

# Community & Environment Committee Minutes

Monday 24 July 2006

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# Community & Environment Committee Minutes

**Minutes of the Meeting held on  
Monday 24 July 2006 at 6.00pm**

Present: The Mayor, Councillor Andrew Petrie, ex-officio  
Councillors Anthony Boskovitz (Chair)  
Claudia Cullen  
Tanya Excell  
Julian Martin  
Fiona Sinclair King (part D4 to R4)  
John Walker

Staff: W Hatton (Director – Technical Services)  
G James (General Manager)  
D Sheils (Manager – Public Open Space)  
K Walshe (Director – Community Services)  
L Windle (Manager - Governance)  
F Lawrence (Manager - Library Services)  
T Tuxford (Manager - Compliance)

Also in Attendance: Nil

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## **Leave of Absence**

Leave of Absence previously granted by Council: Nil

Apologies: An apology was received and accepted from Councillor Marcus Ehrlich and Leave of Absence granted.

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## **Late Correspondence**

Late correspondence was submitted to the committee in relation to Item: R4

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## **Declarations of Interest**

Nil

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**Items Decided by this Committee using its Delegated Authority (Items D1 to D6)**

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**Item No:** D1 Delegated to Committee  
**Subject:** **Confirmation of Minutes of Meeting held on 10 July 2006**  
**Author:** Les Windle – Manager Governance  
**File No:** See Council Minutes  
**Reason for Report:** The Minutes of the Meeting of 10 July 2006 were previously circulated. In accordance with the guidelines for Committees' operations it is now necessary that those Minutes be formally taken as read and confirmed.

**(Cullen/Walker)**

**Resolved:**

That the Minutes of the Community and Environment Committee Meeting of 10 July 2006 be taken as read and confirmed.

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**Item No:** D2 Delegated to Committee  
**Subject:** **Woollahra Bike Plan - Bicycle Working Party Minutes - 18 July 2006**  
**Author:** Warwick Hatton – Director, Technical Services  
**File No:** 256.G Working Party  
**Reason for Report:** For the Committee to consider the recommendations of the Bicycle Working Party.

**(Petrie/Martin)**

**Resolved:**

THAT the Recommendations contained in the minutes of the Woollahra Bike Plan – Bicycle Working Party meeting held on Tuesday 18 July 2006, be adopted.

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**Item No:** D3 Delegated to Committee  
**Subject:** **Minutes of the Environmental Levy Community Reference Group Meeting Tuesday 11 July 2006**  
**Author:** Jamie Howieson – Project Manager Environmental Works  
**File No:** 1142.G  
**Reason for Report:** To report on the outcomes of the Environmental Levy Community Reference Group meeting held Tuesday 11 July 2006.

**Motion moved by Councillor Walker**  
**Seconded by Councillor Petrie**

That the matter be deferred pending submission of a report by the General Manager on the Constitution of the Community Reference Group.

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**Amendment moved by Councillor Excell  
Seconded by Councillor Martin**

That the recommendation be adopted.

**The Amendment was put and lost.  
The Motion was adopted.**

**Resolved:**

That the matter be deferred pending submission of a report by the General Manager on the Constitution of the Community Reference Group.

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**Item No:** D4 Delegated to Committee  
**Subject:** **Cat Controls and Education Program**  
**Author:** Tim Tuxford, Manager - Compliance  
**File No:** 557.G (Part 2)  
**Reason for Report:** This report has been prepared in response to a Council 'Notice of Motion' adopted on 14 November 2005 which requested a report on a cat education program.  
**Note:** In accordance with Councils safeguards and meeting procedures this item is referred to full Council due to the Committee's recommendation being a substantive change from the Council Officers recommendation. (see **Item R5**)

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**Item No:** D5 Delegated to Committee  
**Subject:** **Oxford Street, Paddington - Bus Lane and Speed Limit**  
**Author:** Greg Stewart - Manager Public Infrastructure  
**File No:** T349 and 261.G Part 6  
**Reason for Report:** Council resolution calling for a report on the Oxford Street bus lane and a request received from the City of Sydney Council for this Council's support for a reduction in the speed limit along Oxford Street.

**(Excell/Martin)**

**Resolved:**

That Council support a combined submission with the City of Sydney Council to the Roads and Traffic Authority for:

- a) a reduction in the hours of operation of the bus lane along the northern side of Oxford Street, Paddington, so as to commence at least 3.30pm Monday to Friday rather than 3pm as is presently the case, and
- b) a reduction in the speed limit of Oxford Street from Hyde Park to Centennial Park from 60km/hr to 50km/hr.

**Item No:** D6 Delegated to Committee  
**Subject:** **Woollahra Council Youth Photographic Award and Kids Day Out**  
**Author:** Faye Lawrence – Manager Library Services  
**File No:** 596.G  
**Reason for Report:** To provide information to Council on two significant upcoming library cultural events namely the Woollahra Council Youth Photographic Award to be presented on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> September 2006 and the Kids Day Out set for Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> October 2006.

(Petrie/Excell)

**Resolved:**

That the report on the Woollahra Council Youth Photographic Award and Kids Day Out be received and noted.

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**Items with Recommendations from this Committee  
Submitted to the Council for Decision (Items R1 to R5)**

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**Item No:** R1 Recommendation to Council  
**Subject:** **Department of Environment & Conservation (DEC)  
Urban Sustainability Grants Program**  
**Author:** Melanie Tasker - Project Officer Environmental Works  
**File No:** 1142.G  
**Reason for Report:** To report to Council the DEC's Urban Sustainability Program and proposal to form an alliance with Waverley and Randwick Councils to apply for environmental grant funding under that program.

**Motion moved by Councillor Excell  
Seconded by Councillor Martin**

That the recommendation be adopted subject to part D being amended to read:

- D. That Council resolve, in principle, to allocate \$75,000 from the EWP in the first year as Woollahra Municipal Council's financial contribution towards the program, subject to the grant being successful, and that future funding be the subject of future budget considerations.

**Amendment moved by Councillor Walker  
Seconded by Councillor Sinclair King**

That the recommendation be adopted subject to part D being amended to read:

- D. That Council provide for the allocation of \$75,000 as Woollahra Municipal Council's financial contribution towards the program, from operational funds over the next 3 years.

**The Amendment was put and lost.**

**The Motion was adopted.**

**Recommendation:**

- A. That Council acknowledge the potential environmental benefits and opportunities the program could bring the community.
- B. That the alliance between Woollahra, Waverley and Randwick Councils be formed to allow a joint application under DEC's Urban Sustainability Program to provide a regional focus and to maximise potential grant funding.
- C. That Council prepare and lodge an application as part of the regional alliance by the due date of 4 August 2006.
- D. That Council resolve, in principle, to allocate \$75,000 from the EWP in the first year as Woollahra Municipal Council's financial contribution towards the program, subject to the grant being successful, and that future funding be the subject of future budget considerations.
- E. That the Committee's recommendations arising from this report be considered as a matter of urgency and be referred to the Council meeting held 24 July 2006, to allow the application to be finalised and lodged by the closing date of 4 August 2006.
- F. That, following a successful grant application, further details be reported back to the committee on setting up arrangements for joint administration of the program.

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**Item No:** R2 Recommendation to Council  
**Subject:** Adoption of the Community Cultural Relations Statement  
**Author:** Lotta Jackson  
**File No:** 79.G CCRS  
**Reason for Report:** Presentation of submissions received following the public exhibition period and recommending amendments to the draft Community Cultural Relations Statement.

**(Excell/Martin)**

**Recommendation:**

- A. That Council adopt the Community Cultural Relations Statement with the amendments as recommended.
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**Item No:** R3 Recommendation to Council  
**Subject:** **Community Grants Program**  
**Author:** Kylie Walshe  
**File No:** 30.G / 1142.G  
**Reason for Report:** To give consideration to applications for Section 356 Community Grants from local community groups /services.

**(Excell/Martin)**

**Recommendation:**

- A. That the recommendation be adopted in relation to the allocation of Community Grants for 2006/07 under Section 356 of the Local Government Act, and in accordance with Council's adopted policy objectives and selection criteria.
- B. That Council adopt the recommendations in relation to the Community Environmental Grants for 2006/07 under Section 356 of the Local Government Act, and in accordance with the selection criteria.
- C. That a function be organised to present and celebrate the awarding of the Community Grants and Community Environmental Grants to successful organisations.

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**Item No:** R4 Recommendation to Council  
**Subject:** **Sale of a portion of Trumper Park and Paddington Bowling Club**  
**Author:** David Sheils - Manager Public Open Space  
**File No:** 214.G  
**Reason for Report:** To inform Council of the proposed sale of a section of Trumper Park and the Paddington Bowling Club by the NSW Department of Lands

**Note:** Late correspondence was stabled at the meeting from Council's Manager Public Open Space, David Sheils.

**(Walker/Sinclair King)**

**Recommendation:**

- A. That Council resolves to totally oppose the sale of the Paddington Bowling Club lease site and adjoining land in Trumper Park under any circumstance as it is fundamentally against the public interest;
- B. That an urgent meeting be sought between the Mayor and the Minister for Lands to discuss Council's concerns, and to explore whether any alternative approaches exist;
- C. That in the meantime, that Council request that the Department should take no further action to progress the proposed sale of this land to the Club (other than to initiate the consultation noted above);



- D. That Council continue to prepare a plan of management for Trumper Park. This plan will incorporate all of Lot 541 DP 752011 (R39651) as part of Trumper Park and will also consider the relationship of the park and its uses to the Bowling Club site.
- E. That the report be referred to full Council as a matter of urgency.

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**Item No:** R5 Recommendation to Council  
**Subject:** **Cat Controls and Education Program**  
**Author:** Tim Tuxford, Manager - Compliance  
**File No:** 557.G (Part 2)  
**Reason for Report:** This report has been prepared in response to a Council 'Notice of Motion' adopted on 14 November 2005 which requested a report on a cat education program.

**Note:** In accordance with Council's safeguards and meeting procedures this item is referred to full Council due to the Committee's recommendation being a substantive change from the Council Officers recommendation.

**Motion moved by Councillor Cullen  
Seconded by Councillor Martin**

- A. That Council improve its community education and awareness program for cat ownership based on the Victorian Department of Primary Industries' *'Cat Management Manual'*, including the;
- Development of brochures and information sheets on;
    - Responsible cat ownership;
    - How to deter cats from coming into your property; and
    - Action available in relation to nuisance cats.
  - Development of information for Council's website with links to useful resources such as the Cat Protection Society and Cat Rescue.
  - Inclusion of responsible cat ownership in the Council's schools' education program.
  - Inclusion of responsible cat ownership at Council's annual 'People & Pets Day'.
- B. That Council, pursuant to Section 32 of the *Companion Animals Act 1998*, continue its trapping program of unowned and feral cats, on an "as needs basis", in areas including, but not limited to, the following;
- Public land adjacent to White City, Paddington
  - Cooper Park
  - Gap Reserve
  - Harbour View Park
  - Parsley Bay
  - Trumper Park

- C. That Council enhance its existing trapping program of unowned and feral cats, to minimise the risk to owned cats by;
1. Erecting appropriate signage in areas where trapping may occur from time-to-time;
  2. Not locating traps closer than 30 metres to residential properties without first notifying the surrounding occupiers;
  3. Traps will not be provided for the trapping of owned cats;

**Amendment moved by Councillor Walker  
Seconded by Councillor Petrie**

That Council improve its community education and awareness program for cat ownership based on the Victorian Department of Primary Industries' *'Cat Management Manual'*, including the;

Development of brochures and information sheets on;

- Responsible cat ownership;
- How to deter cats from coming into your property; and
- Action available in relation to nuisance cats.

Development of information for Council's website with links to useful resources such as the Cat Protection Society and Cat Rescue.

Inclusion of responsible cat ownership in the Council's schools' education program.

Inclusion of responsible cat ownership at Council's annual 'People & Pets Day'.

**Foreshadowed Amendment advised by Councillor Excell**

- A. That Council place on public exhibition for a minimum period of 28 days its intention to declare the following areas of remnant bushland 'wildlife protections areas' pursuant to the *Companion Animals Act 1998* and its intention to consider ordering the prohibition of cats from these areas pursuant to Section 30 of the Act;
- a. Cooper Park
  - b. Gap Reserve
  - c. Harbour View Park
  - d. Parsley Bay Reserve

Following the above public exhibition period that a further report be submitted to Council for consideration of any submissions and final consideration of the proposal.

- B. That Council improve its community education and awareness program for cat ownership based on the Victorian Department of Primary Industries' *'Cat Management Manual'*, including the;

Development of brochures and information sheets on;

- Responsible cat ownership;
- How to deter cats from coming into your property; and
- Action available in relation to nuisance cats.

Development of information for Council's website with links to useful resources such as the Cat Protection Society and Cat Rescue.

Inclusion of responsible cat ownership in the Council's schools' education program.

Inclusion of responsible cat ownership at Council's annual 'People & Pets Day'.

- C. That Council, pursuant to Section 32 of the *Companion Animals Act 1998*, continue its trapping program of unowned and feral cats, on an "as needs basis", in areas including, but not limited to, the following;
- a. Public land adjacent to White City, Paddington
  - b. Cooper Park
  - c. Gap Reserve
  - d. Harbour View Park
  - e. Parsley Bay
  - f. Trumper Park
- D. That Council enhance its existing trapping program of unowned and feral cats, to minimise the risk to owned cats by;
1. Erecting appropriate signage in areas where trapping may occur from time-to-time;
  2. Not locating traps closer than 30 metres to residential properties without first notifying the surrounding occupiers;
  3. Traps will not be provided for the trapping of owned cats;
- E. That Council write to the relevant Minister requesting that the NSW Companion Animals Act be strengthened to make it comparatively equal to Sections 23 and 25 of the Victorian Domestic (Feral & Nuisance) Animals Act.

**The Amendment moved by Councillor Walker and Seconded by Councillor Petrie was put and lost.**

**Councillor Excell moved her amendment but it lapsed for the want of a seconder.**

**The Motion moved by Councillor Cullen and Seconded by Councillor Martin was put and adopted.**

**Recommendation:**

- A. That Council improve its community education and awareness program for cat ownership based on the Victorian Department of Primary Industries' *'Cat Management Manual'*, including the;

Development of brochures and information sheets on;

- Responsible cat ownership;
- How to deter cats from coming into your property; and
- Action available in relation to nuisance cats.

Development of information for Council's website with links to useful resources such as the Cat Protection Society and Cat Rescue.

Inclusion of responsible cat ownership in the Council's schools' education program.

Inclusion of responsible cat ownership at Council's annual 'People & Pets Day'.

- B. That Council, pursuant to Section 32 of the *Companion Animals Act 1998*, continue its trapping program of unowned and feral cats, on an "as needs basis", in areas including, but not limited to, the following;

Public land adjacent to White City, Paddington  
Cooper Park  
Gap Reserve  
Harbour View Park  
Parsley Bay  
Trumper Park

- C. That Council enhance its existing trapping program of unowned and feral cats, to minimise the risk to owned cats by;
1. Erecting appropriate signage in areas where trapping may occur from time-to-time;
  2. Not locating traps closer than 30 metres to residential properties without first notifying the surrounding occupiers;
  3. Traps will not be provided for the trapping of owned cats.

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There being no further business the meeting concluded at 7.40pm.

***We certify that the pages numbered 1256 to 1267 inclusive are the Minutes of the Community & Environment Committee Meeting held on 24 July 2006 and confirmed by the Community & Environment Committee on 14 August 2006 as correct.***

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**Chairperson**

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**Secretary of Committee**