

## Neighbourhood Forum 5

### Wollongong's Heartland

*Collaborating with Council  
on community aspirations,  
visions, needs & concerns*



**Coniston,  
Figtree,  
Gwynneville,  
Keiraville,  
Mangerton,  
Mount Keira,  
Mount St Thomas,  
North Wollongong,  
West Wollongong,  
Wollongong City.**

### Agenda for meeting on 6<sup>th</sup> September 2023

- 1 Presentation None possible
- 2 Apologies Harold Hanson, Philip Laird
- 3 Minutes of meeting of 2<sup>nd</sup> August and matters arising included in the agenda.  
see pp. 15-17
- 4 Comments If you wish to comment on, or object to, any of the recommendations  
in this agenda please respond before the meeting date.
- 5 Responses
  - 5.1 see p. 2
  - 5.2 Library Strategy: see p.2
  - 5.3 Clean-up after Strong Winds: see p. 3
  - 5.4 Vegetation and Tree Management : see p.3
- 6 Reports
  - 6.1 University Liaison: see p.4
  - 6.2 Off-shore wind energy: p.5 & **rec p.6**
  - 6.3 City Centre Movement and Place: see p.6 & **rec p.7**
  - 6.4 Pioneer Rest Park Improvements: see **rec p.7**
  - 6.5 Rail Freight Strategies: see p.8 & **rec p.9**
  - 6.6 Noise from Rock Excavation see p.9 & **rec p.10**
  - 6.7 Graffiti Removal see **rec p.9**
- 7 Planning
  - 7.1 Planning see p.10
  - 7.2 DAs: see **recs pp. 10 & 11**
  - 7.5 DA determinations: see p.12
- 8 General Business see p.13
- 9 Snippets see p.14

---

**Current active membership of Neighbourhood Forum 5 : 408 households**

---

## 5 Responses 5.1 have been incorporated

There have been several responses beyond mere acknowledgement which have been incorporated into the relevant agenda items.

### 5.2 Library Strategy

“Regarding your point that the measures outlined in the draft showing a desired end state, and specific measures, but not reflecting current performance to properly assess each target. I take your point that without this information in this draft it is difficult to assess the rationality of the targets. Our approach for this draft going out to Community Engagement was to provide the draft Purpose, Vision, Goals and Measures of Success, to demonstrate key areas of where the library service is putting our focus and attention and hopefully make it accessible for a wide range of community members to make comment, which is why that level of detail has not been shared.

In saying that, in our final draft we will be sharing an infographic of key statistics, linked to each goal, of where we were as of 2022 so that community members can see and track if they should wish, our progress to each Goal. Although we do have baseline statistics for a number of these measures outlined in the draft strategy, it’s important to note that there are a few items where we do not yet have a process, system or measurement in place, so we will be starting anew from 2024”.

Note A late response was received which suggested that because many people work in Sydney weekday access to the library is difficult, and requested:

- i overnight and over-weekend borrowing of materials from the reference section;
- ii opening of the library on Sundays.

“Regarding borrowing of reference library materials:  
We abolished overdue fines a few years ago across our service. material, overnight an on weekends, would mean we would need to introduce a process that is back in line with applying overdue fines – to ‘encourage’ the prompt return of said items. Without this process the reference collection is at risk of losing items for long periods of time, or worse, indefinitely. We are currently not looking into introducing overdue fines back into our service.

Regarding opening on Sundays:

Overall, the idea of opening Wollongong Library on a Sunday is ideal. However, there is no additional funding coming to the library service that would pay for staff overtime for 50 Sundays in a year.

We have gone out to community engagement regarding a project for Helensburgh Library opening hours to see that library location introduce an after-hours, self service access to the facility, to borrow and return items, browse the collection and to utilise the computers. Community sentiment was positive for this suggestion to open access to the facility across a wider span of time. This project is still underway and in its initial stages.”

Specialist - Service Quality and Development

### **5.3 Clean-ups after Strong Winds**

“I apologise for the delayed response, but can advise that Council has completed free green waste community drop off events during the year.... There will be further drop off events scheduled prior to the Xmas holiday break during November and December.

In relation to storm response clean ups, these are assessed at the time of the event in terms of severity and scale. In some instances, a disaster declaration is made by the State Government which provides funding to address priority issues.

With regards to community volunteer clean ups, Council has a longstanding Rise and Shine program to target litter and also coordinates the Clean Up Australia Day event. Council is mindful of safety issues with volunteers working in creeks and culverts, so much of this work is undertaken by qualified crews and machinery where necessary.”

Manager Open Space + Environmental Services (Acting)

### **5.4 Vegetation and Tree Management**

In April the Forum requested Council to:

- i again consider requiring some deep planting on the street side of new developments;
- ii again consider making roof-top planting a requirement on major buildings; and
- iii negotiate with Endeavour Energy and residents directly affected the removal of over-pruned trees and replacement with suitable trees on both sides of the street.

“An apology is made for the delay in reply.

With regard to the first 2 points, an action arising from the adoption of the Wollongong Housing Strategy, is a review of LEP and DCP controls for residential development, which is scheduled to occur this financial year and is commencing.

With regard to point 3, vegetation and powerline management were considered as part of the review of the Tree Management Policy.”  
Land Use Planning Manager

Comment

- i & ii It remains to be seen what is proposed.
- iii this was a total Council cop out – there is no question of support for a risk based approach – the question was how often does pruning take place to maintain safety.

## 6 Reports 6.1 University of Wollongong Liaison

Another useful quarterly liaison meeting with UOW senior representatives revealed:

- i Mt Ousley Interchange progress has stalled pending outcomes from the new NSW government review of infrastructure projects – hopefully it will resume and be completed asap;
- ii the Uni estate strategy/multi-campus vision about the use of buildings and infrastructure to support the Uni’s objectives is nearing completion;
- iii the Uni is hoping for government grants for more electric car charging stations;
- iv extensive planning for the Yours and Owls festival is occurring, particularly to manage disruption during bump in and out, and to minimise impacts on residents. The DA will be determined by the Local Planning Panel;
- v the Health and Wellbeing Precinct development has responded to Council’s latest RFI and a DA will be submitted to the Southern Regional Planning panel for determination later this year. A “collaboration agreement” will address advantages to UOW;
- vi the NSW Ambulance Station on Innovation Campus land with access from Cowper Street is proceeding;
- vii The Dragons will submit a revised plan for their development on Innovation Campus land excluding the heritage building, and a “collaboration agreement” will ensure links to research opportunities;
- viii student accommodation is 95% full, of which 56% are domestic students;
- ix international student numbers are up, domestic flat, data will be provided;
- x Government changes to on-line teaching are creating challenges for Unis and particularly international students;
- xi a housing support officer is assisting students to find accommodation, the low 1.5% vacancy in private rentals puts pressure on availability;

- xii parking is full and planning is necessary to offset reduction in spaces on campus due to access with the Mt Ousley Interchange;
- xiii continuation after mid 2024 of the free city shuttle bus, with significant contributions by UOW and Council, is currently being negotiated with TfNSW representatives.

## 6.2 Off-shore Wind Energy

The Government is seeking comment on its proposal for an area of wind farms off the Illawarra coast. In August the Forum expressed concern about a number of possible issues with such a proposal. Since then further information on the options has become available mainly through the Director of the Energy Futures Network at UoW.

It is quite clear that fossil fuels have no future mainly because of their impact on climate change but also because most generators are at the end of their physical and technological life. So the future is with renewable energy for which there is no silver bullet. Massive increase in the installation of solar panels means the domestic market during the day is nearly saturated. Small batteries are very expensive and only provide power for a couple of hours.

There remains a huge base load that is needed 24 hours a day to service industry, commerce, urban infrastructure, transport, etc. Apparently the nuclear option is very expensive and should have been embraced decades ago to be effective today. On-shore wind power is not nearly as reliable or effective as off-shore and is far more visually intrusive. Moreover, it has to be in relatively remote locations resulting in significant infrastructure and transfer costs. Solar farms are remote and don't help the base load sufficiently.

Whilst these and some other technologies are commercially available and working elsewhere in the world, nevertheless there are many emerging technologies in the clean energy space which will likely form a part of our future. Right now there are emerging technologies which are called systems with lower Technology Readiness Levels. Examples showing promise are:

1. Sodium-ion batteries (lower carbon footprint and lower social and moral issues than Lithium mining)
2. Geothermal energy generation. This is a mature technology, but not so good in a geologically stable continent such as Australia.
3. Gravity energy storage other than pumped hydro, which is a mature technology and the basis of Snowy 2.0.
4. Wave energy

5. Tidal/ocean energy
6. Biofuels

There are examples of wave energy in operation across the world, but the technology is currently not at scale. Once offshore wind becomes even more prevalent, wave energy will be able to leverage the knowledge gained from large scale offshore electricity generation and come into the picture.

Ocean current energy suffers from the challenge of how to transport the energy generated back to shore. Ocean currents are mainly well out to sea, hence the challenge. Tidal energy systems have the advantage of location, as they can be closer to the coast. They are however very visually and environmentally impactful. Large tidal systems can affect ocean ecosystems, sand flows, currents, cause siltation build up and so forth.

Like all things there are trade offs but at this time offshore wind seems a better technology from an environmental impact perspective.

#### Recommendation

That the NSW Government be advised of support for wind farms off the Wollongong coast provided there are extensive environmental studies and it is shown that all adverse environmental impacts can be mitigated satisfactorily.

### **6.3 City Centre Movement and Place**

Council is working on a strategy for this which categorises all roads and lanes in a simplified version of the ridiculously complicated system developed by TransportNSW.

Essentially the plan:

- i confirms pedestrian priority on Crown Street, and adjoining laneways, from the railway to the sea;
- ii upgrades Keira Street for pedestrians and activities to complement Crown Street;
- ii retains Corrimal Street as the principal north-south traffic route to the east;
- iii uses Burelli Street as the main east-west traffic and public transport route to the south but increases its pedestrian and cycleway function;
- iv diverts Flinders Street traffic east onto Campbell Street and west onto Throsby Drive;
- v uses Denison Street, Gladstone Avenue and Bridge Street as the main north-south traffic route to the west.

Issues raised for further discussion included:

- i extension of the free bus to the south;
- ii peripheral multi-storey car parks on the outskirts linked to shuttlebus services to the centre;
- iii upgrade the public transport link from the railway station to the foreshore;
- iv reduce speed limits throughout.
- v prioritises pedestrian time at intersections (particularly Kembla Street).
- vi real time display of next arrival at bus stops.

#### Recommendation

That Council be requested to provide a copy of the draft plan to enable a more considered response to be made.

### **6.4 Upgrades at Pioneer Rest Park**

Council advise: “As part of the recent engagement program for Pioneers Rest Park on Bank and Kembla Street Wollongong, Council provided residents with designs to upgrade paths and infrastructure for the site. The site is of significant heritage value therefore Council is seeking grants to fund the improvement of the heritage features of the site.

As safety is Council’s priority, until these funds are secured Council will be focusing on improving safety within the park for users. This includes replacing:

- the missing section of concrete near the IRT building on Kembla Street
- a small section of asphalt at the Bank Street entrance
- the concrete under the main stone entrance to the park.

Council will also construct new concrete sections connecting the park and existing footpath. This project is scheduled to be completed prior to the end of the financial year.”

On 18<sup>th</sup> April 2022 the Forum responded to draft plans by Council that the paths should be wide enough for two people with prams to walk by each. other comfortably. Also we suggested that functional play equipment is needed (some was provided many years ago), given the ever-increasing population nearby and changing demographic.

#### Recommendation

Council be requested to conform the widths of proposed footpath improvements and to give urgent consideration to the provision of playground equipment and seating.

## 6.5 Rail Freight Strategy

In 2021, IPART was asked to review the arrangements governing third-party access to rail tracks in NSW. Access seekers such as train owners, freight companies, and coal and grain companies enter in to agreements with the access providers to access the rail tracks.

Following public hearings and consideration of 26 submissions, IPART provided their final report to Rail Infrastructure NSW and recommendations to the NSW Government on 31<sup>st</sup> May 2023. During public hearings the issue of Manildra and Sydney trains claiming that there were not sufficient train paths to allow rail haulage of ethanol from Bomaderry was raised.

The NSW Government is yet to release the report.

In addition, a review of the 2019-2024 National Freight and Supply Chain Strategy has been brought forward by a year.

One reason for this has been the need for as recognised in the discussion paper, to address decarbonisation. Another reason is to examine where the 2019 Strategy can be improved in the national interest.

By way of contrast, the 2018-23 NSW Freight and Port Strategy is now due for review. It does not appear that public consultation for the review has started. This is despite a 2021 NSW Auditor-General's Rail Freight and Greater Sydney report being critical of how the NSW Government has managed the rail freight capacity in Greater Sydney to meet current and future freight demand.

Greater Sydney sometimes includes Wollongong. In any event, policies are needed to ensure that more, and not less, of the freight moving to and from Port Kembla are moved by rail.

### Recommendations

- i Write to Ms Alison Byrnes MP for Cunningham to write to the Minister for Infrastructure etc commending the decision of the Australian Government to bring forward the review of the 2019-2024 National Freight and Supply Chain Strategy and to trust that the new strategy will lead, given that rail freight is generally produces one third of the emissions than road, reduced road congestion, and has lower social and environmental costs, will result in the new strategy getting more freight on rail.



- ii Write to the Hon Paul Scully MP for Wollongong to seek advice from the NSW Minister for Transport as to when the NSW 2018-2013 Freight and Port Strategy is going to be reviewed, and to what extent will public consultation will take place
- iii Write to the Hon Ryan Park MP for Keira to seek advice from the Premier of NSW as to when the NSW Government will release the report of IPART into the Review of third party access to Rail Infrastructure in NSW.

## **6.6 Noise from Rock Excavation in Residential Areas**

At NF5 meeting on 3 May 2023 it was agreed that the General Manager be requested to arrange discussions with relevant senior representatives of Council, NF5 Executive and a group of affected residents in the east Smith St area to discuss this report and establish a working group to advance this matter. This followed detrimental effects on residents over 16 months by excessive noise during hard rock excavation for two levels of basement parking on a narrow site in SmithSt. In response there have been helpful discussions with Council's Manager Regulation & Enforcement, representatives of NF5 and affected residents. These included that in accordance with EPA Guidelines, recognition that Council has responsibilities as the Appropriate Regulatory Authority, and clarification of roles of relevant managers, the applicant, private certifiers and the main contractor.

Agreements included that enforceable Consent Conditions re noise and vibration during rock excavation are essential (which comes under the Manager Development Assessment & Consent Conditions – Manager DA&CC), as is compliance with existing conditions (including re Geotechnical requirements and Excavation Plans for the 82A Cliff Road development underway), effective communications with affected residents must be maintained, and a complaints process has been provided.

Improved consent conditions have been drafted, but there needs to be an urgent meeting with representatives of the Manager DA&CC, relevant staff, NF5 and affected residents re the DA on currently on exhibition until 15 Sep for a development at 4 Smith & 22 Harbour Streets. This needs to include re Consent Conditions, excavation techniques, cooperation and enforcement to avoid excessive noise from excavation of hard rock for two levels of basement parking, a similar situation to 1 Smith St site opposite, which caused major protracted noise and vibration concerns in the area.

#### Recommendation

That Council be requested arrange an urgent meeting with representatives of the Manager DA& CC, relevant staff, NF5 and affected residents re the DA on currently on exhibition until 15 Sep for a development at 4 Smith & 22 Harbour Streets, including re Consent Conditions, excavation techniques, cooperation and enforcement to avoid excessive noise from excavation of hard rock for two levels of basement parking

#### 6.7 Graffiti Removal

It appears that Council run graffiti prevention activities including offering residents a free graffiti removal kit. However, this is not well publicised

#### Recommendation

Council be commended on its initiatives to reduce graffiti and requested to publicise them more widely, in particular the free graffiti removal kit.

## 7 Planning

### 7.1

Please note that whilst this review, and the recommendations based on it, has been prepared with all due care and objectivity, no legal responsibility is accepted for errors, omissions or inadvertent misrepresentations, nor for any outcomes which might result from the assessment. As this review has only been made with the information available, members are encouraged to make their own submissions with any additional comments to the Secretary well before the closing date.

### 7.2 DA-2023/511 5 stories, 7 units, 16-18 Market Pl. W'gong

21<sup>st</sup> August

This is a proposal for 7 units in a 5 storey building on two lots facing Market square. It seems not to comply with State building separation controls nor Council requirements for minimum lot width, communal open space, solar access or creation of isolated lots. Archaeological relics and noise during basement excavation could also be issues in this area.



#### Recommendation

That the submission of objection be endorsed.

**7.3 DA-2023/587 Dual Occupancy 5 Greenacre Rd Wollongong**  
25<sup>th</sup> August

This is a proposal for a 2 storey attached dual occupancy in a street dominated by single storey houses. It seems to comply with all Council requirements. Whilst the use complies with our Fairy Creek Locality Plan, the design is out of character with the street.



**Recommendation**

That the submission of objection to the design, but not the use, be endorsed.

**7.4 DA-2023/587 Dual Occupancy 8 O’Briens Road Figtree**  
6<sup>th</sup> September

This is a proposal for a second single storey house on a triangular lot facing Ryan lane. It seems to comply with all Council requirements save site width and front setback, both acceptable on this lot in this location. It complies with our Figtree Locality Plan



**Recommendation**

That a submission of support be lodged.

**7.5. DA-2023/646 5 units, 4 stories, 4 Smith/Harbour Sts W’gong**  
14<sup>th</sup> September

This is a proposal for a 4 storey building with 2 levels of basement parking on the corner of Smith and Harbour Streets, with five units. It does not comply with height, setback, communal open space nor deep planting. There are also concerns about potential noise and vibration during basement construction and potential archaeological finds.



**Recommendation**

That a submission of objection be lodged

## 7.6 DA Determinations

|         |            |                        |                            |         |                   |
|---------|------------|------------------------|----------------------------|---------|-------------------|
| 21/1467 | W'gong     | 81-85 Keira St         | 7 stories, 43 dw           | Object  | Appealed          |
| 22/61   | Figtree    | 1 Malangong Close      | Dual Occ                   | Support | Approved          |
| 22/14   | W'gong     | 24-30 Kenny St         | 18 stories, 68 dw          | Support | Approved          |
| 22/20   | W. 'gong   | 38 Abercrombie St      | Dual occ                   | None    | Approved          |
| 22/123  | Figtree    | 253 Mt Keira Rd,       | Dual Occ                   | Object  | Approved          |
| 22/169  | W'gong     | 36 Flinders St         | 9 storie,119 units         | Support | Approved<br>Court |
| 22/211  | W'gong     | 4 Auburn St,           | 24 stories, hotel<br>59 dw | Support | Approved          |
| 22/250  | Gwynville  | 14A Foley St           | 4 dwellings,               | Support | Approved          |
| 22/254  | W'gong     | 2A Denison St          | Dual Occ                   | Object  | Approved          |
| 22/512  | W. 'gong   | 13 Rosemont St         | Dual Occ                   | Object  | Approved          |
| 22/542  | W'gong     | 5 Greenacre Rd         | Dual Occ                   | Support | Withdrawn         |
| 22/250  | Gwynville  | 14A Foley St           | 4 dwellings,               | Support | Approved          |
| 22/320  | W'gong     | 17-19 Gladstone<br>Ave | 9 stories, 35<br>units     | Object  | Refused           |
| 22/952  | Keiraville | 54 Grey St             | Dual Occ                   | Support | Approved          |
| 22/966  | W'gong     | 46 Burelli St          | Art Gallery &<br>Town Hall | Support | Approved          |
| 22/1203 | W'gong     | 114 Church St          | Community<br>facility      | Object  | Approved          |
| 22/1247 | Figtree    | 7 Govett Crescent      | Dual Occ                   | Object  | Approved          |
| 22/146  | W'gong     | 22 Jutland Ave         | Dual Occ                   | Object  | Approved          |
| 22/1268 | Figtree    | 54 Nebo Drive          | 2 lot subdivision          | Support | Approved          |
| 23/135  | W'gong     | 7 New Dapto Road       | Dual Occ                   | Support | Approved          |
| 23/276  | Keiraville | 26 Bulwara St          | 2 lots                     | Support | Approved          |
| 23/331  | Coniston   | 512 Heaslip St         | 5 town houses              | Support | Approved          |
| 23/417  | W'gong     | 132 Church St          | 2 stories office           | Support | Approved          |

## Not yet determined

|         |            |                            |                         |         |
|---------|------------|----------------------------|-------------------------|---------|
| 21/101  | N W'gong   | 3, Squires Way             | UoW Health complex      | Support |
| 22/211  | W'gong     | 4 Auburn St,               | 24 stories, hotel 59 dw | Support |
| 22/938  | W'gong     | 379-383 Crown St           | 21 stories, 91 units    | Support |
| 22/1278 | W'gong     | 29-31 Denison St           | 36 units,               | Object  |
| 22/1343 | Keiraville | 4-6 Georgina Ave           | Units                   | Object  |
| 23/50   | N. W'gng   | 4-6 Blacket Street         | 10 units                | Object  |
| 23/156  | W'gong     | c/o Crown/Gladstone        | 22 stories 288 units    | Object  |
| 23/349  | Figtree    | 15 Braeside Ave            | 3 town houses           | Object  |
| 23/358  | Mangerton  | 11-2021/22112 St Johns Ave | 6 townhouses            | Object  |
| 23/360  | W'gong     | 3 Harbour St               | Dual occ                | Object  |
| 23/367  | W'gong     | 300-2 Crown St             | 8 stories 47 units      | Support |
| 23/368  | N. W'gong  | 21-23 Edward St            | 10 stories 20 units     | Support |
| 23/493  | Figtree    | 54 Lewis Drive             | Dual Occ                | Support |
| 23/507  | W'gong     | Belmore Basin              | Timbersports event      | Support |
| 23/533  | Kerraville | 64 Grey Street             | Dual Occ                | Support |
| 23/541  | Figtree    | 17 Evelyn Ave.             | Dual Occ                | Support |
| 23/646  | W'gong     | 4 Smith/Harbour St         | 5 units, 4 stories,     | Object  |
| 23/587  | Figtree    | 8 O'Briens Road            | Dual Occ                | Support |
| 23/587  | W'gong     | 5 Greenacre Rd             | Dual Occ                | Object  |
| 23/511  | W'gong     | 16-18 Market Pl.           | 5 stories, 7 units,     | Oject   |

## 8 General Business

**Date of next meeting**  
**Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> October 2023**

**Please Note:**

This meeting will be face-to-face at a location to be advised.

---

**Current active membership of Neighbourhood Forum 5 : 405 households**

---

## Snippets

### Biosolar Roofs

Growing city populations and limited space are driving the adoption of green roofs and green walls covered with living plants. As well as boosting biodiversity, green roofs could play another unexpectedly valuable role by increasing the electricity output of solar panels.

As solar panels heat up beyond 25°C, their efficiency decreases markedly. Green roofs moderate rooftop temperatures and support much more biodiversity. By reducing average maximum temperatures by about 8°C, it increased solar generation by as much as 107% during peak periods. And while some plant species outperformed others, the vegetation flourished.

A green roof also decreases stormwater runoff, removes a range of run-off pollutants and insulates a building from extremes of temperature. A relatively inexpensive system provides all of these services with moderate maintenance and, best of all, zero energy inputs.

Clearly, biosolar green roofs could make major contributions to net-zero cities. All that's needed is space that currently has no other use.

Peter Irga et al



|   |  |  |
|---|--|--|
| <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Neighbourhood<br/>Forum 5</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Wollongong's<br/>Heartland</b></p> <p><i>Collaborating with Council<br/>on community aspirations,<br/>visions, needs &amp; concerns</i></p> |  | <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Coniston,<br/>Figtree,<br/>Gwynneville,<br/>Keiraville,<br/>Mangerton,<br/>Mount Keira,<br/>Mount St Thomas,<br/>North Wollongong,<br/>West Wollongong,<br/>Wollongong City.</b></p> |
|---|--|--|

**Minutes of meeting on 2<sup>nd</sup> August 2023 by email**

- 1 Presentation** None possible
- 2 Apologies** None
- 3 Minutes** of meeting of 5<sup>th</sup> July were confirmed
- 4 Comments** have been included in these minutes.
- 5 Responses** **5.1** Noted
- 6 Reports**
  - 6.1 Heritage Strategy:**  
It was agreed that a submission be made reflecting the comments made in the agenda.
  - 6.2 Library Strategy:**  
It was agreed that Council be commended on its Library Strategy but request information on current performance over the past five years.
  - 6.3 Industrial Lands Review:** Noted
  - 6.4 BlueScope Community Consultative Committee:** Noted
  - 6.5 Urban Heating Strategy and Air Conditioners;**  
It was agreed that Council be advised of further issues with air conditioners as set out in the agenda.
  - 6.6 Our trains and Maldon Dombarton:**  
It was agreed to:
    - i Write to Ms Alison Byrnes MP for Cunningham to seek advice from the Minister for Infrastructure etc as to if the High Speed Rail Authority can release the strategic business case for improving the South Coast line, and, if such work can be advanced to accompany the upgrading of the Sydney to Newcastle line.

- ii Write to the Hon Paul Scully MP for Wollongong to seek advice from the NSW Minister for Transport if the McNaughton report can be released or at least information be given what it recommended for the South Coast line, and information be given about providing more train services on the South Coast line.
- iii Write to the Hon Ryan Park MP for Wollongong to seek advice from the NSW Minister for Transport about commencing the development of a rail network resilience plan for the South Coast region.

**6.7 Yours and Owls at the University:**

It was agreed to endorse the submission on the Yours and Owls Development Application

**7 Planning**

**7.1 Planning:** Noted

**7.2 DA-2023/493 dual occupancy 54 Lewis Drive Figtree**  
It was agreed that the submission in support be endorsed.

**7.3 DA-2023/507 Timbersports event Belmore Basin W'gong**  
It was agreed that a submission of support be lodged subject to Council being satisfied about the arrangements to control noise, parking and spectators.

**7.4 DA-2023/533 Dual occupancy, 64 Grey Street Keiraville**  
It was agreed that a submission of support be lodged

**7.5 DA-2023/541 Dual occupancy, 17 Evelyn Ave. Figtree**  
It was agreed that a submission of support be lodged

**7.6 DA 2022/1343 3 stories, 11 units, 4-6 Georgina Ave, Keiraville**  
It was agreed that the submission of objection be endorsed.

**7.7 DA determinations:** Noted

**8 General Business**

**8.1 Port Kembla Harbour Environment Group**

The bi-monthly meeting had a presentation on seabed mapping off the coast and the impact of ships mooring. There are 750-900 ships mooring each year for 1 to 5 days and they cause problems particularly for fixed reef species. Currently ships moor fairly indiscriminately over a 40 kilometre stretch of coast.

The study showed that it was better to moor over soft sediments than reef or rock shelves. As a result 11 discreet areas have been selected which are expected to result in a 60% decrease in impact. Monitoring, particularly of fixed reef species, will take place.



The suggested windfarm sites are much further off shore in deeper water and the proponent will have to carry out extensive surveys to demonstrate what the impact might be.

## **8.2 Notification Times for Complying Development.**

The Hon Paul Scully, Minister for Planning and Public Spaces has responded to our concerns about the short period given to nearby residents.

“I appreciate that this is not a very long time, but it is an essential element of the policy to facilitate speedy approvals for straight forward home designs that strictly comply with pre-set development standards. The development standards have been set to balance the rights of landowners to develop, with the protection of amenity of nearby residents. I have asked the Department to consider your feedback and include it as part of any future review of the policy.”

It was agreed thank Minister Scully but re-iterate our concerns about the lack of communications surrounding complying development and suggest that neighbours should be advised of such applications when they are lodged because:

- i if they are unaware, it is a matter of courtesy which might defuse later inter-neighbour friction; and/or
- ii they can check that it really does comply; and/or
- iii they can seek amendments which meet their concerns without negating compliance;
- iv if they do not know about the proposal until two days before construction starts nothing can be done so why notify?

## **8.3 Noise from Construction Sites**

A useful further meeting with Council compliance staff revealed that Council:

- i is updating conditions of consent to ensure they are enforceable and these will be discussed at our next meeting;
- ii has prepared a draft complaints process whereby contact is with the Certifier first and then Council;
- iii will meet with the applicant’s representatives on Cliff Road proposal as soon as a Construction Certificate has been issued to review their processes;

**9 Snippets** Noted

**Date of next meeting**  
**Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> September 2023**

**Please Note:**

Hopefully this will be a hybrid face-to-face/on-line meeting at a location to be advised.