

## Neighbourhood Forum 5

### Wollongong's Heartland

*Collaborating with Council  
on community aspirations,  
visions, needs and concerns.*



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

#### Agenda of meeting **WEDNESDAY 4th March 2026 at 6.00** **In the Library Theatrette**

- 1 Welcome
- 2 Presentation Kathryn Morgan and Patricia O'Brien, Friends of MacCabe Park
- 3 Apologies Harold Hanson, Philp Laird, Ian Young
- 4 Minutes of meeting of 4<sup>th</sup> February and matters arising: see pp.11-17
- 5 Comments If you wish to comment on, or object to, any of the recommendations in this agenda please respond before the meeting date.
- 6 Caveats see p.2
- 7 Responses 7.1 see p.2
- 8 Reports 8.1 MacCabe Park: see **rec p.2**  
8.2 Wollongong Railway Station: see **rec p.3**  
8.3 Wollongong Hospital precinct Plan: **rec p.3**  
8.4 Gwynneville Housing project: see p.3  
8.5 More than a Cyclist: see p.4  
8.6 Regional Food Hub for the Illawarra,: see p.4  
8.7 Secret Meetings: see p.4, **rec p.5**  
8.8 Diggies Lease: see p.4, **rec p.6**
- 9 Planning 9.1 Planning: see p.6  
9.2-3 Development Applications see **recs pp.6&7**  
9.4 DA determinations: see p.8
- 10 General Business see p.9
- 11 Snippets see p.10

Current active membership of Neighbourhood Forum 5 : 467 households

**6 Caveats** Please note that whilst these reports and reviews, together with the recommendations and actions based on them, have 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 them.

**7 Responses. 7.1 Issues awaiting responses**

Partial responses/acknowledgements/actions have been made to some of these items but substantial responses are still to come.

1	Community use of Local Parks –	24/10/2024
2	Allotments and Community Gardens -	25/10/2024
3	Road Safety in Stuart Park	06/11/2024
4	Construction activities on Footpaths	24 /11/2024
5	Acceptable Major Event locations	7/2/2025
6	Wiseman Park Playground	2/4/2025
7	Recycling of packaging	2/4/2025
8	Breakwater Public Access	7/5/2025
9	Parking Restrictions adjacent to Stuart Park	9/6/2025
10	Carers parking	08/11/202
11	DA Notifications	08/11/2025
12	Green Apartments	08/11/2025

**8 Reports 8.1 MacCabe Park**

It is proposed that the Forum prepare a Concept for a Master Plan for MacCabe Park in the hope that this will fast track Council’s timing for a Master Plan which currently appears to be two years away. The urgent need for the Master Plan has become apparent with Council’s recent decision to locate a Skate Park in a prominent central location which hinders the potential future uses in this part of the park which should be explored and determined through a holistic master planning process.

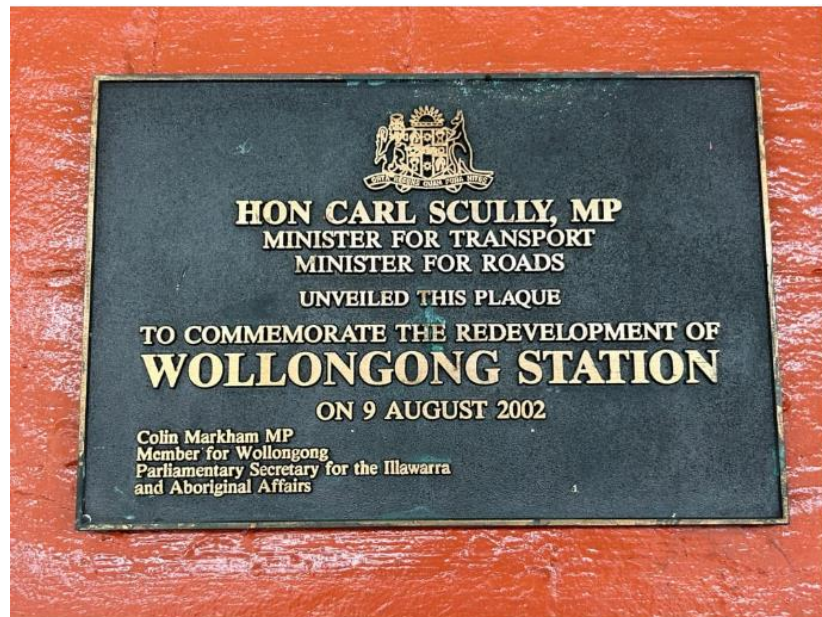
A site meeting at 5pm on Tuesday 3rd March with the speakers will further examine the constraints, opportunities and potential for the park. It is then proposed that at this, the 4<sup>th</sup> March meeting, following the presentation, that we hold a workshop discussion on the issue before proceeding to the rest of the agenda.

Recommendations, that:

1. this issue be discussed before proceeding with the rest of the agenda
2. a working group within NF5 will present an initial Concept for a MacCabe Park Master Plan to NF5 for feedback prior to presenting to Council

## 8.2 Wollongong Railway Station

Council has drawn attention to the lamentable state of Wollongong Railway Station which has not had a significant revamp for nearly 25 years .



### Recommendation

That Transport for New South Wales be requested to advise when it proposes to renovate Wollongong Railway station to a state worthy of its position as the gateway to Wollongong and heritage.

## 8.3 Wollongong Hospital precinct Plan

This plan has been announced to go on exhibition later. Unfortunately details are very obscure.

### Recommendations; that:

- 1 that the Department of Planning and Environment be requested to reveal the draft plans for the Hospital Precinct as soon as possible;
- 2 the Forum make a submission once the plan is on exhibition.

## 8.4 Gwynneville Housing project

Along with those from KRAG, representatives will be meeting with Ryan Park MP on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> February to discuss this issue and will report to the meeting.

### 8.5 More than a Cyclist

Healthy Cities Australia is **launching** the next phase of the national More Than a Cyclist campaign, putting everyday riders at the heart of a safer cycling future for Australia.

There are now **two free ways** organisations can get involved:

- 1 A **ready-to-run option**, using our Starter Pack of social media assets, posters and templates, with space to add your own logo (you just cover any printing or advertising costs).
- 2 A **custom co-branded option**, using the Starter Pack plus design guidelines to create your own local version featuring riders from your own community, supported by an organisation-managed campaign budget.

### 8.6 Regional Food Hub for the Illawarra,

In October 2025, Healthy Cities began work on a new regional Food Hub responding to clear evidence that our region needs centralised food storage and coordination to better support food relief. In its first six months, the project has focused on designing a hub that can significantly increase food rescue through improved transport options and expanded chilled and frozen capacity.

The hub is being planned with fit-for-purpose storage for a wide range of food types, to tackle long-standing challenges faced by local food relief agencies, including logistics, storage and transport limitations. Healthy Cities are now working toward an ambitious goal of having a pilot hub operational by October 2026, with securing funding and strategic support the key next step in turning this essential piece of food security infrastructure into reality. If you're interested in partnerships on the Regional Food Hub, please contact Melinda at [melinda@healthycities.org.au](mailto:melinda@healthycities.org.au)

### 8.7 Council Closed Briefings/Workshops

For decades NSW Councils held regular "Standing" Committee meetings open to the public (such as for Strategy, Finance, Works, Planning, Community Services etc), which made recommendations to full open Council meetings for determination. This enabled Councillors who were members to develop expertise within their "portfolio", and led to better-informed discussions, recommendations, transparency and accountability. But after the Administrators left in 2011 regular closed briefings of Wollongong Councillors have occurred. In Sep 2024, following a review of thousands of complaints since 2020/21, and support from the Minister, the Office of Local Government (OLG) issued a discussion paper titled "Councillor Conduct and Meeting practices - A new framework."

In August 2025 after an extensive consultation process the OLG issued a new Model Code of Meeting Practice for Councils to adopt.

Advice included “preventing councils from holding private councillor briefing sessions to discuss matters that should be considered in the public domain at committee and council meetings.” The LG Act and OLG provide guidelines for closure of meetings to deal with confidential matters.

On 15 Dec 2025 Council adopted the Code of Meeting Practice, but with a new clause titled “Workshops, Strategic Forums and Councillor Development Sessions” which will not be open to the public. This seems to contravene the OLG ban on closed briefings by “rebranding” them to “Workshops.” During the first 14 months of this Council there were 31 separate briefings on 127 issues, and a list of dates and headings was posted on Council’ website, but no reports or outcomes. There were no “Workshop” issues posted in early 2026 until it was discovered that a closed briefing/workshop had been held after the Council meeting on 2 Feb. Then this week Council’s website showed there were 4 workshops with 11 issues in Jan & Feb 2026, but no details.

#### Recommendation

Council be requested to advise their process for providing timely information to the public re workshops including adequate details to ensure transparency and accountability, and compliance with the requirements of the Minister for Local Government

#### **8.8 North Beach Kiosk (Diggies) Lease**

On 23 Feb 2026 Council resolved (in block, without discussion) to seek the Local Government Minister’s consent to grant the proposed agreement for lease and lease of the North Wollongong Beach Café and Kiosk to North Kiosk Pty Ltd for a term of five (5) years with two (2) options of five (5) years. On 15 Dec 2025 Council resolved to accept the offer of North Kiosk subject to the consideration of any submissions made during the statutory notice period under the LG Act, which closed on 23 Dec.

The report included that 2 objections were received and purported to summarise and respond to the objections, including NF5 nine-page objection dated 23 Dec, which was based on research of publicly available information, mainly from Council’s website, correspondence, feedback from residents and at NF5 meetings since Oct 2025.

NF5 objection stated it seems very unlikely, based on Council’s management of this public facility over the past 22 years, that market rent will be imposed to ensure a fair and reasonable return is achieved on behalf of the people of NSW for this Crown Land. Unfortunately the report and a Manager’s responses on 16 Jan and 16 Feb did not satisfactorily resolve the key issues

On a related issue, Council is seeking public submissions by 5 March on a proposed licence to North Kiosk for a pop-up Kiosk on Crown Land north of the surf club area during closure of the existing kiosk while seawall construction and refurbishment works proceed . Clarifications from Council’s relevant Manager have been requested and further information will be available for discussion at NF5 meeting 4 March.

**Recommendation**

NF5 Executive make appropriate submissions on the proposed lease for the existing North Beach Kiosk and the pop-up licence for a temporary kiosk nearby.

**9 Planning**

**9.1** Please note that whilst these reviews, and the recommendations based on them have 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 these reviews have 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.

**9.2 DA-2022/938B Mixed Devt Crown & Parkinson Sts W’gong**

27<sup>th</sup> February

The original proposal was for a 20 storey building with 93 units and 4 stories of commercial, to which the Forum did not object, was approved. Foundations have been constructed. This amendment changes the uses and significantly changes the interiors. It now proposes 123 hotel rooms, 110 units and a 140 place child care centre together with some increase in setbacks.



**Recommendation**

That the submission of support, subject to vigorous controls on vibration and noise emissions, be endorsed.

### 9.3 DA-2026/65 Dual Occ 89 Evans St W’gong

5<sup>th</sup> March

This is a proposal for an attached dual occupancy in a street of single storey detached dwellings. It complies with all Council requirements save stacked parking and streetscape. It does not comply with our Kelly Locality Plan for single family housing with gardens, in areas zoned Residential R2



Recommendations: that

- 1 a submission of objection be lodged;
- 2 Council give consideration to designating the southern end of Evans Street a Heritage Conservation Area.

#### 9.4 DA Determinations

24/96 complies	Keiraville	74 Grey St.	Dual Occ	Support	Withdrawn
24/162 complies	W. W'gong	473 Crown St	7 affordable units + facility	Support	Approved
24/181 complies	Mt Keira	Mt Keira Road	Archery clubhouse	Support	Approved
24/207 faulty	N. W'gong	26-30 Ajax Ave	12 houses	Support	Refused
24/210 faulty	W'gong	41-47 Denison St	17 stories, 75 units	Support	Refused
24/290 complies	W'gong	2 Auburn St	Dog day care	Support	Approved
24/436 complies	W'gong	55 Corrimal St 5 Georges Place	6 stories 11 units	Support	Approved Panel
24/476 faulty	W'gong	264-6 Kenny St	19 stories, 113 units	Object	Deemed refusal
24/477 faulty	W. W'gong	33 Parsons St.	3 houses	Object	Refused
24/538 complies	W'gong	65 Gladstone Ave	Dual Occ	Support	Approved
24/599 faulty	W'gong	109-115 Church St	9 stories, 45 units	Object	Approved
24/574 complies	Coniston	47 Robertson St	Dual Occ	Support	Approved
24/608 faulty	W'gong	Keira and Kenny Sts	14 stories, 116 units	Object	Withdrawn
24/776 faulty	W'gong	14 Finlayson St	Dual Occ	Support	Approved
24/788 faulty	Keiraville	19 Rose St	Dual Occ	Object	Approved
24/860 faulty	Keiraville	13 Braeside Ave	Dual Occ	Support	Withdrawn
24/722 faulty	W'gong	49 Mangerton Rd	Dual Occ	Not to object	Approved
24/796 faulty	Figtree	14 Mallangong Close	Dual Occ	Support	Approved
24/803 faulty	W'gong	34 Evans St	Dual Occ	Support	Approved
24/812 faulty	Gwynneville	26 Crawford Ave	Dual Occ	Support	Approved
25/131 faulty	W'gong	89 Evans St	Dual Occ	Noted	Refused
25/594 complies	W'gong	60 McKenzie Ave	Dual Occ	Support	Approved
25/787 faulty	Coniston	15 Heaslip St	10 townhouses	Support	Approved

## Not yet determined

23/765 faulty	W'gong	1-3 Stewart St	13 stories, 27 units	Object
23/945 complies	W'gong	98-104 Gipps St	5 storey commercial	Support
24/510 faulty	W'gong	17-19 Gladstone Ave	47 units, 12 stories	Object
24/708 faulty	W.W'gong	93 Robsons Rd	10 Co-living rooms	Support
24/875 faulty	W'gong	94-102 Kembla St	58 units,7 stories	Support
25/79 complies	Keiraville	35 Bulwarra St	Dual Occ	Support
25/139 faulty	W'gong	15 Marr St	Extra 6 units, 2 stories	Object
25/162 complies	Gwynneville	222 Gipps Road	Dual Occ	Support
25/454 complies	Coniston	57 Robertson St.	Dual Occ	Support
25/466 complies	W'gong	23 Finlayson St.	Warehouse	Object
25/472 complies	Figtree	79 Belleview Rd,	Dual Occ	Object
25/477 complies	Gwynneville	5 Acacia Ave	Dual Occ	Support
25/510 faulty	W'gong	17-19 Gladstone Ave	Extra 3 stories, 12units, 8 affordable	Object
25/1226 faulty	W'gong	37-39 Burelli St,	Extra 19 units, 4 stories	None
25/664 faulty	Mangerton	1, Gorrell Cres	Dual Occ	Object

## 10 General 10.1

### Business

Next Meeting  
**6.00pm Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> April 2026**  
Library Theatre

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## 11 Snippets University of the Third Age

Like Neighbourhood Forum 5, the Wollongong Group of the University of the Third Age is very active in supporting people in our community. They cater to those who get together to help each other in a learning/social experience. Whilst NF 5's focus is on local community issues in general, and those relating back to Wollongong City Council in particular, the U3A has a broader remit offering affordable learning opportunities that help keep the brain stimulated and the body active in order to contribute to life long well-being.

As with NF5, the U3A has no formal entry requirements, no examinations and no "awards" – just opportunities to learn for the fun of it in a socially supportive and informal environment. It is open to anyone.

In addition to illustrated morning talks twice a week on a range of topics with excellent local and outside speakers, small groups meet to discuss issues such as current affairs, philosophy, archaeology, and even film appreciation.

It would seem that the two groups complement each other rather well with NF 5 dealing with the nitty gritty of local community aspirations, visions, needs & concerns, whilst the U3A sets a broader context of general knowledge which can inform responses as they emerge.

