

<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 6th August 2025 at 6.30
In the Library Theatre**

18 members present including Cllrs Andrew Anthony and Kit Docker

- 1 Presentations Denise Aubourg and Greg Knight were thanked for their talk on Household Electrification and Community Energy
- 2 Apologies were accepted.
- 3 Minutes of meeting of 2nd July were adopted with no matters arising.
- 4 Comments Noted
- 5 Caveats **Noted**
- 6 Responses
 - 6.1 Beaton Park Feasibility Business Case**
It was agreed that the Forum seeks an assurance from Council that all (major and minor) sports are fully consulted in the development of a new Beaton Park strategy, and that Council reconfirms its commitment that no current users will be disadvantaged if it's decided to relocate sports. NF5 supports the Lord Mayor's public comments that any new indoor sporting facilities to be provided will be the equal or better than those currently being used at Beaton Park.
 - 6.2 Robinson Park**
It was agreed that Council be requested to provide a tap and bubbler near the playground and to provide a bin so that residents who regularly collect rubbish don't have to take it home to their bins.
 - 6.3 Issues awaiting responses:** the 25 items were noted

7.1 Council Code of Meeting Practice

It was agreed that Council be advised that the Forum continues to object to the public being excluded from Briefing Sessions because they are not consistent with Council's avowed goal of an inclusive community, nor the fundamentals of transparency and accountability.

7.2 Botanic Gardens Masterplan Submission

It was agreed that:

- 1 a submission on the Wollongong Botanic Garden draft Masterplan be made in accordance with the report;
- 2 the submission include a request to restore functioning The Illawarra Mercury Five Islands Fountain given its importance to Wollongong's cultural history;
- 3 residents provide separate submissions to Council by 20 August, with a copy to NF5 secretary beforehand if they wish issues to be included in NF5 submission

7.3 BlueScope Community Consultative Committee: noted**7.4 University of Wollongong Liaison: noted****7.5 Floodplain Risk Management Committees:** noted that the first meeting of the Central Floodplain Committee since April 2024 is on 19th August.**7.6 Disability Inclusion Action Plan**

It was noted that this Plan is currently on exhibition and that Council has set up a Care and Disability Action Committee.

It was agreed that:

- 1 Council be requested to review the difficulty people with a disability have in negotiating crowded footpaths in the CBD;
- 2 Members with, or caring for others with, a disability are encouraged to make a submission.

7.7 Mount Ousley Intersection:

It was agreed that all those involved in working since May 2024 towards re-instatement of the shared path bridge to enable an active transport link across Mt Ousley Rd be thanked for their tireless efforts, in particular local Federal MP Alison Brynes, and State MPs Ryan Park and Paul Scully

7.8 Road Safety in Keiraville:

It was agreed that the Forum write to Council asking for an outline of their preferred options to improve road safety at each Keiraville location and an estimate of the cost.

		<p>7.9 Planned NSW ban on e-mobility devices on trains It was agreed that NF5 supports Council's approach to obtain more details:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 about the proposed e-mobility ban on trains; 2 on the Government's response to the recommendations in the Parliamentary Committee's Feb 2025 Report,; 3 on the Government's Implementation Plan, including opportunities for community involvement.
		<p>7.10 Figtree Proposals: noted</p>
		<p>7.11 West Wollongong proposal It was agreed that Members interested in, or potentially affected by, higher densities in this area, and/or reviewing the Transition Area in the Fairy Creek Locality Plan contact the secretary: by email or on 0429 606 126.</p>
8	Planning	<p>8.1 Planning: Noted</p> <p>8.2 Planning Proposal increase height 163-171 Crown St W'gong It was agreed that a submission of support be lodged.</p> <p>8.3 DA-2025/454 dual occ 57 Robertson St. Coniston It was agreed that the submission of support be endorsed.</p> <p>8.4 DA-2025/466 industry 23 Finlayson St. Wollongong It was agreed that the submission of objection be endorsed.</p> <p>8.5 DA-2025/472 dual occ 79 Belleview Rd, Figtree It was agreed that the submission of support be endorsed.</p> <p>8.6 DA-2025/477 dual occ 5, Acacia Ave Gwynneville It was agreed that the submission of support be endorsed.</p> <p>8.7 DA Determinations: noted</p>
9	General Business	<p>9.1 Port Kembla Harbour Environment Committee The Port Kembla Harbour Environment Group meet on Tuesday 5 August. Items discussed included Manildra's \$65 million beverage grade ethanol export facility at Port Kembla now has 6 new tanks erected to allow for a combined storage of 24 million litres. Construction of an 800 metre pipeline is now underway to and long Berth 6 with operations to start in 2026. The product will be trucked from Shoalhaven Starches in big A-Double trucks along designated routes including Five Islands Road and avoiding Windang (and Warrawong).</p>

A new development is Manildra working with Borg to examine the option of importing ethanol from a New Zealand producer via Port Kembla, for it to be trucked to Oberon, for use in the manufacture of sustainable wooded building materials.

A question was raised about the 2023 Port Kembla Land Use Safety Study cumulative risk from the industrial facilities and operations to determine the appropriateness of bulk liquid storage tank development.

Bluescope is undergoing berth remediation, including Berth 113 and the relocation of a coke loader.

Grain spillage from trucks accessing the Grain Terminals leading to loss of life of birds on roads appears to have been addressed.

9.2. Stuart Park Management

Issues are to be raised at the September meeting.

9.3. DA. Crown Street

It was agreed Council be requested to advise on the current status of the building at 373 Crown Street, given that Serious Defects had to be rectified by 12th June (electricity) and by 12th August (concrete slabs).

9.4. Wollongong Harbour Northern Breakwater

It was agreed that Council and (the relevant NSW department concerned) yet again be to advise of progress on resurfacing its disgraceful condition and controlling on-going bombardment of vessels with dislodged rocks.

9.5. Bus Shelter

It was agreed that Council be requested to upgrade/renew the bus shelter on the northern footpath outside the Novatel between Cliff Road and Kembla Street,

10 Snippets Noted

Next Meeting:

**6.00pm Wednesday 3rd September
in the Library Theatrette**

Current active membership of Neighbourhood Forum 5 : 468 households
