

NAREMBURN PROGRESS ASSOCIATION

Founded 1901; Incorporated 2004

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MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING OF 16 APRIL 2009

Meeting commenced at 7:35 pm

Naremburn School corner of Willoughby and Dalleys Roads Naremburn

1. OPEN FORUM

- (a) **Closure of Alto Ford Chandos Street** (Doug Armstrong - Martin St) – The Ford operation has moved and been replaced by a commercial car park, parking \$25 per day.
- (b) **Lawson Lane/Willoughby Rd Intersection** (Doug Armstrong - Martin St) – Street signs adjacent to the intersection are obstructed by foliage.
- (c) **Ryan Lane** (Doug Armstrong - Martin St) – A car had been set alight.
- (d) **Crows Nest Plaza shopping centre** (Doug Armstrong - Martin St) A Coles store is to be built and significant road changes are to be made to the adjacent streets.
- (e) **St Cuthbert's Church** (Roger Promnitz - Merrenburn Ave) – Building work well under way, roof installed. Brickwork underway. Work on the existing rectory proceeding. Overall completion expected August 2009.
- (f) **Northcote St south commuter parking** (Andrew Egan - Northcote St) – Noted that one side of the street is restricted resident parking, the other unrestricted and locals who need to use street car parking in this area are significantly inconvenienced as they are unable to do so because of all day commuter parking. NPA to write to WCC raising the issue of intrusive commuter parking in areas of Naremburn and Northcote St in particular.
- (g) **Northbridge Football Club** (Brian Norton Glenmore St) – Commented on previous meeting item on use of Naremburn Park and invited NPA members to attend a football game.
- (h) **Medium Density Development, Vale St Cammeray** – (Martha Follent – Garland Road) This proposal (in the North Sydney Council area) looks like going ahead as part of the previously open space zoned land has been re-zoned for residential and a proposal for 21 luxury apartments has been submitted. There are many environmental issues. North Sydney Council decision is expected in May/June 2009. Details are available on the North Sydney Council website.

2. CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

That the minutes of the General Meeting of 12 March 2009, as circulated, be confirmed as a true and accurate record of that meeting.

Proposed: Annaliese Appleton; Seconded: Martha Follent

3. NOMINATION OF NEW MEMBERS – Graham Mills, Jane Townsend, Andrew Egan, Rodney Daly, Colin Bradley, Alanna Thompson

4. CONFIRMATION OF NEW MEMBERS – None at this meeting

5. MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

- (a) **Baseball Diamond Lights and Associated Landscaping** – Landscaping is to start in Spring 2009. The baseball club is raising funds and applying for grants for the lighting, construction of which is expected to start in 18 months to 3 years; see also item 9(f) Open Spaces report.
- (b) **Small Street/Artarmon Rd Lights – Northbound on Willoughby Rd** – Raised at the WCC Traffic Committee. The RTA has not refused consideration to the right hand from Willoughby Road turn. Ongoing.
- (c) **Naremburn School** – Annaliese Appleton reported that the Department of Education and Training (DET) analysis of school age children does not justify another school and that DET is unlikely to support the opening of a Naremburn school. DET is analysing existing schools for possible upgrades. A public meeting is to be held in June 2009 to bring the community up to date. The idea of split campuses to address current problems was raised but it was noted that DET policy is to avoid these sorts of campuses. The situation with the amalgamation of lower north shore Catholic parishes and local Catholic primary schools was raised and discussed. Website for updates.
- (d) **Oral History Program** – Noted that there is a 93 year old resident living in Wheatleigh Street who could be approached to provide historical information. The greengrocers in Crows Nest Plaza have a long local history particularly with the former Naremburn Primary School. Jack Dean has given some insights into the 1930s depression lifestyle in Naremburn
- (e) **Naremburn Shops** – Eucalypt has been removed from Rohan St footpath. General tidiness could be improved. The issue of energy conservation is to be raised with the shop keepers.
- (f) **Dodds Street East** – A letter has been sent to WCC regarding street lighting, kerbing and guttering.

- (g) **Life Membership Guidelines** – in the process of development
- (h) **The Roles of Office Bearers and Committee Members** – a description of the work of a committee member was prepared ahead of the NPA 2009 Elections as means of attracting candidates for election; revision ongoing.
- (i) **Earth Hour** – Very positive comments made by members who had attended. The drummers, as a zero energy waste entertainment, were much appreciated. Noted that it worked out as a 2 part event, earlier for young families who then went home to do their bit, and others who stayed for the lights out. Thanks to NPA members Anneliese Appleton, Robyn Butler, Roger Promnitz, Howard Townsend, Graham Mills, Kevin and Trisha FitzPatrick who resourced stall; also Venetia Gintel, NM Reporter. The NPA needs to have new banners to suit stalls and other locations; we have participated in 3 events where this 'identification' is needed; Kevin has discussed our needs with NPA member Michael Prior of Signwave Artamon. Activities that bring the community together are to be encouraged. NPA to write to WCC – congratulations on a successful event.
- (j) **Ella Street Bridge** – Work is now scheduled to start on 15 September 2009. State Rail (SRA) raised the bridge closure with WCC in May 2008. Naremburn residents were not consulted at that time. Annaliese Appleton has obtained a copy of the Traffic Management Plan and prepared a report on progress, both are available in correspondence. A Station St resident stated that the first notification received was a notice from WCC to create 'No Parking' areas on the west side of Station St. Further community consultation is essential. Michael Prior, Park Rd, has observed recent increased traffic and parking demand in Park Rd. Proposal to make Station and Waters Roads opposite one way again discussed. Cr Barry Thompson stated that further community consultation is required, but the closure of the Lambs Road Bridge seems unlikely. Suggested that Steven Head WCC Infrastructure Service Director be invited to attend the May NPA meeting to hear community concerns regarding the Ella Street Bridge closure and to answer questions. This meeting will be advertised widely in the affected area.

6. CORRESPONDENCE

In

- (a) 24/03/2009 – email – WCC James Brocklebank – Kiss & ride parking at St Leonards station
- (b) 14/04/2009 – email – John Dale – Naremburn Park cricketers 1939-1942
- (c) 14/04/2009 – email – WCC Marcia – WCC staff notes Naremburn school meeting 13 Feb 2009
- (d) 16/04/2009 – email - WCC – Minutes of Bicentennial Reserve meeting 1 April 2009
- (e) 16/04 2009 – Report – Annaliese Appleton/WCC – Ella St bridge closure AA report and draft Traffic Mgt Plan

Out

- (a) 06/04/2009 – email - WCC Julie Whitfield– Willoughby Rd east side Garland to Slade encroaching plants
- (b) 06/04/2009 – email – WCC Julie Whitfield – Naremburn sign, Freeway off ramp Willoughby Rd, obscured
- (c) 06/04/2009 – email – Barry Thompson – Ella Street Bridge closure update
- (d) 16/04/2009 – letter – WCC GM – Dodds St east lighting, kerb & guttering
- (e) 16/04/2009 – letter – WCC GM – Naremburn Community Centre response to WCC letter 30/01/2009

7. ACCOUNTS

The Treasurer had tendered his apology; in his absence the Public Officer gave the following financial information.

Cash at Bank	\$2,594.48
N Matters unpaid invoices	\$1,320.00
Expenditure Approvals Requested:	
Earth Hour Expenses - KJF	\$ 9.00
Photocopying - KJF	\$ 15.00
Membership Receipt Book - TF	\$ 4.30

That these expenditures be approved

Proposed: Roger Promnitz; Seconded: David Lendrum

8. FEDERATION OF WILLOUGHBY PROGRESS ASSOCIATIONS AND WARD COUNCILLORS' REPORT

FEDERATION

Royal North Shore Hospital Redevelopment Review: The 19 March meeting called by WCC, chaired by Greg Woodhams was dominated by a large group of concerned citizens wishing to discuss Mental Health provision in the proposed plan. Issues overlooked/briefly dealt with were:-

Car park for 567 vehicles & energy efficient lighting;

Opening of road entry from Pacific Highway & potential rat running through Naremburn;

Lack of upgraded burns unit;

Sustainability of plan poor, Greg said WCC gave it a four star rating when a six star expected Hydrotherapy pool not included in the plan.

Built Heritage: There is zero concern for the built heritage of Hercules Street or the Chatswood Mental Health Unit.

Willoughby Snapshot was proposed to Council by Stuart Coppock in 2000. This was an attempt to photograph significant built heritage in the district. This approach has now been replaced by Google World which is not always effective because vision of many buildings is obstructed by trees or greenery. Heritage Festival included Night Skies in Bicentennial Park, Australiana in Applied Art, talk by Paul Storm at which significant pottery created at the Mashman Kilns on display. Motion put to correct the captions on historical display at Chatswood Station.

CBD Master Plan: Issues – commercial development around station; noise; water leakage and cracks in tunnel walls.

Northbridge Master Plan: Public meeting 25 Feb. Strong resistance to plan. Something needs to be done about poor state of the car park. Plug pulled on project and community to be notified by appropriate press release.

Cultural Events held first meeting on 24 March; coming events Harmony Day (10th anniversary) 26 March and Earth Hour Festival in Naremburn Park on 28 March. There will be not be a Northside Garden Fair this year.

Greg Woodhams, Environmental Services Director, WCC, was guest speaker - his topic – Changes to the NSW Planning Legislation – the Brave New World.

COUNCILLORS

Councillor Barry Thompson. The Earth Hour Festival was very well received. Events like this have now been held in the Naremburn community for the last 3 years and there is an expectation that a significant community event will be held at this time each year. The WCC management plan for the next 12 months is nearing completion and Councillor Thompson will push for Naremburn Ward activities to be included.

The conflict between resident and commuter parking is a major ongoing issue. A whole of Willoughby City study is needed to create a city wide policy to de-emphasise commuter parking and improve resident parking. Encouragement of public transport over private required. The WCC shuttle bus is operating around the Artarmon area and hubs are being advertised.

Northbridge Plaza. There has been some interesting media regarding the community representation at meetings making decisions about this major community proposal. Development proposals have now been shelved indefinitely.

Civic Place construction is continuing apace with the builder, A W Edwards doing a great job.

The church building at Tindale/Artarmon Roads was acquired by WCC at a good price and will initially be used to accommodate the temporary Artarmon library with future use to be determined.

9. SUB-COMMITTEES REPORTS

(a) DAs – 8 tabled

DA 2004/274/F	27-29 Clarendon St Artarmon	S96 Delete condition serving of alcohol
DA 2007/423/A	17 Oxley St	S96 Modify consent delete first floor etc
DA 2008/714	9 Oxley St	Alts & adds amended plans (2)
DA 2009/115	88 Reserve Rd Artarmon	Alts & adds to cement batching plant
DA 2009/122	10 Hamilton Ave	Enclosure of front verandah to dwelling
DA 2009/128	32 Dalleys Rd	Alterations & additions to existing dwelling
DA 2009/181	3 Dargan St	Alterations & additions to existing dwelling

(b) **Events** – Earth Hour Festival held 5 pm to 9.30 pm Saturday 28 March, see 5 (i) above. An annual event of this type is to be encouraged.

(c) **Library and Community Centre** – WCC letter of 30/01/2009 referred to moving the OOSH to Bales Park then plans for the Community centre to "be exhibited for public comment". This was discussed and it was agreed that NPA would prefer to have an input earlier in the planning process. NPA to write to WCC requesting input to the planning process for the redevelopment of the Community Centre before plans are put on display.

(d) **Membership** – The number of members now stands at 115 with 11 new members so far for 2009 with 4 of these joining at the Earth Hour Festival. Membership fees for 2009 were due as at the March AGM and so far 34 of the 2007 members have renewed.

(e) **Naremburn Matters** – Work on the June issue has not yet commenced, however we have \$1,470 worth of advertising already booked; there has also been a new advertiser enquiry via the website. Deadline for advertising is 8 May; deadline for articles is 15 May.

(f) Open Spaces and Landscaping

Bicentennial Reserve and Flat Rock Gully Advisory Group held its quarterly meeting on 1 April. NPA was well represented by David Lendrum, Howard Townsend, and Kevin Fitzpatrick, Brian Norton, Northbridge Football Club and Carolyn New, Bike North were present with an apology from Beryl Batterham representing bush regenerators.

Traffic and Parking covered matter of right turn from Willoughby Rd to Small Street. Raised with RTA at Traffic Committee. They did not reject this option. Further enquiry needed. WCC has new officer dealing with this.

Baseball Diamond and Landscaping. Landscaping to commence in Spring. John May of the Baseball Association said applications for grants were being made, supplemented by fund raising by the club. At best they will commence construction of light towers in 18 months time; 3 years is a more realistic time frame.

Nature Strip Along Willoughby Road – Garland Road To Slade Street Eastern Side. Kevin Fitzpatrick emailed Julie Whitfield, WCC Open Spaces Manager re the state of the new planting along this strip. New planting progressing well but there is also rapid growth of pre-existing plants/trees as well as weeds in the curbside gutters that presents a negative visual impact as well as creating safety concerns as it spreads onto the curbside lane. Julie replied that western side of Willoughby Road is currently being re-landscaped. Willoughby Road carries such a volume of traffic that RTA has to authorise closing of a lane. Work on the eastside is planned.

Naremburn Sign Near Naremburn Shops. Kevin sent an email to Julie Whitfield requesting trees and planting need trimming as they were obscuring the Naremburn sign and gave the area an untidy appearance. He noted that the landscaping was not the one originally proposed by James Smallhorn of WCC and the completed work was generally not attractive. Julie did not respond to this email.

Don Wilson – Kevin informed the meeting of the passing of Don Wilson who had been a very active members of the NPA and the Naremburn Community; his legacy includes his work in the Friends of Naremburn Park that resulted in the revamped Children's Playground as well as other improvements to the park; he also fought, unsuccessfully for a school bus to run from the western area of Naremburn to Artarmon Public School.

(g) **Young Parents** – School Working Party meeting held on Friday, 13 February, report in Naremburn Matters and on the website; see also report from Anneliese Appleton, item 5(c) above.

(h) **Website** – 'Latest News' items regularly updated; additional Ella Street Bridge information to be inserted ASAP

10 **CIRCULATION OF THE ATTENDANCE BOOK** – 16 Members, 15 Apologies from Members, 3 Visitors

11. **MOTIONS OF WHICH DUE NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN** – none for this meeting

12. **NEXT GENERAL MEETING:** - Thursday, 14 May 2009 at 7:30 pm, Naremburn Community Centre, Central Street.

13. **CLOSURE:** - The meeting concluded at 9:15 pm