

<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>
--	--	--

**MINUTES of meeting WEDNESDAY 1ST April 2026 at 6.00
In the Library Theatre**

- 1 Presentation No presentation on Seawall due to unavailability.
2. Apologies Cllr Andrew Anthony, Philip Laird, Arnold McLean, Patricia O'Brien, Tony Thompson, Tony Konjarski, Nick Tambakis
- 3 Minutes of meeting of 4th March were adopted with no matters arising:
- 4 Comments noted
- 5 Caveats **noted**
- 6 Responses
 - 6.1 **Council's Code of Meeting Practice:**
It was agreed that NF5 executive make further appropriate representations requiring Council to provide timely available details of closed workshops, including items raised at the meeting, to ensure transparency, accountability and compliance with the requirements of the Minister for Local Government.
 - 6.2 **Continental Pool:**
It was agreed the Manager be thanked for the response and it is requested he advise on progress with proposed actions in time for the next NF5 meeting on 6 May.
 - 6.3 **North Wollongong Beach Seawall Stage:**
It was agreed that Council be requested to establish a working group comprising key stakeholders (including representatives of the Surf Club, affected businesses and NF5) to meet regularly to share information and monitor progress on the seawall and café/kiosk/annexe refurbishment project.

6.4 Cat Containment: noted

7 Reports

7.1 Our trains:

It was agreed that NF5 write to Hon Paul Scully MP asking him to inquire of NSW Transport Minister John Graham as to when Wollongong train users may expect to see more trains on the South Coast line, as promised by the former NSW government, and may they be provided this year, particularly given the current fuel crisis. Also to advise whether the new trains will continue to go to Bondi Junction in peak hours and weekends, and to confirm that in any timetable change, trains will continue to stop at North Wollongong, and Wollli Creek.

7.2 V8 Supercar race proposal:

It was agreed that NF5 requests that Wollongong City Council and Destination Wollongong consults broadly and early with the community should a formal proposal for V8 Supercar races be received and specifically with Newcastle City Council to better understand lessons learnt from their experience as a host city.

7.3 Gwynneville Homes NSW Proposal update:

It was agreed that:

- 1 Council be requested, in its chosen role in managing the Gwynneville housing project, to provide similar rigor to Homes NSW Bellambi project in providing comprehensive expert reports and particularly re developing comprehensive costed plans for essential infrastructure and services investment and to strengthen social cohesion.
- 2 Ryan Park be thanked for his support and arranging a meeting in the near future with senior representatives of Homes NSW, WCC, KRAG and NF5.

7.4 E-bikes: noted.

7.5 Friends of MacCabe Park: noted

7.6 Wollongong Jetty:

It was agreed that NF5 expresses its concerns to Member for Wollongong Paul Scully about the deteriorating condition of Wollongong Harbour's ageing infrastructure, and request a presentation from Transport for NSW (Maritime) about the ongoing maintenance program at Belmore Basin, and to provide a progress report on the implementation of the 2019 Wollongong Harbour Masterplan.

7.7 The Illawarra Mercury Letters to the Editor:

It was agreed that Forum:

- 1 expresses it's disappointment at the apparent decision by *The Illawarra Mercury* no longer to carry its daily editorial and letters to the editor.
- 2 seeks the reinstatement of the letter/editorial page for the reasons outlined in the report to give the local community an opportunity to comment publicly on issues of importance to it;
- 3 requests WCC and local State & Fed MPs to make appropriate representations for reinstatement;
- 4 Encourage members to make their own representations.

7.8 Mount Ousley Intersection Project:

It was agreed that representatives of TfNSW and Fulton Hogan be thanked for the opportunity to discuss these matters and in anticipation of further advice re issues raised.

7.9 Draft Community Safety Plan 2026-2031: noted

8 Planning

8.1 Planning; noted

8.2 DA-2026/141 Dual occ 199 Church St Wollongong

It was agreed that the submission of support be endorsed subject to Council being satisfied that the impact on 201 Church Street is acceptable.

8.3 SSD 6789 5459 Smith and Charlotte Sts W'gong

It was agreed that NF 5 express its concern about the cumulative impact of significant redevelopments departing from Council's development control plans, noting some State provisions to allow higher density do not consider particular localities. However, should Council decide to approve this development, it should be subject to:

- 1 adequate planting of appropriately large street trees spaced to create a joined up shade canopy along all the development's street frontages to contribute to the aspirations of Council's Urban Heat Strategy and its objective to significantly increase the City's tree canopy;
- 2 Council being satisfied that it will not unreasonably contribute to cumulative impact of so many similar developments in the area given the lack of community services, particularly local open space.

8.4 DA-2026/102 12 units 26-30 Ajax Ave North Wollongong

It was agreed that a submission of support be submitted subject to Council being satisfied that it:

- 1 contributes to its Flinders Street Strategy Plan;
- 2 will not constrain unduly the long-proposed future alignment of Ajax Avenue as a link to Stuart Park;
- 3 will not result in potential adverse impact of future flood and/or storm surge events associated with higher sea levels and more extreme weather events as a result of climate change.

9 General Business noted.

10 Snippets: noted

Next Meeting

6 pm Wednesday 6th May 2026
Library Theatre

Current active membership of Neighbourhood Forum 5 : 466 households
