has contacted WCC's Jean O'Neill on Monday 23 March, who came to look at the tree. Two letters have been sent to Council and the NPA received a letter from Steven Head on 14 March 2012 who apologized for the delay and advised that the completion of the trees would be due in 4-6 weeks. Any queries should be directed to Jean O'Neill, Landscape Officer on 9777 7757.
- (b) **Martha Follett (Garland Road)** – Refer to 5(b)
- (c) **Alan Gray (Donnelly Street)** – Alan felt that two councillors Kate Lamb and Barry Thompson were not supportive of the constituents and residents who live in the street in relation to the issue of the proposed Child Care Centre at 7&9 Donnelly Street. He felt that they were on the side of the developers who do not live in the area. Trisha FitzPatrick said that there will be an article on the Child Care Centre issues in the June issue of Naremburn Matters.

### 2 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

That the minutes of the General Meeting of 8 March 2012, as circulated, be confirmed as a true and accurate record of that meeting.

Proposed: Joann Morand; Seconded: Alan Gray

### 3 NOMINATION OF NEW MEMBERS

Kirsty Cranfield, Keith Cranfield, Jo Cocks, Mike Cocks, Michael Heath, Michael Wright

Proposed: Joann Morand; Seconded: Viviane Leveaux

### 4. CONFIRMATION OF NEW MEMBERS

None for this meeting

### 5. MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

- (a) **Western area of Naremburn – Traffic and Parking Safety issues** – Nil to report.
- (b) **Oral History Program** – Kevin FitzPatrick reported that he had spoken to Dorothy Smith, former President of the Over 50s, now officially disbanded. A small group of former members meet socially for a monthly meal, usually at Cammeray. Their next get-together is to be at Olde Fashioned Fish n' Chips. A member of the group, Enid Frazell of Glenmore Street, is recovering from an accident and may have to go to a nursing home. Kevin collected a 'Faces of Naremburn' collage that has been framed by Ray's Framing free of charge. He will prepare a record for the back of this to indicate names of those in the photographic collage.
- (c) **Naremburn Shops** – Martha Follent was invited to attend a Council meeting in relation to the waste collection at the Naremburn Shops. The main issues are the frequency, time and noise of collection from commercial rubbish bins from Naremburn shops; location of bins for collection and deposit of bins following collection; length of time bins are on road prior to and following collection. To resolve the issue, WCC would like to rationalise the waste collection, and that the rubbish is collected between the hours of 6.00 am and 11.00 am each day. WCC will obtain quotations from a number of service providers and decide on one and to have this in place by the end of April. Then businesses which are on board will change their current contracts and go into a contract with the new provider. WCC will also introduce recycling for the commercial premises with the new contract
- (d) **Willoughby Local Environment Plan 2009** – pending legislation.
- (e) **Traffic Committee Report (RTA, Police, State Member, WCC)** – nil to report.

- (f) **School for Naremburn** – Frances O’Brien was invited to attend a Community Meeting on NSW 2021, on Monday 2 April 2012. NSW 2021 is a statewide plan to rebuild the economy, return quality services, renovate infrastructure, strengthen our local environment and communities and restore accountability to government. The meeting was hosted by Jillian Skinner MP, Minister for Health and Minister for Medical Research. The meeting was arranged to assist in the development of the Northern Sydney Regional Action Plan. Ms Skinner asked what was impacting our local community. The major issues currently facing our local Community are a School for Naremburn and the impending WLEP and its implication for Naremburn.
- (g) **St Leonard’s Church Bells:** Helene Kemp as Secretary read portions of the emailed letter from Geoff Gemmell, of the Lower North Shore Parish, to the meeting. Kevin FitzPatrick advised that two of those omitted paragraphs did indicate important facts – 1. That the NPA at its March General Meeting agreed that Kevin FitzPatrick address Council on behalf of the NPA, supporting the bells project, he had emailed his submission to the Committee and has given a hard copy to the Secretary. 2. Geoff Gemmell in his letter objected to the fact the resident group that met with parish representatives called itself ‘a Community Representative’ group. They are a resident group. The NPA is one of the key Naremburn Community groups and was not asked to have a representation at these meetings. Kevin commented that Geoff had noted that while he was at the NPA’s organised Earth Hour at the Naremburn Shops for 1.5 hours, not one of these so-called ‘Community Representatives’ was present for this community event.
- Kevin FitzPatrick then reported on the Council Meeting at which he represented the NPA - WCC allowed 6 speakers to address Council – 4 were for the bells, 2 against bells. One of those community representatives who spoke against the bells lives at 3 Merrenburn Ave (east end), and would be far more likely affected by continuous traffic noise off the busy Brook Street – Merrenburn Avenue junction than occasional bell ringing at the church. Noise at this corner is accentuated by the fact traffic lights mean cars and particularly buses have to accelerate from a standing start up the hill - we have had people raise the traffic noise issue on Brook Street in Open Forum at previous meetings. He stated that Brian Chapman, one of those who spoke against the bells had legitimate claims as he lived in Meridian, the units just across the road from the church in Willoughby Road. Kevin stated that he believed the choice of community representatives instigated by Cr Coppock was flawed. It was not truly representative of the community. Bronwyn Promnitz, a neighbour of the church property had been questioned as to her opinion of the bells. She stated she was for them and was not subsequently invited to join the group even though husband Roger had sent an emailed submission to WCC in support of the project. At the WCC meeting Cr Rutherford did question Kevin as to why the Progress Association was not represented on the representative body. Cr Lamb commented that representatives had to be invited by Council. Kevin said that he thinks this was really Cr Coppock who oversaw the representation which proved to be from a highly organised lobby group that had already shown its persuasive strength in overthrowing the original WLEP 2009 plan to rezone Donnelly Road and Merrenburn Avenue to medium density. At the end of the day it looks as though the church will not go ahead with the bells project as ringing the bells at 10 dBa above background noise as permitted by WCC in response to those who opposed the bells project, meant the bells as musical instruments would not be able to be used as designed/tuned. In fact at this ringing level they were more likely to be irritating than if rung according to their design. If the project does not go ahead it represents a loss to our community at large.
- Several members present commented variously that the installation of the bells was a once in a lifetime opportunity, the bells would enhance Naremburn, etc.

## 6. CORRESPONDENCE

### In

- (a) 08/03/2012 – letter –WCC – Infrastructure Services Steven Head - Damaged seat outside Ray’s Framing
- (b) 09/03/2012 – letter – WCC Mayor, Pat Reilly – confirming attendance at Earth Hour 2012
- (c) 12/03/2012 – business papers - WCC – Ordinary Meeting of the Council
- (d) 14/03/2012 – letter – WCC – Infrastructure Services Steven Head – Central Street tree replacement
- (e) 14/03/2012 – letter –WCC – Infrastructure Services James Brocklebank – Willoughby to Crows Nest Cable Project
- (f) 19/03/2012 – agenda received – WCC Cultural & Environmental Committee Agenda – Notice of Meeting
- (g) 21/03/2012 – document - WCC – General Manager, Nick Tobin – Draft Operational Plan and Budget 2012/2013
- (h) 26/03/2012 – minutes - WCC – Ordinary Meeting of the Council
- (i) 00/03/2012 - WCC – Bushcare News
- (j) 02/04/2012 – agenda - WCC Corporate & Transport Committee Meeting
- (k) 11/04/2012 – email – Kirsten Smith – Waste Collection at the Naremburn Shops
- (l) 08/04/2012– email with attached letter – Geoffrey Gemmell - St Leonard’s Catholic Church proposed Bells.

### Out

- (a) 01/04/2012 – Letter – Mayor Pat Reilly, WCC - Thank you for attending Earth Hour
- (b) 01/04/2012 – Letter – Cr Kate Lamb - Thank you for donation of 2 concert tickets at the Concourse for Earth Hour
- (c) 01/04/2012 – Letter – Connie Maltby, Onsite Hire - Thank you for the special price of the Port-a-Loo for Earth Hour
- (d) 01/04/2012 – Letter – Sami Marsh and Jenny Haynes, KICK Performance Group - Thank you Earth Hour
- (e) 01/04/2012 – Letter – Aldo Di Santo, member - Thank you for shop storage space for Earth Hour tables and chairs
- (f) 01/04/2012 – Letter – Nick Tobin, WCC General Manager - Thank you for the WCC Small Grant for Earth Hour
- (g) 01/04/2012 – Letter – Paul Storm, Thank you for loan of the WDHS marquee for Earth Hour
- (h) 01/04/2012 – Letter – Chanelle di Nicola, By Chanelle - Thank you for face-painting at Earth Hour
- (i) 01/04/2012 – Letter – Felicity McCallum, WCC - Thank you for assistance on the night of Earth Hour
- (j) 01/04/2012 – Letter – Leonne Donnelly, WCC - Thank you for assistance and support for Earth Hour
- (k) 01/04/2012 – Letter – Peter Chauncy, McGrath Estate Agents - Thank you for \$1,500 to the NPA’s Earth Hour

## 7. ACCOUNTS

The Treasurer Carmen Loecherer presented the financial report for the period 8 March to 12 April 2012

Opening Balance as at 7 March 2012 \$11,452.08

### Add: Income:

Member's subscriptions	415.00	
Donations	100.10	
Bank interest	<u>8.74</u>	<u>533.74</u>
		11,985.62

### less: Expenditure

Stationery/Postage	186.59	
Meeting amenities	13.97	
Naremburn Matters Publication	2,039.89	
Earth Hour (a)	2,681.18	
Misc		<u>4,921.63</u>

Closing Bank Balance as at 11 April 2012 \$7,064.19

### Expenditure Approvals Requested:

H. Kemp - Toner & Folders	76.43
J Morand – 4 hrs J Bell PA	55.50
NSW Fair Trading – sub of Ann Report	72.00
H. Kemp –supper supplies	9.02

**That** this expenditure be approved.

Proposed: Roger Promnitz: Seconded: Viviane Leveaux

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

NPA Delegate Frances O'Brien attended a meeting on 10 March 2012. It was reported that at the meeting, the Northbridge Progress Association raised concerns regarding the car park at the Northbridge Plaza and also over 55s accommodation. Also discussed at this meeting was the extension of time on the Parking Meters around the CBD. Originally the meters were turned off at 6pm. This has now been extended to 9pm. Concerns were raised that this was a revenue raiser concern by WCC. It was suggested that the "free" car parks are open at night.

## 9. WARD COUNCILLORS

Barry Thompson Naremburn Ward Councillor was present. Cr Thompson congratulated the Earth Hour sub committee on the great success of Earth Hour 2012. Cr Thompson updated the NPA in relation to what WCC had been working on which was the budget for 2012 and that the elections were coming up in September. He also spoke about the carpark in Northbridge; the parking in Naremburn and trying to work out the best way to deal with this. Some suggestions were parking meters and a loop bus service.

## 10. SUB-COMMITTEES REPORTS

### (a) Development Applications received since the March meeting –4 tabled

DA-2011/450	27 Station Street	Double garage, amenities and loft above – amended plans
DA-2011/535	19 Dargan Street	Alts existing dwelling new attached dual occ - amended plans
DA-2012/70	2/17 Merrenburn Avenue	Replace existing carport
DA-2012/84	9 Probate Street	Alterations and additions to existing building

### **Other active items**

DA-2011/261 7&9 Donnelly Road 72 place Child Care Centre

The Developer has lodged an appeal under Section 34 of the Act, so whilst Willoughby Council has refused the DA on several occasions, the Consent Authority is now the Land and Environment Court. As previously reported, a Site Conciliation Meeting was held on 21 February, with NPA officially represented. The L&EC Commissioner is yet to reach a final decision.

DA-2011/493 43 Donnelly Road Installation of 6 bells in St Leonard's Church tower

This application has been given Deferred Commencement approved, subject to a number of conditions. The most significant of these is that the noise level of the bells shall not exceed background noise by more than 10 dBA at the boundary of the most affected residential property, with noise level tests to be conducted and if found to exceed this level then bells to be shut down until they comply with the set levels (Consent Condition 15). Bell ringing is also subject to set times.

### (b) Bicentennial Reserve and Flat Rock Gully Advisory Group – next meeting is 24 May.

- (c) **Events** – The President, Frances O'Brien invited sub-committee member Joann Morand to report on Earth Hour at Naremburn Shops on Saturday 31 March 2012.  
NPA in conjunction with WCC and support from Peter Chauncy staged the 2012 Earth Hour event in the Naremburn Shops Car Park on Saturday 31 March between 6 and 9.30pm. It was a successful event with assistance from WCC traffic management and Felicity McCallum (Sustainability Officer at WCC). Minor problems were experienced with the PA system (ran out of battery power after a minute) which led us to having to re-arrange everything at the last minute to plug into the power box. Kick Performing Arts produced a great program first up which drew a good crowd - mostly family and friends of the performers. It was disappointing that they didn't stay for the rest of the evening and resident/shop keeper support was low overall. I personally think Earth Hour has lost its relevance amidst all the claims and counter claims of the Climate Change discussion. The car park is also not an ideal venue for holding/staging such an event. That said the Soul Drummers were great and got the remaining crowd involved, Silke the Fire Twirler, the Clown/Magician, Chanelle the Face-Painter and Wandering Minstrels all added to a great evening. The Mayor attended and addressed the audience and then counted down to Earth Hour, Ward Councillors Coppock and Thompson, WCC GM Nick Tobin and State Member Gladys Berejiklian also attended. The event came in under budget.
- (d) **Membership** – Trisha FitzPatrick reported that there are currently 147 members. 2012 subs are due for renewal and members need to pay by 8 June to remain financial.
- (e) **Naremburn Community Centre** – On Thursday 5 April Barry Shaw and Kevin FitzPatrick, NPA-elected Community Centre User Group Delegates met to review the Naremburn Community Centre Concept Plan for the redevelopment of the Centre and to prepare a submission to present to this meeting in the hope that members could endorse their submission to be presented to Council. Kevin said that in the interim, the NPA needed information from WCC's Property Manager, Steven Farr, who has been on leave. We have the following questions. (1) The exact dimensions of Meeting Rooms 1, 2 and 3 as indicated on the plan, (2) Commencement date for the upgrade, (3) The time the project would take, (4) Where NPA records would be stored, (5) Alternate arrangements for NPA meetings while upgrade took place. The meeting by a show of hands agreed that Barry and Kevin seek answers to the above questions, and that subsequently a draft letter to WCC be submitted to the Secretary.
- (f) **Naremburn Matters** – Trisha FitzPatrick (Editor) stated that there has already been some enquiry, both advertising and articles, for the June issue. She has confirmed with Sue Howes that we had already planned to include an article on the Community Garden at the end of Bongalong Street and that this will not take space away from the NNHW page. There will be articles about Earth Hour, the Bells DA for St Leonard's Catholic Church, the Naremburn Community Centre Concept Plan, as well as the Child Care Centre DA for 7&9 Donnelly Road. Trisha stated that the disclaimer on page 2 of each issue of Naremburn Matters means that an Editor's comment can be made regarding any of these items of interest and particularly the two contentious DAs
- (g) **Naremburn Park** – Nil to report.
- (h) **Open Space** - The 'Trees on Central Street project' was covered in Open Forum. Kevin reported that although the Naremburn signage area at the junction of Willoughby Road and the off-ramp of the Freeway was scheduled for monthly maintenance, this schedule does not seem to be followed. The area is overgrown with weeds and looks unsightly. The President agreed that the matter be raised again with Council and the question of solar lighting of the Naremburn sign be dealt with in the same letter..
- (i) **Website** – Trisha FitzPatrick as Public Officer said that further updating has taken place including the results of the AGM 2012 elections. We need photos and a story about Earth Hour. All NPA Events need to be covered on the website. The page that includes the Office-Bearers and General Committee Members needs to be updated. She said that in the past Executive Committee Members' street addresses had been included but this was now inappropriate given changes in Privacy Laws. Trisha suggested that a headshot and mobile number for each Committee Member would be appropriate.

**11 CIRCULATION OF THE ATTENDANCE BOOK** – 15 Members, 3 Apologies from Members, 0 Visitors

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

**13. NEXT GENERAL MEETING:** - The **General Meeting** of the NPA will be held on Thursday 10 May 2012 at the Naremburn Community Centre 7 Central Street.

**14. CLOSURE:** The meeting closed at 9:45 pm.