


<p>Neighbourhood Forum 5</p> <p>Wollongong's Heartland</p> <p><i>Collaborating with Council on community aspirations, visions, needs & concerns.</i></p>		<p>Coniston, Figtree, Gwynneville, Keiraville, Mangerton, Mount Keira, Mount St Thomas, North Wollongong, West Wollongong, Wollongong City.</p>
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**Minutes of meeting WEDNESDAY 3rd December 2025 at 6.00
In the Library Theatre**

- 1 **Welcome** 18 members present including Cllrs Kit Docker and Andrew Anthony
- 2 **Presentation** Lord Mayor, Cll Tania Brown, was thanked for her presentation and responding to questions.
- 3 **Apologies** Harold Hanson, Jeremy Lasek, Dorte Eklund, Felix Bronneberg, Tony & Patricia O'Brien,
- 4 **Minutes** of meeting of 5th November were adopted with no matters arising.
- 5 **Comments** are incorporated into these minutes.
- 6 **Caveats** noted
- 7 **Responses** **7.1 Issues awaiting responses:**
It was agreed that submissions or requests to Council be copied to the relevant Director for more timely responses.
- 8 **Reports** **8.1 Flinders St Precinct**
It was agreed that
 - 1 Council be advised of general support for the proposal subject to much clearer vision for the entry statement, and the provision of active transport links to Beaton Park and the city centre, and for a reassessment of the practicality of the View Corridors and their impact on the consistency of the urban form.
 - 2 the NSW Government be requested to advise how and when the infrastructure needs resulting from their recently announced TOD proposals for 5,300 dwellings will be met.

		<p>8.2 City Centre Movement and Place Plan: It was noted that a meeting with Council is awaited, Also see 10.4</p> <p>8.3 Mount Ousley Interchange: It was noted that Council's advice is awaited re changes to the local road network and community involvement processes. Also there continues to be safety concerns about northbound vehicles exiting UOW having to cross two slow truck lanes to proceed north.</p> <p>8.4 Diggies Café Lease: It was noted that Council responses including to GIPA requests have confirmed NF5 documented concerns re the process. On 3 Dec an informative meeting on site with Council reps clarified the extent of seawall, building repairs and internal works, which is scheduled to start in February for 12 months, during which time Diggies café will be closed. Negotiations delegated to the Director are continuing and it is understood a decision is imminent, which will be reported to Council on 15 Dec for public information.</p> <p>8.5 NF5 Charter: The report was noted and the Executive will have further discussions in early 2026.</p> <p>8.6 Wollongong Botanic Garden: noted, but see 10.3</p>
9	Planning	<p>9.1 Noted</p> <p>9.2. DA-2024/875. Shop Top Housing 94-102 Kembla St W'gong It was agreed to endorse the submission of support.</p> <p>9.3. DA-2025/765 mixed use 22-30 Kenny St W'gong It agreed not to make a submission.</p> <p>9.4. DA-2025/787 10 townhouse, 15 Heaslip St Coniston It was agreed that a submission of support be lodged.</p> <p>9.5 DA Determinations: noted</p>
10	General Business	<p>10.1 D2025/664. Dual Occ 1 Gorrell Cresc Mangerton It was agreed that Council be requested to re-advertise this proposal once all the additional documentation has been received.</p>

10.2 Merge of M1 with Memorial drive

It was agreed that

1. again writes to TfNSW
2. ask Council if they also have concerns

10.3 Botanic Garden Café & Visitors Centre

Council recently adopted Wollongong Botanic Garden Master Plan report states the highest item of community feedback was for a dedicated visitor centre and cafe facility located at the Murphy Avenue car park entrance. The response is to conduct an expression of interest (i.e. an open process) for a suitably commercially funded Cafe operation prior to abroad design review of the entry precinct.

If the expression of interest for a cafe in Cratloe Cottage proves unviable, it is expected options will need to be explored on how to achieve a cafe and visitor centre. This will require support and sources of funds, such as from government grants, development contributions, sponsorship etc.

It was agreed that Council be requested to consider forming a small working group of key stakeholders (including community volunteers) who would be involved in assisting Council to develop options for progressing a Cafe and Visitors Centre in stages within the next few years.

10.4 City Centre Environmental Concerns

There are currently four areas of high-rise, high-density development in Wollongong with low tree canopy:

1. Crown, Station, Ellen, Auburn, Atchison, Kenny, Keira, and Burelli streets;
2. West of Gladstone/Crown Sts to Staff Street;
3. Crown/Dennison down to Victoria and Belmore, back up to Crown Street;
4. Flinders Street precinct

To offset the environmental, health, community services and financial impacts, a rigorous risk management plan is needed — including adequate green space, green roofs/walls, and dense on-site planting. Observations of recent developments show minimal compliance: podium-level fringes of planting, artificial grass, and hard surfaces. Moreover no heat mapping has been undertaken recently.

It was agreed to raise this issue at a meeting with Council staff about the City Centre Movement and Place Plan.

10.5 Wollongong Local Planning Panel Meeting

It was noted that this Panel will meet at 5pm Tuesday 16 December 2025 in the Function Room, Wollongong City Council's Administration Building, Level 9, 41 Burelli Street Wollongong and via Microsoft Teams, to determine:

DA-2024/875 94-102 Kembla Street, Wollongong

DA-2023/765 1-3 Stewart Street, Wollongong

DA-2024/875 94-102 Kembla Street, Wollongong

10.6 Agreement for lease and licence on Crown Land at Diggies

It was noted that Council has re-advertised a proposed agreement to lease and licence on Crown Land in accordance with the LG Act and to extend the period to 15 years, being initially 5 years then two extensions each of 5 years.

Submissions by 22 Dec are sought based on the effect of granting the agreement would have on the existing and future use of the Crown Land.

It was agreed the Executive be delegated to make an appropriate submission

11 Snippets: noted

Next Meeting
6.00pm Wednesday 4th February 2026
Library Theatre

Current active membership of Neighbourhood Forum 5 : 464 households

MERRY
CHRISTMAS

