

<p>Neighbourhood Forum 5</p> <p>Wollongong's Heartland</p>		<p>Coniston, Figtree, Gwynneville, Keiraville, Mangerton, Mount Keira, Mount St Thomas, North Wollongong, West Wollongong, Wollongong City.</p>
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Agenda for meeting on Wed 7th July 2021 by email

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| 1 | Presentation | None possible |
| 2 | Apologies | None necessary |
| 3 | Minutes | of meeting of 2 nd June and matters arising; see pp. 14-18 |
| 4 | Comments | If you wish to object or comment on any of the recommendations in this agenda, please respond before the meeting date. |
| 5 | Responses | 5.1 Privatisation of Community Land: see p. 2;
5.2 Foley St Improvements: see p2;
5.3 Bourke St/Cliff Road Intersection: see p2;
5.4 Fairy Creek Pathway: see p2; |
| 6 | Reports | 6.1 WCC Operational Plan 2021/22: see p.2, annex p.11, rec p.3 ;
6.2 Bluescope Liaison: see p.3
6.3 Smith St Cycleway; see rec p.3 ;
6.4 Cosgrove Avenue development: see p.3 rec p.4
6.5 Free Shuttle: see rec p.4
6.6 Transport: see rec p.4
6.7 Keiraville roundabout: see p.4 rec p.5
6.8 Committees and Reference Group minutes: see rec p.5 |
| 7 | Priorities | 7.1 Livability: see annexure p.13, rec p.6
7.2 City Centre: see p.5, annexure p.12, rec p. 5 ;
7.3 Stormwater: see p.6; |
| 8 | Planning | 8.1 – 8.7 DAs: see recs pp. 6-8 ;
8.8 DA determinations: see p.8; |
| 9 | General Business | |
| 10 | Snippets | see p.10 |

Next Meeting/Agenda: on Wed. 4th August 2021.

Current active membership of Neighbourhood Forum 5 : 399 households

5 Responses

5.1 Privatisation of Public Land

“Unfortunately, the Temporary Supportive Accommodation Pilot Project is in its very early stages. Council is not yet in a position to advise the criteria to be adopted with regard to site selection and/or advise on the community consultation process.

Statutory Property Coordinator

Comment

The reluctance to advise criteria or the community consultation process is a concern. The Government’s accelerated privatisation of precious public land is being facilitated by the 2016 Crown Lands Management Act, the State Strategic Plan for Crown Land and the recent Housing Strategy.

5.2 Foley Street Gwynneville

“Council has received a significant number of comments on this proposal. Many of these responses have raised a number of questions and include a number of suggestions/comments that Council is currently reviewing. Taking into account the number of responses and when further investigation into this proposal is completed, Council will undertake a more intensive community engagement process with the community.”

Manager Project Delivery

5.3 Bourke Street and Cliff Road intersection

“It is expected that we will undertake community consultation on this project towards the end of 2021 or early 2022.”

Manager Infrastructure Strategy and Planning (Acting)

5.4 Fairy Creek Shared Path

“Thanks for following up on the Fairy Creek Shared Path. We received many detailed comments on the draft design and have been analysing the feedback in regard to updating the design. We have progressed drawings significantly and made some changes based on comments received such as moving alignment to keep further away from residential properties, adjusting seating, accessibility and planting.

There is still work to do and recent funding secured should ensure some significant improvements in the area. NF5 should be congratulated for championing the Fairy Creek Corridor over many years.”

Landscape Architect

6 Reports

6.1 WCC draft Operational Plan 2021/2022

We submitted a well researched concise 4 page submission covering 13 of the more important issues we wished to raise or comment upon. Unfortunately the report to Council rejected or misunderstood all of the submissions – see Annexure 1 on p.

Recommendations

that members of the executive seek a meeting with the GM to:

- 1 express our disappointment that so many of the submissions, involving projects which we have been promoting for years, still have so low a priority;
- 2 discuss the community issues raised;
- 3 ask what the system is for measuring and timely reporting to the public on the efficiency & effectiveness of the organisation in providing services to the community.

6.2 Bluescope Steel Liaison meeting

They are flat out with high demand, high prices and extra staff – at 3.2 million tons production is as high as ever. They are tightening up on environmental controls with cameras everywhere, and reducing their carbon footprint. They are part of an international push to develop certification for responsible steel production across a wide range of criteria. The number 6 blast furnace refinery is to be upgraded at m\$700 - m \$800 by 2026

6.3 Smith St Cycleway

This was first raised at the August 2020 NF5 meeting and discussions were held in early September with the then Director Infrastructure & Works (I&W), traffic section staff and NF5 reps. Subsequently there has been frequent correspondence with traffic section staff about concerns and the need for adequate community information. In late May iBUG reps held a site inspection, supported the principle of a separated cycleway, and forwarded an audit report to the General Manager with suggested improvements, particularly for intersections. Discussions are continuing with relevant I&W staff.

6.4 Proposed development at Cosgrove Avenue

The proposed modified development for 42 town houses at 14 Cosgrove Ave in Keiraville is due to go to the Land and Environment Court, despite the refusal of the original application by the Southern Region Planning Panel in September 2020 on no fewer than 10 grounds. NF5 had lodged a submission of objection to the proposal.

Further examination of the proposal shows that it is proposed to divert all water runoff from the 2.26 ha site towards Andrews Ave, instead of three subcatchments. Despite the proposed provision of "Green Roofs" and underground water retention tanks, it is clear that if another rainfall event like that of Monday 17 August 1998 happens again, the flooding impact on Andrews Ave and downstream in Keiraville (including Georgina Ave, Robsons Road, Gray St etc) would be made much worse.

Recommendation

that NF5 brings these concerns to Council, and requests that at least one person from NF5 can address the Land and Environment Council on its earlier submission and potential downstream impacts.

6.5 Free Shuttle bus service

It is noted that TfNSW is cutting back Free Shuttlebus services on Saturdays; also that Fremantle, a city smaller than Wollongong has not one but two Free Shuttlebus services, the Red CAT and the Blue CAT, and that each bus stop is equipped with a device giving real time advice as to how many minutes to wait for the next bus.

Recommendation

that NF5 write to Paul Scully and to Wollongong City Council requesting that consideration be given to introducing a second Free Shuttlebus service to Wollongong (to South Wollongong and or Figtree) and that bus stops be upgraded to providing real time advice as to how many minutes to wait for the next bus.

6.6 Transport

It is noted that the NSW State Budget delivered on 22 June had an allocation for work to start in 2023 on a Mt Ousley interchange but no allocation for works to reduce Wollongong Sydney train transit times, despite the NSW Premier on 29 April indicating that work was under way to reduce train transit times for regional NSW

Recommendation

that NF5 write to Paul Scully and Ryan Park asking if a start to work for the Mt Ousley interchange can commence in 2022, and on advice on when work to reduce Wollongong Sydney train transit times may actually start.

6.7 Keiraville roundabout

There has been another traffic accident (possibly serious) involving a cyclist at the Gipps Rd / Robson Rd roundabout. There have been at least three serious accidents involving a bike at this intersection. WCC's Keiraville/Gwynneville Access and Movement study identified this site as a high accident intersection.

The problem is that Robson Rd comes down steeply on either side of the roundabout resulting in cars and cyclists speeding down either way to get up the hill on the other side. This intersection also gets a good number of students on bikes going to UOW.

So far Council has refused to redesign the intersection with a view to calming the traffic despite calls from the Keiraville community or implement a 40km zone as requested by the nearby Keiraville Public School P&C.

The recent accident further highlights the need for a steering committee to support and implement the K/G Access and Movement Strategy, which was adopted by Council in December 2020, ie 7 years after the need was agreed following community workshops, as requested again by NF5 last December, but rejected.

Recommendations

that Council be requested urgently to:

- 1 introduce measures to improve safety at the intersection of Gipps and Robsons Roads;
- 2 appoint a Steering Committee (to include representatives of UoW, WCC, Transport for NSW and NF5) to support and review implementation of the Keiraville Gwynneville Access and Movement Strategy.

6.8 Council Committees and Reference Groups

In late 2017 shortly after this Council commenced the number of Committees and Reference Groups containing community representatives was reduced. Then in late 2020 two new cycling groups were created, so there are now three, ie the

- i Walking, Cycling and Mobility Reference Group (the most recent Minutes on Council website are 2 April 2019 ie over two years ago);
- ii Cycling Technical Advisory Community group (No Minutes on Council website);
- iii Cycling Champions Advisory Group (No Minutes on Council website)

Recommendation

That Council be requested to ensure that the draft Minutes of Council Committees and Reference Groups containing community representatives are posted on Council's website no later than two weeks after each meeting to maintain transparency.

7 Priorities

7.1 Liveability for our Suburbs

We emailed our Ward Councillors about two items in the budget agenda and they persuaded Council to vote to have a briefing on the desired future character of suburbs in the DCP.

Recommendation

that our Ward Councillors be thanked for their support in relation to future character statements in the DCP and that they be sent information in relation to this. See Annexure 3 on p. 13

7.2 City Centre Planning & Development

Council seem to have finally realised the dire straits to which the Mall has fallen and have asked staff to do something including possibly re-introducing traffic. We have been pushing this barrow for what seems like decades – see an excerpt of our report to Council in April 2018 on p.

The usual protocol for re-invigorating a place is to start with an independent survey of users of the mall to establish what are the things they like about it and the things they do not like about it depending on the reason they are there – shopping, business, work, recreation, etc.

This can then be cross referenced against opportunities to increase/improve the things that are liked and reduce/mitigate the things that are not liked. See Annexure 2 on p.

Recommendation

That Council be requested that, before they introduce any significant changes to Crown Street Mall, they undertake an independent survey of users and effective engagement with the community.

7.3 Stormwater Management – nothing more

8 Planning

- 8.1** Please note that whilst this review, and the recommendation 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 assessments. 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 of NF5 before the closing date.

8.2 DA 2021/579 22 town houses 414 Crown St Wollongong

17th June



This is proposal on the old West Wollongong school site. It seems to comply with all Council requirements save the front and some side setbacks, and private open space provision at ground level. All of these are minor and justifiable given the design and the site configuration. It otherwise complies with our Locality Plan for Fairy Creek.

Recommendation

That the submission of support be endorsed

8.3 DA 2021/620 3 lot subdivision 4-6 Gundarun St W. W'ong

22nd June

This is a proposal to amalgamate two lots and then re-subdivide to create an additional lot at the rear. Some relatively insignificant trees will be removed. It seems to comply with Council requirements and our Locality Plan for Figtree. However, it does conflict with our requirement not to increase densities in relatively remote locations had this been a town house development.



Recommendation

That no submission be made be endorsed.

8.4 DA 2021/615 Dual Occ 23 Kirola Ave Mangerton

24th June

This is a proposal for a dual occupancy with a second house built at the back of an existing house. It is single storey and the total floor space ratio meets our Locality Plan requirement. There is a technical issue with the width of the driveway which is acceptable in the circumstances.



Recommendation

That the submission of support be endorsed.

8.5 DA 2021/609 Subdivision & Dual Occ Henley Ave W'gong

22nd June

This is a proposal for a re-subdivision of two lots to allow a dual occupancy on each. The indicative dwelling sites are clearly not in the character of the street and, being in a relatively remote location, the proposal does not comply with our Locality Plan for the area.

Recommendation

That the submission of objection be endorsed.

8.6 DA 2021/705 Homeless Housing, 32 Foley Rd Gwynneville

7th July

This is a proposal for 8 units, on a vacant block zoned Local Business, primarily for female victims of family, domestic or sexual violence and number will have children with them. Council have few controls for this use but there is a very minor infringement of height and minor infringements of the setbacks which would apply to other similar development. Given the shameful number of homeless in Australia this proposal in an accessible location has merit and complies with our Locality Plan for the area.




Recommendation

That a submission of support be lodged

8.7 DA 2021/714 Dual Occ 20 Paulsgrove St Gwynneville

13th July

<p>This is a proposal for a dual occupancy with four bedrooms in each. It is clearly directed towards student accommodation. It seems to comply with all requirements save parking in front of the building line. It complies with our Locality Plan except for this and for the impact on the streetscape which is virtually all of single storey houses on their own lots.</p>	
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Recommendation

That a submission of objection be lodged.

8.8 DA determinations

DA no. 20/...	Suburb	Address	Proposal	Forum Rec	Result Authority
Re-zoning	Figtree	Terrie Ave	Subdivision	Object	Withdrawn
20/645	W.W'gong	39 Rosemount St	Dual Occupancy	Support	Approved Delegated
20/339	Figtree	103 Murray Pk rd	Dual Occupancy	Object	Approved Delegated
19/748	W'gong	264-268 Keira St & 23 Kenny Street	Mixed develop 15 stories	Object	Refused Regional P.
19/980	W'gong	82A Cliff Road	4 Storey Dual Occupancy	Object	Refused Panel
20/241	W'gong	93-95 Kembla St	7 storey residential	Object	Approved Panel
20/632	Gwynneville	14-16 Acacia Ave	8 townhouses	Object	Refused Panel
20/860	Figtree	6 Mallangong Close	Dual Occupancy	Support	Approved Delegated
20/4	Keiraville	14 Cosgrove Ave	Subdivision 47 dwellings	Object	Refused Regional P.
19/1356	W'gong	9-11 Park St	8 storey residential	Object	Approved Panel
20/913	West W'gong	11 Alkera Cc	Dual Occupancy	Support	Approved Panel
20/528	W'gong	359 Crown St	Storey hotel	Support concept Object details	Approved Regional P.

20/307	Figtree	5-7 Truscott Pl	Multi dwelling housing	Object	Refused Panel
20/1098	Keiraville	147 Gipps Road	Dual occupancy		Approved Delegated
20/620	W'gong	JJ Kelly Park	Major events	Support	Approved Panel
20/622	W'gong	102/3 Springhill Rd	Major events	Support	Approved Panel
20/614	W'gong	16-18 Market Pl	4 storey units	Object	Refused Panel
21/45	Gwynneville	12 Gwynne St	Boarding House	Object	Refused Delegated

9 General Business

10 Snippets

Planning in England (and NSW?)

Imagine two wild horses are sprinting towards a cliff top. One represents the continued and radical reform of the existing planning system – think permitted development rights, which will render Local and Neighbourhood Plans largely pointless. This horse is running fast but is exhausted, underfed and producing some dire housing outcomes.

The second horse represents the Planning White Paper. Energetic and well groomed, it looks good from a distance but lacks one essential characteristic – a properly functioning brain. The wild, staring eyes indicate intent, but also a lack of any detailed thought process about how that intent can be realistically be put into action

Hugh Ellis



Annexure 1
WCC Budget report 28 June 2021 compared with NF5 submission

#	NF5 submission	WCC	WCC response includes	Comment
1	Review the organisation's values, including taking into account transparency and accountability	NO	The Integrity value represents the concepts of accountability and transparency	Transparency & accountability are different and critical
2	bring forward the Community Survey in the program so that the results are available before the September election	NO	The community survey is scheduled for Oct 2021	Community satisfaction indicates effectiveness
3	bring forward amendments to the DCP Desired Future Character Statements to 2021-2022	NO	Would require other priority projects to be delayed	This should be very high priority
4	review the capitalised & distributed employee costs of over 13%.	N/A = NO	Response claims the costs are applied on an actual cost basis	Seems to be cost shifting
5a	provide adequate funding in FY 2021-22 for Foreshore Parking Strategy implications	AP = NO	(Note: AP is Already Planned). Doesn't answer request to advance funding to FY 2021-22	Councillors and community have raised this for years.
5b	provide adequate funding in FY 2021-22 for and Implementation of Leading the Way program	AP = NO	Doesn't answer request to advance funding to FY 2021-22	No justification provided
6	provide adequate funds to ensure the draft Integrated Transport Strategy is exhibited by mid 2022.	AP = NO	Expect ITS to start next year and take ~2 years to finalise	ITS is critical to inform all transport plans.
7	provide adequate funds in 2021/22 to review comprehensively the Blue Mile Masterplan in conjunction with the community, at least at level 3 in the CE Policy, ie Involve, and preferably level 4 Collaborate.	AP = NO	No time stated to review the BMMP	BMMP was due to take 5 years and cost \$45m. Expect 15 years and \$150m if all projects done.
8	provide adequate funds in the 2021/22 budget and beyond for the implementation of the Botanic Gardens Masterplan/Asset Management Plan	AP = NO	Refers to IDP which is inadequate thus the submission	Needs funding review.
9	provide adequate funds in the 2021/2122 and /23 budgets to review the City Wide LEP, including extensive and effective community engagement processes;	AP = NO	Budget allocation will be assessed as part of future budget processes	Must be advanced
10	restore estimated costs per project in the IDP to provide an annual reconciliation of estimated and actual costs to ensure transparency and accountability;	NO	Estimated costs may not provide an accurate assessment	Prevents transparency & accountability
11	engage the community in the Design stage of projects, where appropriate, by using the CE Policy's higher levels, ie L3 Involve and in relevant cases ultimately L4 Collaborate	N/A = NO	Council considers who to engage, how to engage and where to engage	CE Policy's higher levels need to be implemented in early stages.

12	review their adopted Place Management approach and provide adequate resources to ensure Place Managers in key areas are effective	NO	Over the next 4 years Council is planning to invest over \$38m ... [NF5 Note: ie <\$10mpa = <10% of CWP v Stormwater is ~27% of assets]	Evidence points to current system being ineffective.
13	urgently correct the apparent gross relative underfunding for Stormwater Services.	NO	Council continues to have a strong place based or precinct process	Stormwater <\$10mpa = <10% of CW Plan versus ~27% of Assets

Annexure 2

City Centre

The city centre ought to be the vibrant heart of the city expressing its culture, identity and tradition, where people can meet, buy, exchange, communicate, work, relax, be entertained and learn. Sadly the Mall has lost its unique climate friendly identity, now replaced with the unfortunate environmental image of uprooted palm trees; has had dismantled the well used and equipped amphitheatre and spaces, now replaced with an intrusive structure and with stone clutter much reducing opportunities for community events; and had removed the playground and water features which gave life and movement. Then a combination of disruption during unnecessarily extensive (and costly) reconstruction, the introduction of paid parking and the massive extensions to the GPT malls means there is ever increasing number of vacant premises and secondary uses.

So we need a heart transplant. This not impossible. Many cities across the world are facing similar issues, although seldom of their own making. However, it should start with an independent survey of users of the mall to establish what are the things they like about it and the things they do not like about it depending on the reason they are there – shopping, business, work, recreation, etc. This can then be cross referenced against opportunities to increase/improve the things that are liked and reduce/mitigate the things that are not liked.

Common practice is to offer incentives for short term occupancy to bring the area's empty shops back to life. These include using the shops for photography exhibitions, art installations and musical performances, rehearsal rooms and art studios, training fashion design and other agencies, swap shops, together with recycling and upcycling, creative squats, craftsmen and artisans exhibiting skills and selling products, and more.

Such endeavours are not going to solve the retail real estate glut. Only a realignment of supply and demand for long-term leases will do that. But in the short term, getting creative with commercial space keeps storefronts filled, which helps keep properties secure and community spirit intact, and may even bring in a little money for would-be landlords to offset costs like utilities, taxes and maintenance.

Annexure 3

DCP Character Statements

The situation is as follows:

- 1 About 90% of residential areas in Wollongong are zoned R2 low density;
- 2 Most types of residential accommodation are permissible;
- 3 The only substantive curb is lot width;
- 4 Most wide lots are in relatively remote locations;
- 5 These are dominated by single storey houses on their own lots;
- 6 The State Government mandates controls over medium density housing;
- 7 Adjoining residents are only advised the day before construction starts;
- 8 The only discretionary control is compliance with the desired street character;
- 9 For most suburbs the DCP's desired future nominates a mix of housing types;
- 10 Or fit the streetscape - and which developer would admit it was otherwise?
- 11 The requirement could be for dwellings facing the street to look like houses;
- 12 That would preserve the streetscape and could be done now;
- 13 Exceptions could be housing near centres, especially dual occupancies;
- 14 The LEP could be changed to allow higher densities on narrower lots here;
- 15 The Neighbourhood Forum Alliance identified these areas in August 2019;
- 16 Amendments to the LEP would take time but be worth the effort.

<p>Neighbourhood Forum 5</p> <p>Wollongong's Heartland</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 e-meeting on Wed 2nd June 2021 by email

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| 1 | Presentation | None possible |
| 2 | Apologies | None necessary |
| 3 | Minutes | of meeting of 5 th May were endorsed and matters arising incorporated where appropriate; |
| 4 | Comments | Incorporated where appropriate. |
| 5 | Responses | <p>5.1 Community Survey: noted</p> <p>5.2 Access to Northern Breakwater: noted;</p> <p>5.3 Connecting Neighbours:
It was agreed to congratulate the Verge Garden winners.</p> <p>5.4 Outstanding responses: noted;</p> |
| 6 | Reports | <p>6.1 Council 2021 budget etc plans:
It was agreed that the submission be endorsed.
Cllr Tania Brown has thanked us for our detailed submission.</p> <p>6.2 Smith Street Cycleway:
It was noted that a recent on-site meeting organised by the Illawarra Bike Users Group (IBUG) supported the cycleway in principle but are making a number of suggestions to improve safety and encourage use.
It was agreed to request Council to hold a wider on-site meeting with NF 5 and IBUG representatives together with affected residents to discuss opportunities for improvements for pedestrians, cyclists and vehicles.</p> |

6.3 Slow speed roads:

It was agreed that Council be requested to liaise with Transport New South Wales to reduce speed limits in selected streets of the City Centre area to 30 km/h within the context of a circulation study and hierarchy of an overall street framework.

6.4 Stuart Park and Foreshore parking:

It was agreed that Council again be requested to:

- i advise how and when the community can be involved in discussing options for providing adequate parking for residents and visitors in the Blue Mile, Stuart Park and nearby residential areas;
- ii advise the process for the long overdue review of the 2008 Blue Mile Masterplan, so that collaborative community engagement is achieved in accordance with Council's Policy; and
- iii allocate adequate funds in FY2021/22 to implement Foreshore Parking Strategy implications.

It was noted that an on-site meeting with Council officers is being arranged to discuss the process, timing and community involvement in developing Plans of Management for Stuart Park and the City Foreshore to comply with the CLM Act 2016

6.5 North Wollongong Surf Club restaurant DA

It was agreed to meet with the surf club if and when they approach us.

6.6 Draft DCP Telecommunications: noted

6.7 Draft Community Engagement Policy:

It was agreed to advise Council of:

- i support in principle for the commendable Policy
- ii welcome that Community Forums have been added to Collaborate, which include Neighbourhood Forums;
- iii request Council's implementation of the Policy first consider Collaboration with the community where appropriate, then Involvement, before Informing what has already been decided..

6.8 Appreciative letter from KRAG: noted;

6.9 NF 5 boundaries: noted;

6.10 Harry Graham Park Bikeway:

It was agreed that Council be advised:

- i of support to make permanent the existing temporary site for the Bike Track in Harry Graham Park provided this is proposed to be a very local facility and others will be built throughout the city;

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ii that if it is not intended to provide similar facilities throughout the city then the Forum would support moving the track to Langston Park Reserve provided there is local support; iii that if there is not support then a site in Figtree Park be investigated.
		<p>6.11 Draft City Centre Heritage Study: It was agreed that the proposed additions to the Heritage Schedule, including 14 Acacia Avenue Gwyneville, be supported.</p>
		<p>6.12 Draft Child Safe Policy: It was agreed to support the policy</p>
		<p>6.13 Synthetic Playing Fields: Council again be urged to review the use of synthetic playing fields especially that proposed at Kooloobong oval.</p>
7	Priorities	7.1 – 7.3: noted.
8	Planning	<p>8.2 DA 2021/459 3 units at 30 Keira Street, Wollongong It was agreed to endorse objection to this proposal.</p> <p>8.2 DA determinations: noted.</p>
9	General Business	<p>9.1 Privatisation of Public Land We queried projects Council is proposing in relation to the NSW Government’s Temporary Accommodation Pilot Projects. Council has responded: ”At this stage, the Project is in its early stages. As the Project progresses and the proposed sites are assessed against applicable planning controls, Council will be in a position to seek community feedback.”</p> <p>It was agreed to ask Council to spell out the criteria they are using to select public land they consider suitable for use as temporary accommodation and give early notice to the community of the sites they have selected.</p> <p>9.2 Liveability for our Suburbs We asked Council to develop protocols for community involvement in the DA appeals process; to amend the DCP Desired Future Character Statements and to provide adequate engagement on the Cosgrove Avenue DA. The response only addressed the last point.</p> <p>It was agreed to re-iterate queries on the first two points.</p>

9.3 Foley Street Safety upgrades.

We discovered via representations from residents and Facebook that Council is about to embark on a number of detrimental proposals without adequate engagement.

It was agreed to advise Council of our extreme disappointment at the lack of engagement on this project, set out objections to the shortcomings of specific proposals and suggest improvements.

9.4 University Liaison

The bi-monthly liaison meeting with University representatives confirmed that the Federal Govt recently announced it has allocated m\$240 towards the estimated m\$300 Mt Ousley interchange, but timing is uncertain because it is in a 10 year program. However, NSW funding suggests that the project should be shovel ready in 18 months. NF5 will contact RMS Wollongong re design and community engagement details.

Work on the DA for Kooloobong synthetic playing fields adjacent the Botanic Gardens is on hold due to funding constraints. UOW is aware of DPIE investigations into alternative surfaces triggered by environmental and health concerns. It was confirmed that approx 1,000 units of student accommodation at the Uni built in recent years is now owned and managed by the UOW.

100 extra carparking spaces are being provided at Campus East and it is expected that students will use the free bus to access the Uni. Discussions with Council and the Department of Planning are ongoing re the DA for the Health and Wellbeing Precinct, including re the pedestrian spine and strategic context.

It was agreed to congratulate the new Vice-Chancellor on her appointment and indicate the good relationship we have with her staff.

9.5 Lower Crown Street Improvements.

Council are proposing marginal changes to Lower Crown Street from Kembla to Corrimal Streets. Plan is attached. It was agreed that Council be requested to review the proposal, taking into account opportunities for significant improvements to activate the street and make it more people friendly with increased footpath widths, encourage outdoor dining and perhaps introducing a 10kph share zone, in conjunction with the Gehl Study work and traffic and parking considerations. Please give any comments to the secretary by 9th June.

9.6 Keiraville Gwynneville Access and Movement

We asked for a collaborative approach to the implementing the relatively sparse Action Plan adopted by Council in Dec 2020 as it lacked essential details such as estimated costs, timeframe, funding sources, lead agency and partners. It is now 6 years since Council endorsed preparation of the Strategy and the community is keen to help Council implement it.

The very disappointing response is that:

“Council does not have the capacity for additional meetings and at this stage the work is still in progress and they are not in a position to share the immediate future.”

It was agreed to advise Council of our disappointment at the lack of progress of this Plan and the apparent lack of willingness to connect with the community especially given the huge amount of time and effort the community put into developing the strategy in the first place.

10 Snippets noted

Next Meeting/Agenda: on Wed. 7th July 2021.

Current active membership of Neighbourhood Forum 5 : 397 households
