

Community & Environment Committee

Agenda: *Community & Environment Committee*

Date: *Monday 3 May 2004*

Time: *6.00pm*

Outline Of Meeting Protocol & Procedure:

- The Chairperson will call the Meeting to order and ask the Committee/Staff to present apologies or late correspondence.
- The Chairperson will commence the Order of Business as shown in the Index to the Agenda.
- At the beginning of each item the Chairperson will ask whether a member(s) of the public wish to address the Committee.
- If person(s) wish to address the Committee, they are allowed four (4) minutes in which to do so. Please direct comments to the issues at hand.
- If there are persons representing both sides of a matter (eg applicant/objector), the person(s) against the recommendation speak first.
- At the conclusion of the allotted four (4) minutes, the speaker resumes his/her seat and takes no further part in the debate unless specifically called to do so by the Chairperson.
- If there is more than one (1) person wishing to address the Committee from the same side of the debate, the Chairperson will request that where possible a spokesperson be nominated to represent the parties.
- The Chairperson has the discretion whether to continue to accept speakers from the floor.
- After considering any submissions the Committee will debate the matter (if necessary), and arrive at a recommendation (R items which proceed to Full Council) or a resolution (D items for which the Committee has delegated authority).

Delegated Authority (“D” Items):

- Community Services and Programmes.
- Health.
- Liquor Licences.
- Fire Protection Orders.
- Residential Parking Schemes (surveillance and administration).
- Traffic Management (Traffic Committee Recommendations).
- Waverley/Woollahra Process Plant.
- To require such investigations, reports or actions as considered necessary in respect of matters contained within the Business Agendas (and as may be limited by specific Council resolution).
- Confirmation of the Minutes of its Meeting.
- Any other matter falling within the responsibility of the Community and Environment Committee and not restricted by the Local Government Act or required to be a Recommendation to Full Council as listed below.
- Library Services
- Licensing.
- Regulatory.
- Waste Minimisation

Recommendation only to the Full Council (“R” Items):

- Such matters as are specified in Section 377 of the Local Government Act and within the ambit of the Committee considerations.
- Matters which involve broad strategic or policy initiatives within responsibilities of the Committee.
- Matters requiring the expenditure of moneys and in respect of which no Council vote has been made.
- Matters delegated to the Council by the Traffic Authority of NSW.
- Matters not within the specified functions of the Committee, or which are not the subject of a Business Agenda (current or past).
- Matters reserved by individual Councillors, in accordance with any Council policy on "safeguards".
- Parks and Reserve Plans of Management (Strategies, Policies and Objectives)
- Residential Parking Schemes - Provision and Policies

Committee Membership:

7 Councillors

Quorum:

The quorum for a Committee meeting is 4 Councillors.

WOOLLAHRA MUNICIPAL COUNCIL

Notice of Meeting

29 April 2004

To: The Mayor, Councillor Rundle, ex-officio
Councillors Marcus Ehrlich (Chair)
 Claudia Cullen
 Tanya Excell
 Wilhelmina Gardner
 Andrew Petrie
 Fiona Sinclair King
 John Walker

Dear Councillors

Community & Environment Committee Meeting – 3 May 2004

In accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Act 1993, I request your attendance at a Meeting of the Council's **Community and Environment Committee** to be held in the **Council Chambers, 536 New South Head Road, Double Bay, on Monday 3 May 2004 at 6.00pm.**

Gary James
General Manager

Meeting Agenda

Item	Subject	Pages
1	Leave of Absence and Apologies	
2	Late Correspondence	
3	Declarations of Interest	
 Items to be Decided by this Committee using its Delegated Authority		
D1	Election of Deputy Chairperson	1
D2	Confirmation of Minutes of Meeting held on 22 March 2004	2
D3	Library report for the period January to March 2004	3
D4	2004 Reconciliation Week – 722.G	10
D5	Youth Week – 967.G 2004	17
D6	Seniors Week – 966.G	20
D7	Robertson Park – Masterplan – 209.G MP	23
 Items to be Submitted to the Council for Decision with Recommendations from this Committee		
R1	Resident Parking pensioner discounts – 422.G Policy	33
R2	Proposed parking fee for car & trailer parking at Lyne Park, Rose Bay – 195.G Part 15	35
R3	Library Improvements – New management system & refurbishment of childrens section – 48.G	57

Item No: D1 Delegated to Committee
Subject: **Election of Deputy Chairperson**
Author: Les Windle - Manager Governance
File No:
Reason for Report: For the Committee to elect a Deputy Chairperson

Recommendation:

That Councillor _____ be elected as Deputy Chairperson of the Community & Environment Committee to September 2004.

Background:

It has been past practice for the Committee to elect a Deputy Chairperson who can chair the meeting in the absence of the Chairperson.

Les Windle
Manager Governance

ANNEXURES:

Nil

Item No: D2 Delegated to Committee

Subject: **Confirmation of Minutes of Meeting held on 22 March 2004**

Author: Les Windle, Manager - Governance

File No: See Council Minutes

Reason for Report: The Minutes of the Meeting of Monday 22 March 2004 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.

Recommendation:

That the Minutes of the Community and Environment Committee Meeting of 22 March 2004 be taken as read and confirmed.

Les Windle
Manager - Governance

Item No: D3 Delegated to Committee
Subject: **Library report for the period January to March 2004**
Author: Faye Lawrence - Manager - Library Services
File No: 48.G
Reason for Report: To review the library operations for the quarter January to March 2004 highlighting activities for the period.

Recommendation:

1. That the report for the library service for the quarter January to March 2004 be received and noted.

This report reviews activities and projects for the quarter January to March 2004 with attached statistics accumulated for the nine months July 2003 to March 2004 compared with the same period in 2002/3.

1. Comments on library statistics for circulation of materials from July 2003 to March 2004:

There is an overall increase in circulation for the nine month period when compared with the previous year of 2.7% (315,028 compared with 306,820).

The increase in the childrens books collection lending of 4.76% (70217 compared with 67,022) is a good result. The collection of sound and video recordings (including DVDs) is specially selected at a quality standard to complement the children's print collection. This collection has also been well used throughout this period.

Adult book lending is steady for the period. A decrease in the circulation of periodicals of 6.2% (16,696 compared with 17,811) has prompted a need to survey this usage and satisfaction levels more closely. A full review of this collection will be undertaken this year.

2. Comments on Reference and Information Services Statistics and Operations:

The number of reference inquiries received and answered at the service points throughout the library system is 8.5% higher than for the same period last year (24,431 compared with 22,503).

The Inter-Library Loans service has been in high demand in this quarter and for the full nine month period, with 570 more items lent to other libraries and 311 more items borrowed from other libraries when compared with the 2002/3 statistics.

The number of inter-library loans, 1666 sent out and 1358 borrowed, are not a large number compared to the overall circulation of 315,028 however it is one of those parts of the service which adds value and which is often acknowledged in satisfaction comments from our clients. Woollahra is a high user of inter-library loans, out and in, compared with other libraries in Sydney - usually within the top three libraries.

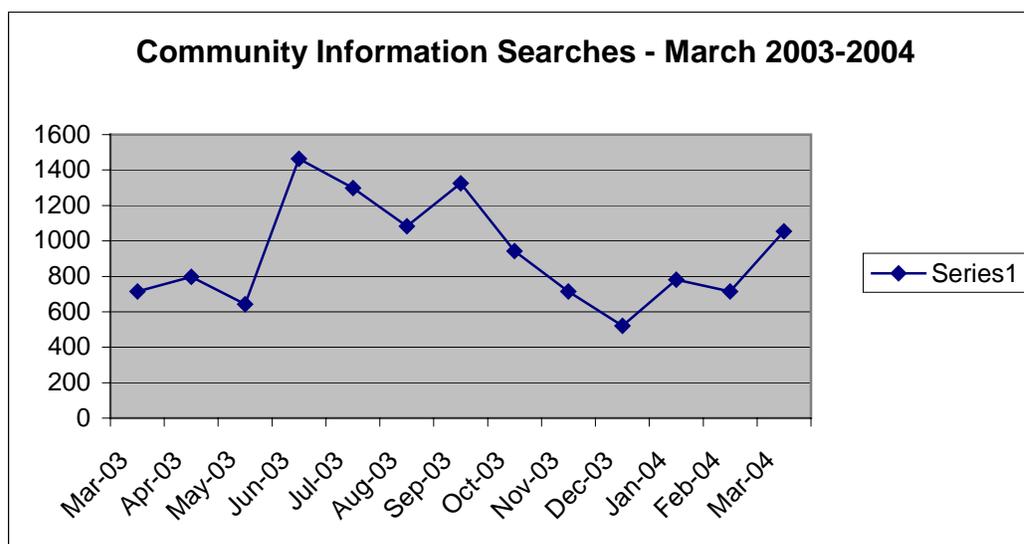
The new subscriptions to on-line databases on Health, Current Affairs, Literature and Science are proving popular with our clients both in the library and who log in from home. Clients undertook 6035 searches in the library for themselves and 423 searches from home in that period. We have not yet developed a history of statistics to check against but we can tell usage is steadily increasing over the three quarters of this year. Once the new catalogue and library web pages are available we should see further increases in usage.

Public Access to the Internet – Availability and Use:

The Libraries at Double Bay and Paddington have 11 PCs in the adult sections, which offer public access to the Internet. We undertook a survey at randomly selected times on availability, in the week 23 to 29 February 2004. The results showed that the PCs were being used for the Internet 63% of the time. In other words one would have around 37% chance on average of finding a PC available for an Internet search at those two libraries at any time. We will continue to monitor this availability and usage particularly when the new PCs are installed in the children's section of Double Bay Central Library. Currently, availability patterns at Woollahra are similar to other Library systems.

Community Information:

The on-line Community Information database received 2,550 hits in the quarter, January to March, 2004. The following graph plots the on-line usage from March 2003 to March 2004.



The Most Popular Searches by topic, January to March 2004, were Community Facilities, Leisure Facilities, Child Care, Education, Family and Long Day Care and Community Organisations.

Local History:

Three special projects were commenced in this quarter.

- Research and writing of a booklet on heritage listed properties in Paddington – including 15 buildings, two retaining walls and a number of trees. This booklet is due to be published in June. This project was undertaken as a result of a Resolution of Council.
- Revision of text and reprinting with illustrations of the history of St Brigids, which was originally published in 1991.
- On-line indexing of earlier 1950 volumes of the Wentworth Courier which are held in microform (later volumes have already been indexed).

HSC Programme:

A lecture series “*Ride the HSC Wave*” was devised in this quarter in conjunction with other Eastern Sydney Libraries. There will be nine lectures in total with three planned for Woollahra on Emma, King Lear and Legal Studies. They will be held in May and June. The programme is Annexure Two.

Booklists and brochures on specific HSC tests have been updated and devised as part of the overall HSC programme. A Literary Masters Series of Brochures aimed at such students has been developed using the extensive resources of our specialist collection of English literature. Publicity and mailouts to schools were completed in this quarter.

3. Library Management System and Library Web Pages:

Training and preparation for going live with the new library computer system has been intense throughout this quarter. We are due to go live on the 26 May. A new version of the Library web pages, which will sit with the Council web site, has been designed and should be on-line from about July onwards.

New Library cards have been designed for the new system with a separate children’s card for the under 12s which has a bright logo on it.

4. Cultural Activities:

Tuesday 17 February

The Poets’ Picnic was held on Tuesday 17 February 2004 in Blackburn Gardens with a large appreciative audience of 500 to 600 people.

Thursday 18 March

The Writers and Readers programme for the year commenced with new writer Charolotte Woods with a small audience of about 30.

Thursday 1 April

Kate Fitzpatrick also for the Writers and Readers programme, attracted a considerably larger audience, of about 70 to hear her talk about her memoir *Name Dropping*.

5. Children’s Activities:

The Children’s January holiday programme included:

Craft workshops were held in January where children were instructed in making their own 3D Parrot after a related storytime. 25 attended at Paddington Library and 22 at Double Bay.

Kim Gamble, Children’s Author and Illustrator, conducted writing workshops at Paddington Library and at Double Bay Library in January. 20 children attended each session paying \$6.00 each which covered the cost of employing the author. The artwork created by Kim Gamble in the workshops was presented to the respective libraries for retention. These have been framed and will be on display in the near future.

The Summer Reading programme proved popular with over 65 children participating. The children were keen to read as many books as possible, on the theme "*Readers of the Seven Seas*" by the closing date, Friday 23 January. Children were invited to wear fancy dress to the presentation on 23 January. All children received a certificate of participation in the programme.

Faye Lawrence
Manager – Library Services

Kylie Walshe
Director – Community Services

Annexures:

1. Woollahra Library Statistical Information July 2003 to March 2004.
 2. HSC Programme.
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Item No: D4 Delegated to Committee
Subject: **2004 Reconciliation Week**
Author: Jo Jansyn, Leisure and Cultural Development Coordinator
File No: 722.G
Reason for Report: To report on Woollahra Council activities for 2004 Reconciliation Week

Recommendation:

1. That the Terms of Reference for the Eastern Region Local Government Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Forum be endorsed.
2. That the inaugural Eastern Region Local Government Award for Reconciliation be noted and endorsed.
3. That a Woollahra Council Statement of Commitment to Reconciliation be drafted and presented to the Community and Environment Committee.

Background:

Woollahra Council participates in the Eastern Region Local Government Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Forum (ERLGATSIF), which was established in 1999. ERLGATSIF membership consists of Councillors and staff from six Local Government Areas including City of Botany Bay, City of Sydney, Randwick City, Waverley, Leichhardt and Woollahra Councils. One of the key objectives of the Forum is to promote Reconciliation on a regional basis. Additional objectives of the ERLGATIF are contained in its Terms of Reference (Annexure 1).

During 2000 and 2001, ERLGATIF launched a medium scaled project focussed on reconciliation which involved a poster art competition and exhibition in partnership with the Sydney Opera House.

2004 Reconciliation Week and ERLGATSIF

In 2004, Reconciliation Week takes place between 27 May - 3 June. The ERLGATSIF has been working towards hosting an inaugural Award to be presented in Reconciliation Week. The Award (Annexure 2), known as the Eastern Region Local Government Community Award for Reconciliation, aims to recognise individuals or groups who have demonstrated efforts in promoting Reconciliation through any or all of the six Local Government Areas involved in the ERLGATSIF.

Award nominations close on 14 May 2004 and the Award will be presented on 1 June, as part of Reconciliation Week, at the newly opened Redfern Community Centre.

Budget

Each of the six Councils involved in the ERLGATSIF contributed \$2,500 in the 2002 - 2003 financial year towards the cost of employing a Forum Coordinator. The Forum was established in 1999 with Randwick City Council's Community Worker (Aboriginal Services) supporting the Forum but the increasing workload of servicing the Forum Committee necessitated the creation of a Forum Coordinator position. The forum does have future plans for further contributions to maintain the position.

The cost of developing the inaugural Community Award for Reconciliation is minimal and requires each participating Council to contribute to the manufacture of the Award itself, which has been quoted at approximately \$45.00 per Council. The venue hire and Award presentation catering have been subsidised by the City of Sydney.

Statement of Commitment to Reconciliation

The ERLGATSI Forum has also recommended that each participating Council develop their own Statement of Commitment to Reconciliation. Currently, Woollahra Council does not have a Statement of Commitment to Reconciliation and the Eastern Suburbs Organisation for Reconciling Australia has already offered their input and assistance into the development of a Statement if required.

Conclusion

The inaugural Eastern Region Local Government Community Award for Reconciliation will be presented as part of 2004 Reconciliation Week by the ERLGATSI Forum, of which Woollahra Council participates. Participation in the Forum is of significance as a key objective is to focus on promoting Reconciliation regionally.

Additionally, the Forum has recommended that each LGA participating in the Forum develop its own Statement of Commitment to Reconciliation.

Jo Jansyn
Leisure and Cultural Development Coordinator

Kylie Walshe
Director, Community Services

ANNEXURES:

1. Terms of Reference for the Eastern Region Local Government Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Forum.
 2. Eastern Region Local Government Community Award for Reconciliation.
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Item No: D5 Delegated to Committee
Subject: Youth Week 2004
Author: Pippa Lausen
File No: 967.G 2004
Reason for Report: To advise Councillors of the activities undertaken by Council during Youth Week 2004

Recommendation:

That this report on Youth Week 2004 activities be noted.

Background:

Following the announcement from Minister Carmel Tebbut in July 2003 that Youth Week 2004 would run from 27th March to April 4th, the Youth Services Development Officer at Council began a series of meetings and consultations with young people in the Woollahra Municipal area. Together with Waverley Council and WAYS (Waverley/Woollahra Action for Youth Services) Woollahra Council agreed to put on a number of events and activities in the forthcoming Youth Week. The theme for NSW Youth Week 2004 was later announced as 'Run With It', and posters provided by NSW Government promoting this theme were distributed to inform young people of Youth Week.

Consultation:

Local schools were invited to send delegates to an initial Youth Week planning meeting, as were young people who had been associated with past youth programmes organised by Council. Regular meetings were held throughout the months leading up to Youth Week, attracting a number of young people keen to give advice and lend their assistance. These young people represented a diverse range of schools, backgrounds and interests reflecting the diversity of young people in Woollahra.

Proposal:

The Committee decided to conduct and support the following events:

- Launch of Woollahra Council's Youth Services Directory
- Youth Forum
- Bondi Blitz Youth Concert
- Three on Three Basketball Competition
- Skateboard Competition

It should be noted that the first two events were actually held in the week before Youth Week. This was due to the timing of both the local Council elections and private school term times.

Identification of Income:

Council was granted \$1250 from the NSW Cabinet Office, and matched this with another \$1250 from General Revenue. Sponsorship for prizes was gained from a number of local youth-associated businesses, including local music shops and surf/skate shops, such as Juice (clothing), Summer Haze (records), Platypus Shoes, Boost Juice (drinks), Fitness First (gym) in Bondi and The Ritz Cinema, Double Bay.

Waverley Council contributed a similar amount of money.

Events:

a) Launch of the Youth Services Directory

Held on Wednesday March 24th, on the Terrace at Redleaf Council Chambers, Woollahra Council.

This event, held on the Terrace outside Council Chambers, attracted a wide range of local school students, school teachers, counsellors and youth service providers. The crowd was entertained by music provided by two youth bands. One of these bands had been formed through Woollahra Council's youth music programme in 2002. There was also an exhibition of artworks by Creative Youth Initiatives, a youth mental health organisation, which was set up temporarily on the Terrace. It features several sets of small paper boats spinning in the wind, with words of significance to young people written on their flags. Another work with paper fish (with significant words written on them) in streamers representing seaweed, was exhibited in Customer Services throughout Youth Week.

The Youth Services Directory was a new initiative undertaken by the Youth Development Officer with assistance of Woollahra Library Services' Community Information Officer. It featured a front cover designed by a local young person, and provides information and contact details on a wide range of local and regional services for young people, which is of value to young people, their parents and other youth service providers. Youth Services Directories are now permanently available at Customer Services as part of Woollahra Council's suite of community information directories.

b) Youth Forum on Elections

The Youth Forum held at WAYS was attended by 87 school students representing most of the public and private schools in Woollahra and Waverley. The topic for the day was that of politics and elections, a topic given added impetus due to the imminence of the local council elections on the following Saturday. Young people were encouraged to discuss the participation of young people in political processes, and think of ways in which they can have a voice and express themselves, their needs and priorities to governments.

Students spent the day in workshops and role-plays, and were judged by invited guests from Triple J, Safe Summer Survival and Police from Rose Bay Local Area Command (LAC).

c) Bondi Blitz Youth Concert

This is the only concert allowed on Bondi Beach, and attracted a crowd of about 500 young people. Acts included local bands Menage a Trois, Internal and Koolism, and the event commenced with music by the Rose Bay Secondary College Brass band and jazz group.

A Learn to Surf clinic was also held during the afternoon attracting 7 young people.

d) Three on Three Basketball Competition

This was held at The Church in The Market Place in Bondi Mall, and was attended by over 50 local young people. Prizes were sponsored by local businesses, named above.

e) Skateboard Competition

Held on the basketball court of Christison Park, Vaucluse, the competition brought about 30 young people to skate and perform tricks on the temporary skateboarding site. Their ages ranged from 11 to 18 years and included a number of young girls. Judging and prize-giving was undertaken by staff from *Juice*, who sponsored the event. This activity complements the regular skate clinics conducted by Council, which attract 15-30 participants each month.

Conclusion:

Youth Week 2004 was successful, varied and well-attended. The organisers were lucky that the weather for all the outdoor events was sunny and warm. Around 700 young people from Waverley and Woollahra attended a variety of events.

The outcomes of Youth Week for young people included:

- Distribution of the Youth Services Directory, to increase awareness of the range of services and facilities available to young people within and beyond the municipality, now and into the future.
- Opportunities for socialisation between young people from different schools, interests and social backgrounds in planning and participating.
- Experience in public performance for local young people. By showcasing local talent, building on prior developmental work by Woollahra's Youth services we encouraged, supported and developed the band skills of some local young people.
- Recognition of the abilities of young people with mental illness and a celebration of their artistic talents.
- Through the Youth Forum, increased awareness of the political /electoral process and direct (practice) experience of ways young people can participate in civic life, expressing their needs and being heard.

Trish Menzies
Acting Manager
Aged, Disability and Family Services

Kylie Walshe
Director Community Services

Item No: D6 Delegated to Committee
Subject: **Seniors Week 2004**
Author: Trish Menzies
File No: 966.G
Reason for Report: To inform Councillors about Seniors Week 2004

Recommendation:

That this report on Seniors Week 2004 be noted.

Background:

Seniors Week has been celebrated across NSW for forty-six years. It is sponsored by the NSW Government through the Department of Ageing, Disability and Home Care. This year's theme was "The Best Time for Ages" and according to promotional materials this year's Seniors Week aimed

- "to celebrate and showcase what is the best time for learning, the best time for adventure and the best time for getting together"...and
- to say "thank you for the valuable contribution that (older residents) make to our communities every day."

Proposal:

On 23rd February, Councils' Community and Environment Committee accepted the proposal to reach a larger number of older residents than had participated in Seniors Week events in the past by holding two events in Seniors Week. These were:

- Morning tea and light entertainment with Greg Poppleton and the Bakelite Broadcasters held at Rose Bay RSL, Vickery Avenue, Rose Bay on Monday March 15 from 10.30 am to 12 noon.
- An NRMA *Years Ahead – Road Safety Seminar for Seniors* at Woollahra Council Chambers, 536 New South Head Road, Double Bay on Wednesday March 17 from 2.00 pm to 4.00 pm.

Additionally, a booklet which collated the winning entries from the 2003 Seniors Writing Competition called "I Remember, I Remember Too", was published and launched at the Seniors Week event on March 15.

Promotion:

These events were promoted in the Wentworth Courier prior to the event, and by posters displayed in local Aged Community Centres (E J Ward, Gaden and Holdsworth St) and in Woollahra Library. Tickets to the Morning Tea were distributed by post to older residents who responded, ensuring that catering was appropriate for the number attending.

Identification of Income & Expenditure:

In total, \$3,872.72 was spent on Seniors Week. This expenditure covered the payment of performers and morning tea costs at the performance event, and the artwork and printing costs for 1000 copies of the "I Remember, I Remember, Too" booklet. The NRMA provided the presenter for the Road Safety Seminar free of charge.

The Events:

Seniors Week Morning Tea

Approximately 200 older residents attended the Seniors Week Morning Tea held at Rose Bay RSL Club. They were entertained by Greg Poppleton and the Bakelite Broadcasters as planned. Cec Monkhouse, a senior resident who was once an entertainer, made arrangements with Rose Bay RSL, acted as the Master of Ceremonies and amused the audience with his anecdotes about growing more "mature". Cec has had a long association with Community Services as the organiser of the entertainment and MC at the Seniors Christmas Concert, and regularly attends the Older Persons Reference Group. Cec's efforts on the day were appreciated by all.

The former Mayor, Cllr John Comino attended, welcomed Seniors to the event and launched the "I Remember, I Remember, Too" booklet, congratulating the winners of the 2003 Writing Competition and presenting the overall competition winner, Mr. Donald Fish with a copy. He also introduced Naomi Polivis, Woollahra Council's new Aged Care Assessment and Support Worker and referred to the bookmark which promotes this new service. Copies of the booklet and the bookmark were distributed to all senior residents who attended the event. Five copies of the booklet (or more if requested) were given to all the writing competition winners who attended.

"I Remember, I Remember, Too" booklet

In 2000, a Seniors Writing Competition was held as part of Seniors Week and the winning entries were published in a small booklet called "I Remember, I Remember". In 2003, the writing competition was held again and winners were announced, congratulated and presented with awards at Seniors Week in 2003. However, there was some concern that these stories had not been published. It was decided to publish these recollections of older residents for Seniors Week 2004 with the title "I Remember, I Remember, Too" to distinguish it from the previous booklet.

All winners were contacted to seek their agreement to publish their stories and asked whether they could provide a photograph to illustrate the booklet. All agreed to publication and a few provided photographs. Further photographs to illustrate the booklet were sourced from Woollahra Local History Collection and from Randwick Council's Local History collection. Thanks were given to Robyn Brampton, a senior resident, writer and journalist, who had been instrumental in previous writing competitions and who proof read the transcripts.

Copies of the booklet have been further distributed through aged care centres, Woollahra Library and via Council's Customer Services. The Aged Care Worker will continue to distribute these booklets and bookmarks to older residents when she makes home visits to assess their condition or advise them of other services available to them. Additionally, copies were distributed to all retiring Councillors and to all new Councillors (via the internal mail).

NRMA Years Ahead – Road Safety Seminar for Seniors

Seven older residents attended the Seminar and an older presenter provided a short video on safety tips for older drivers. This covered a number of issues concerning seniors, from tips about newer road rules (such as negotiating roundabouts) to driving at night and working out how to tell when it was time to give up driving altogether. There was an opportunity to ask questions and discuss issues. Those who attended did so and appeared satisfied with the information provided and the event.

It was disappointing that so few older residents attended, as safety of older people both as drivers and pedestrians is of concern. However, the event had been promoted in the same way as the Morning Tea and it can only be concluded that older residents do not see their skills as drivers and pedestrians as a priority concern, or see such seminars as entertaining.

Conclusion:

Over two hundred residents participated in Seniors Week 2004 and many more will benefit from reading the recollections of older Woollahra Residents published in "I Remember, I Remember, Too". Better ways of informing seniors about road safety will be found in future.

Trish Menzies
Acting Manager,
Ageing, Disability and Family Services

Kylie Walshe
Director
Community Services

Item No: D7 Delegated to Committee
Subject: **Robertson Park - Masterplan**
Author: David Sheils, Manager - Public Open Space
File No: 209. G MP
Reason for Report: To update Councillors recent community consultation relating to the Robertson Park Masterplan.

Recommendation:

That the report be noted.

Background:

In consideration of the draft Robertson Park Plan of Management and Masterplan the Council at its meeting of 23 February 2004, resolved:

1. *“That the matter be deferred for further community consultation and consideration and for detailed consideration by staff of the submission tabled during the committee meeting.*
2. *Because of its cultural and social heritage the bandstand/rotunda remain in its current location in the proposed Plan of Management and Masterplan and that it be repaired as a matter of urgency.”*

Community Meeting, 20 April 2004:

In response to the above resolution a meeting was held to discuss the masterplan that was tabled by Councillor Berry (referred to as Plan C in the Community Meeting Minutes – Annexure 1) as an alternative to the masterplan that was recommended for adoption by Council staff. Community members, who had participated in drafting of Plan C or supported the Plan, were invited to the meeting being:

- Mr Kevin Berry (Watsons Bay Society),
- Mr Stephen Meads & Ms Dianne Meads,
- Mr Michael Rolfe (Vaucluse Progress Association),
- Mr Colin Still,
- Mr Bill Franks (Watsons Bay Society),
- The Watsons Bay Chamber of Commerce

Ward Councillors were also invited to the meeting.

The purpose of the meeting was to discuss Plan C and resolve design issues raised by Council staff prior to exhibiting the plan for public comment.

Outcome of the Community Meeting, 20 April 2004:

During the course of the meeting, each key design aspect of the Masterplan was discussed and an agreement made with final recommendations recorded in the Minutes of the Meeting.

The outcome of the Meeting was the generation of a revised Masterplan (Plan E contained in the Minutes of the Meeting).

Rotunda:

The revised Masterplan has responded to Council's resolution of 23 February 2004 and retains the Rotunda in its existing location. Specifications for its restoration are currently being prepared with works scheduled to commence in June 2004.

Conclusion

We believe this amended plan addresses all of the issues raised in the extensive public consultation carried out to date, taking into account that we can not necessarily satisfy every objection.

We are currently preparing an amended Masterplan based upon the outcome of the meeting with the view to placing this on public exhibition for a period of two weeks and notifying the previous submitters. Following the exhibition period a further report will be prepared for the Committee's consideration with recommendations for the adoption of the Masterplan and the Management Plan.

David Sheils
Manager – Public Open Space

Warwick Hatton
Director – Technical Services

ANNEXURES:

1. Minutes of the Community Meeting, 20 April 2004.
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Item No: R1 Recommendation to Council
Subject: Resident Parking Pensioner Discounts
Author: Greg Stewart - Manager Public Infrastructure
File No: 422.G Policy
Reason for Report: To adopt Notice of Motion dated 22 March 2004

Recommendation:

- A. That the current eligibility criteria for a resident parking permit pensioner discount be expanded to include a second pensioner in a household owning a motor vehicle subject to:
- a) a maximum of one pensioner discount per pensioner per year; and
 - b) all other eligibility criteria being met.
- B. That the pensioner price for the second pensioner resident parking permit per household be \$60.00.

Background:

Council adopted the following Notice of Motion at its meeting of 22 March 2004:

"That Council prepare a report reviewing the resident parking fee charged to a second member of a household in circumstances where that resident is:

- a. a pensioner or permanently disabled person on a pension.*
- b. a concession has been given to the first co-owner on pension or other concession grounds.*
- c. both owners own a registered motor vehicle; and*
- d. there is no parking or insufficient off-street parking on the property."*

Council's Current fee structure per annum for Resident Parking Permits is:

1 st Permit	\$40.00
1 st Permit (Pensioner Price)	\$20.00
2 nd Permit	\$80.00

Each residence within a Resident Parking Scheme area is entitled to a maximum of two resident parking permits per household. This allowance is reduced for each off-street parking space provided on the property. For example, if a residence has two off-street parking spaces available, they are not entitled to a resident parking permit. The reason for restricting the number of permits issued per residence is due to the limited number of on-street parking spaces available, the need to retain some on street parking spaces for visitors and tradesmen and also to discourage multiple car ownership in areas where parking is limited.

Council, following a report to the Council's Community and Environment Committee on 24 March 2003, introduced a Pensioner discount for resident parking permits. Council's current policy in relation to pensioner discounts for resident parking permits is to provide a maximum of one pensioner discount per residence per year. This means that in a household where:

- a. a pensioner owns more than one vehicle that cannot be parked off-street in a residential parking scheme area, or
- b. there is more than one pensioner in a household owning a motor vehicle that cannot be parked off-street in a residential area,

the second application for a resident parking permit for that household is not eligible for a pensioner discount.

Consideration:

The pensioner discount for resident parking permits was first introduced mid 2003 and was introduced because it was recognised that pensioners may have difficulty in paying the resident parking permit fees. On this premise, it is considered that it would be reasonable to expand the current pensioner discount eligibility criteria to include the situation where there is a second pensioner in a household owning a motor vehicle. It is not considered reasonable, however, to expand the criteria to include the situation where a pensioner owns more than one vehicle.

Having regard to the above, it is recommended that the current eligibility criteria for a resident parking permit pensioner discount be expanded to include the situation where there is a second pensioner in a household owning a motor vehicle subject to:

- a. a maximum of one pensioner discount per pensioner per year, and
- b. all other eligibility criteria being met.

The current pensioner discount price for a resident parking permit is \$20.00. This represents a 50% discount on the cost of the first resident parking permit. The current cost of a second resident parking permit per household is \$80.00. It is considered reasonable that a similar pensioner discount of \$20.00 also apply where there is a second pensioner in a household owning a motor vehicle. The revised fee structure for resident parking permits would therefore become:

1 st Permit	\$40.00
1 st Permit (Pensioner Price)	\$20.00
2 nd Permit	\$80.00
2 nd Permit (Pensioner Price)	\$60.00

Identification of Income and Expenditure:

Approximately 140 pensioner discount resident parking permits are issued each year. Should Council expand the eligibility criteria as recommended above, it is considered that the number of such permits issued may increase by up to approximately 70 per year. Should this occur, then the resultant reduction in income to Council would be \$1,400 per year

Greg Stewart
Manager Public Infrastructure

Tim Tuxford
Manager Compliance

Warwick Hatton
Director Technical Services

Annexures:

Nil

Item No: R2 Recommendation to Council
Subject: **Proposed Parking Fee for Car and Trailer Parking at Lyne Park, Rose Bay**
Author: Greg Stewart - Manager Public Infrastructure
File No: 195.G Part 15
Reason for Report: To report on the submissions received following the public exhibition of the proposed fee.

Recommendation:

That Council adopt a fee of \$1.00 per hour for the car with trailer parking spaces at Lyne Park, Rose Bay

Background:

The Community and Environment Committee on 15 December 2003, when considering a report on proposed parking arrangements within and around Lyne Park, Rose Bay, resolved as follows:

- A. *That, except as provided for in part B, the matter be deferred for a further report dealing with the representations made, and to allow for further discussions with the Department of Lands on how a more suitable balance might be achieved between the long term parking needs of ferry commuters and the short term needs of park users. The report to include information on the affordability of parking for commuters, the option of parking permits for Woollahra residents, the potential for the meters to create displacement of parking to surrounding streets and, the likely impact on ferry service patronage.*
- B. *That Council proceed with that part of the proposal providing for the introduction of ticket (pay and display) parking meters for 20 spaces weekdays and 39 space weekends for 12P car and trailer parking with proposed fees of \$1.00 per hour, the fees to be placed on public exhibition for a maximum period of 28 days.*
- C. *That Council continues to lobby the State Government for improvements to public transport in the Municipality.*

A copy of the report considered at the Community and Environment Committee is attached as Annexure 1

This report has been prepared in response to Part B of the above resolution only. A further report is to be submitted to the Community and Environment Committee as per Part A of the resolution.

Public Exhibition of Proposed Fee

In accordance with part B of the above resolution, the proposed introduction of a parking fee of \$1.00 per hour for car and trailer parking at Lyne Park, covering 20 parking spaces weekdays and 39 spaces on weekends, was advertised in the Wentworth Courier on 3 March and 10 March 2004. The advertised closing date for the receipt of submissions was 31 March 2004.

Response to the Public Exhibition of the Proposed Parking Fee:

Council received five submissions in response to the public exhibition of the proposed fee. A summary of the submissions received, including staff comments in relation to the issues raised, are provided in the following table.

In addition to the submissions received in response to the proposed fee for car with trailer parking, Council has also received a number of submissions in relation to the items raised in part A of the Council resolution of 15 December 2003. These issues will be included in the further report as requested by Council.

Name and Address	Summary of submission lodged	Staff Comments
J Starr	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Protests proposal of parking fees for use of public car and trailer spaces. ▪ Imposing new fees on the boat trailer spaces will only exacerbate an already existing problem, which is the long-term parking/storage of non-council resident owned boats and trailers on neighboring streets. ▪ At a minimum, prior to any imposition of new boat parking fees, Council must put in place some regulation (perhaps by way of example, no parking one day a week along O'Sullivan Road by the golf course) to act as a disincentive to the existing month after month boat and trailer storage nightmare we currently suffer. ▪ Note: Submission also included comments in relation to the issues of car parking at Lyne Park, commuter parking, ferry use, etc. These issues will be included in the further report to Council required under Part A of the Council resolution 15 December 2003 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The primary objectives of the proposed pay parking scheme are listed on Page 5 of this report. ▪ The primary objectives of the proposal are to increase parking turnover and discourage all day car with trailer parking. ▪ The number of car with trailer spaces provided is very similar to that which currently exists. ▪ It is considered that the proposal will not increase the incidence of boat trailer parking in residential streets, as the parking in residential streets is long-term parking. ▪ The introduction of parking restrictions to prevent long-term boat trailer parking in selected residential streets will probably only move the problem to other residential streets. What is required is a change in legislation to deter boat and trailer parking in residential streets. Notwithstanding this, a review of parking restrictions in the nearby residential streets will be carried out in an attempt to control such parking.

Jennifer Turner	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ There's no documentation on display to show where the meters are to be located in the park or an explanation of the financial viability of the proposal. ▪ Opposes the installation of parking meters for the following reasons: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Visual eyesore in a harbourside park. b) They will be nothing more than a band-aid solution for a small area of a very large parking problem and the removal of the boat trailers from the park will add to the 'population' of trailers in the surrounding streets, especially in the winter months. c) The proposal does not appear to be economically viable with the rate set at \$1 per hour and half of the spaces being free during the week. ▪ Note: Submission also included comments in relation to the issues of car parking at Lyne Park, commuter parking, ferry use, etc. These issues will be included in the further report to Council required under Part A of the Council resolution 15 December 2003 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The subject of the public exhibition was the proposed introduction of the parking fee for cars with trailers. ▪ See heading "Income and Expenditure" on Page 5 of this report for estimates of income and expenditure. ▪ It is proposed to install only one ticket (pay and display) parking meter to cover the car with trailer parking. ▪ The primary objectives of the proposal are to increase parking turnover and discourage all day parking. It is considered that the proposal will not increase the incidence of boat trailer parking in residential streets, as this parking is long-term parking. Notwithstanding this, a review of parking restrictions in the nearby residential streets will be carried out in an attempt to control such parking. ▪ See heading "Income and Expenditure" on Page 5 of this report for estimates. ▪ It is intended that the fee for car with trailer spaces will be levied on weekdays as well as weekends.
Farnaz & Dara Minbashian	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Note: Submission did not address car with trailer parking but comprised comments in relation to the issues of car parking at Lyne Park, commuter parking, ferry use, etc. These issues will be included in the further report to Council required under Part A of the Council resolution 15 December 2003 	

Michael Ellis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Strongly objects to the proposed fees. ▪ Seems illogical to make boat owners pay a parking fee whilst restaurant patrons can spend a similar amount of time during the week or on weekends eating and drinking whilst parking for free. ▪ Similarly, people using the ferries to either commute to work or for recreational purposes on the weekend / or others boarding a commercial tourist/private function boats can park for free all day. ▪ Boat owners who are residents of the municipality pay their rates and are equally as entitled to park for free, as are other residents who use the car park. ▪ It would be far more equitable whereby the fee only applied to non-residents. It would be easy to implement a permit system that applied to a designated vehicle that was registered at a Woollahra address. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The primary objectives of the proposed pay parking scheme are listed on Page 5 of this report ▪ The possible introduction of paid parking for car parking within Lyne Park will be one of the issues canvassed in the further report to Council required under part A of the Council resolution of 15 December 2003. ▪ See comments immediately above and below ▪ The purpose of the paid parking is to deter long term and overnight parking. This is an issue whether the user is a resident or non-resident.
Dean Michael	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Note: Submission included comments in relation to the issues of car parking at Lyne Park, commuter parking, ferry use, etc. These issues will be included in the further report to Council required under Part A of the Council resolution 15 December 2003 	
R Nagel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Council appears to do a very poor job of enforcing the existing restrictions. ▪ Does not object in principle to imposing a parking fee but considers it needs to be done sensibly. Parking meters should be able to accommodate several forms of electronic payment as well as coins 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The introduction of paid parking will simplify enforcement and reduce the resources required. ▪ Parking meter will be fitted with a smart card reader.

Copies of the submissions received are attached as Annexure 2.

Consideration of submissions received

It can be seen from the summary above that the main issues of concern relate to:

- a) a concern that the introduction of a parking fee will deter boat owners from using the car with trailer parking in Lyne Park and will result in them parking in the surrounding residential streets, and
- b) the introduction of a fee for residents.

The following information is provided in response to these issues:

- a) *A concern that the introduction of a parking fee will deter boat owners from using the car with trailer parking in Lyne Park and will result in them parking in the surrounding residential streets.*

The primary objectives of the proposed ticket (pay and display) parking scheme is to:

- discourage overnight and long-term parking of cars with trailers within the parking area.
- increase the turnover of the car with trailer parking spaces.
- simplify the enforcement of these parking spaces by allowing patrolling officers to readily identify parking violations more easily than with sign control only (will not need to mark tyres and make repeated inspections), thus reducing enforcement resources required..

The introduction of such a scheme should result in a greater turnover of vehicles using the available car with trailer parking spaces. Accordingly, persons wishing to park in these spaces should have a greater chance of finding an available parking space. This should result in fewer cars with trailers being parked in the residential streets surrounding Lyne Park. It is further considered that the fee of \$1.00 per hour will not deter boat owners from using the available car with trailer parking within Lyne Park, due to its convenience.

- b) *The introduction of a fee for residents*

The boat ramp at Lyne Park is the only public boat ramp on the southern side of Sydney Harbour east of the CBD. As such, boat owners throughout Sydney and not just the residents of the Woollahra Municipality use it. Whilst it would be possible to provide free car with trailer parking for residents only and charge a fee for non residents of the Municipality, the cost of implementing and administering such a scheme would be prohibitive. Not only would resident stickers need to be issued, on an annual basis for cars and trailers belonging to residents of the Municipality, the scheme would also be open to fraud and abuse. In addition, such a scheme would be contrary to one of the primary objectives of the scheme, which is to increase the turnover of parking in the car with trailer parking spaces. Car with trailer parking by residents is just as much an issue as that by non-residents. For these reasons, such a scheme is not supported.

Recommendation:

Following consideration of the submissions received, it recommended that Council adopt a fee of \$1.00 per hour for the car with trailer parking spaces at Lyne Park, Rose Bay

Identification of Income & Expenditure:

The cost to supply and install the proposed parking meter for the car with trailer parking is \$8,645. The likely income generated each year will be approximately \$25,000 with maintenance and running expenses of approximately \$2,000 per annum.

Greg Stewart
Manager Public Infrastructure

Warwick Hatton
Director Technical Services

ANNEXURES:

- 1 A copy of the Community & Environment Committee report dated 15 December 2004.
 - 2 Copies of submissions received.
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Item No: R3 Recommendation to Council
Subject: **Library Improvements - New Management System and refurbishment of Children's Section**
Author: Faye Lawrence - Manger - Library Services
File No: 48.G
Reason for Report: To inform Council of the new Library Management System about to be installed and the refurbishment of the children's section of the main library.

Recommendation:

1. That this matter be referred to Council as a matter of urgency.
2. That Council note the installation of the new Library Management System during the period Wednesday 19 May 2004 to Tuesday 25 May 2004.
3. That Council note the refurbishment of the children's section of the main library, Double Bay, for the period Wednesday 19 May 2004 to Tuesday 15 June 2004.
4. That publicity be undertaken in the local press and throughout the libraries about these changes and improvements

Background:

New Library Management System:

The current system in use in the library "Data Library" was installed in 1991. As the firm had been taken over and a decision made not to upgrade the product it was essential to replace it. Criteria were developed for the investigation of a system which offered a total information management solution, operated in a multiple windows environment and was a robust and dependable product.

Council then approved going to tender in April 2003 with responses closing in May 2003. We undertook this tender process jointly with Waverley Council Library, which needed to upgrade its system at the same time.

The tender was formulated together with each Library composing a separate set of selection criteria. It was firmly agreed that there was no obligation that each library should choose the same system. This was seen as advantageous as we shared some of the costs associated with the tender and benefits from sharing of expertise and ideas.

There were seven responses to the tender. Evaluation of the tenders was undertaken by Waverley and Woollahra library staff, with assistance from Councils IT staff. The evaluation and inter-staff consultation led to the selection of Libero as the preferred system. Both Councils Library staff arrived at this decision and consensus. It was also considered that the selection of the same system offers opportunities for further co-operation between the two libraries. Council signed a contract in December 2003.

Installing Libero will cost Woollahra \$105, 688. The system was judged to offer value for money and have features to take the library service into the future. A Grant from the Library Council of New South Wales of \$45,000 was received towards this cost.

The benefits of this new system to the community include an extensive new range of on-line services, improving the ability of members to access information. Members will be able to place reservations on-line and be automatically informed of new resources available by Email, according to their stated preferences. It will also provide a more efficient and user friendly catalogue system, which provides benefits to staff as well as library users.

Proposal:

In order to fully switch over to the new library system we need to shut down the use of the catalogue part of the system at the beginning of the transfer period and commence using emergency circulation. The transfer period will be from Wednesday 19 May to Tuesday 25 June 2004. This will allow us to lend and return items, but not provide the full cataloguing service. The catalogue data will be sent to Libero who will work on it for several days. Once we receive the completely transferred data we will need to load in all the offline circulation information.

We have looked at alternatives and have worked out that this is the best way to maintain basic library services and undertake all the vital extraction and uploading of the data required. This interim operation will take seven days, with the planned Go Live day set for Wednesday 21 May.

Refurbishment in the Children's section of the main library:

The decision to upgrade the facilities for children in the main library was based on a range of considerations; the need to increase the number of computers for children, to improve the overall amenity and provide for the changing needs of the different age groups using the children's section. Very young children need a secure separate area where they can play, read and be read to whilst slightly older children deserve a separate place to use the computers, study at tables and browse with their own age groups. A survey of teachers and librarians in our primary schools further helped us to understand some of the changing needs of the older children in the primary school age group.

It is recognised that Council is considering the longer term needs of main library accommodation, however it was reasoned that the importance of the children's enjoyment of the library facilities justified a current upgrade for this all-important section of the library. A brief to re-design the layout of the children's library was put together and a design undertaken. \$43,000 was consequently budgeted specifically for this purpose.

In addition to the refurbishment of the children's library some much needed updating of library staff workstations was added to this scope of works to be undertaken at the same time.

Proposal:

This range of work is very extensive and requires the removal of all stock from that level of the library, demolition, re-wiring and joinery. Taking into account this range of work and safety considerations, it was determined that the period from Wednesday 19 May to Tuesday 15 June was required to complete the works. Closing this section of the library is the only way to complete this renovation quickly and safely.

We will provide a limited service in the adult section of the library for parents of young children whilst this work is being undertaken. Paddington Library will maintain a full children's service and we plan to send a further staff member there to assist with extra children's programmes throughout this period.

Conclusion:

These developments will enhance the level of service to all library users, and encourage greater use of the library.

The new library management system will be coming on line on Wednesday 26 May, offering much improved user services both in the library and from home. The refurbishment of the children's section at the main library in Double Bay will be undertaken in May and June. We look forward to a vibrant refurbished children's service at the main library with a celebration to be scheduled for the re-opening.

We recommend that this report be referred to Council as a matter of urgency as we need to commence publicity and notify the community as soon as possible about the changed services and the improvements being undertaken.

Faye Lawrence
Manager – Library Services

Kylie Walshe
Director – Community Services
