

<p><b>Neighbourhood Forum 5</b></p> <p><b>Wollongong's Heartland</b></p> <p><i>Collaborating with Council on community aspirations, visions, needs &amp; concerns.</i></p>		<p><b>Coniston, Figtree, Gwynneville, Keiraville, Mangerton, Mount Keira, Mount St Thomas, North Wollongong, West Wollongong, Wollongong City.</b></p>
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**MINUTES of meeting WEDNESDAY 4<sup>th</sup> June 2025 at 6.30  
In the Library Theatre**

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| 1 | Welcome      | to all and acknowledgement of country was noted  |
| 2 | Presentation | John Riggall was thanked for his update on Mount Ousley Interchange project.   |
| 3 | Apologies    | Cllr Kit Docker, Cllr Andrew Anthony, Harold Hanson, Jeremy Lasek, Dorte Eklund  |
| 4 | Minutes      | of meeting of 7 <sup>th</sup> May were adopted with no matters arising save the addition of the implications of Transport Oriented Development and other State Planning initiatives. It was noted that these override all Council's policies and controls and they are reviewing the impact on a place by place basis.   |
| 5 | Comments     | Noted  |
| 6 | Caveats      | <b>Noted</b>   |
| 7 | Responses    | <p><b>7.1 Parking restrictions adjacent Stuart Park:</b><br/>It was agreed that Council again be requested to review interpretations of relevant NSW road rules and advise accordingly.</p> <p><b>7.2 Building Commissioner and Certification:</b><br/>It was agreed that Council again be requested to arrange a meeting with NF5 representatives and specifically to discuss:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 how to make progress with this matter;</li> <li>2 what matters can be referred to the Building Commissioner;</li> <li>3 how do people report issues without having to put in a formal complaint through then Department of Fair Trading;</li> </ol> |

- 4 what are the local contact details for the Building Commissioner and why are these details not included on the Building Commissioners web site?

**7.3 Issues awaiting response:** Noted with alarm.

8 Reports

**8.1 draft Wollongong Station Precinct Master Plan**

It was agreed that:

- 1 a provisional submission be made along the lines of the Agenda report;
- 2 the submission to include a recommendation that the Appendix 1 of Wollongong LEP 2009 be amended to permit commercial development on land adjacent to Wollongong railway station in the SP2 Infrastructure zone;
- 3 the NSW Department of Planning be requested to hold a workshop, to include the community, to review all options and ideas for the precinct and its connection to the CBD, Sydney CBD, the medical precinct, and as a major transport hub and interchange.

**8.2 draft DCP Temporary Events:**

It was agreed that the proposal be supported to exempt the need for a Development Application for Community or Commercial based events on Council land provided that they are advertised for community consultation before consideration and determination.

**8.3 draft DCP Appendix 4 – Definitions:**

It was agreed that Council be requested to review the need for this Appendix

**8.4 Bushfire Risks:**

In response to the Government's request for feedback on the draft Illawarra Bush Fire Risk Management Plan 2025-2030, it was agreed that Paul Scully MP and Ryan Park MP be:

- 1 implored urgently to make representations to the relevant Minister to seek the Government's review of the local fire fighting capacity and response in the light of the potential bushfire catastrophe; and
- 2 the Government take into account matters raised in NF5 Agenda item 4 June and specifically, to ensure greatest benefit from the finite RFS resources in detecting bush fire ignitions early by implementing programmes such as:
  - i education the community to inform authorities if smoke is detected;
  - ii strategic elevated paid full time observers;
  - iii dedicated continuous aircraft / helicopter monitoring;

- iv fitting under fuselage cameras to commercial; flights flying intercapital city and regional areas;
- v via satellite high resolution monitoring.
- vi upgrade and maintain fire trails, in particular that between Mt. Keira and Mt. Pleasant.

#### **8.5 Community Improvement Districts:**

It was agreed that Council be strongly encouraged to set up a Community Improvement District for the Wollongong CBD as soon as the legislation is implemented.

#### **8.6 Freight Policies:**

It was agreed that

- I That Paul Scully MP and Ryan Park MP be asked for a progress report on the NSW Freight Policy Reform Program and when may the South Coast rail resilience study be released.
- 2 that Ms Alison Byrnes MP be asked for advice as to when the revised National Freight and Supply Chain Strategy may be released.

#### **8.7 Issues raised at the May meeting:**

These were noted in particular that the situation of E bikes will be revisited once the legislation clarifies.

However, despite this, it was agreed that Council be requested to respond to the E-bike implications of:

- 1 Bourke/Virginia Street cycleway/shared route and to release a copy of the risk assessment;
- 2 the rejection of the Fairy Creek Crossing route as an alternative, and release the reasons for doing so;
- 3 any advice from Transport for NSW on whether the installation in Virginia Street and proposed in Bourke Street are compliant with the Road Rules and whether the installations constitute a footpath or a cycleway or a shared way under the Road Rules with particular reference to rule 13;
- 4 whether the law as current allows persons over the age of 16 to ride bikes on the footpath if the installation constitutes a footpath;

#### **8.8 Mount Ousley Interchange:**

It was noted that NF5 May minutes included to request further clarification re TfNSW response 5 May 2025 to NF5 notes of meeting 10 Dec 2024. Following recent discussions with Council's relevant Manager, and considerations at NF5 meeting re a range of concerns related to the MOI project, including traffic merging at various locations, it is understood that some issues might not be addressed within the scope of TfNSW existing MOI contract.

It was agreed to seek clarification from TfNSW re responses, future funding and timing of issues including re:

- 1 northbound vehicles from UoW north exit proceeding uphill on M1 to merge and cross 2 truck lanes to get into the third lane;
- 2 southbound vehicles from University Ave proceeding south to merge with M1 south bound traffic in the 80km/h zone;
- 3 impacts of changes in traffic to and from UoW on surrounding local road network (including at MO Rd/Princes Hwy intersection roundabout);
- 4 proposed reinstated shared path bridge over MO Rd;
- 5 southbound M1 vehicles merging with Northern Distributor southbound traffic;
- 6 the Infrastructure Australia listed future “Safety and Resilience Improvement” project on M1 between Picton Rd and the MOI project.

9 Planning

**9.1 Planning; noted**

**9.2 DA-2025/323 3 houses 16 Hillcrest St W’gong:**

It was agreed to endorse submission made in accordance with the agenda report.

**9.3 DA determinations:**

It was noted that, despite some criticism that we are often anti-development NIMBYs, of this month's running total of DA determinations, all the 4 of the 22 which were contrary to our submission were refused despite our support. None approved when objecting.

It was agreed to request Council to make representations to the Land and Environment Court in circumstances where, following an appeal against a refusal, the applicant amends plans, to allow objectors and the community to see the amendments, and Council’s re-assessment, and to make submissions prior to the Court’s determination.

10 General Business.

**10.1 Flinders Street Precinct Proposals**

It was agreed to congratulate Council on convening a community workshop at a very early stage in the project and that a preliminary submission be made outlining suggestions that:

- 1 The Precinct must recognise the primacy of the street as the main entrance to the city centre.
- 2 The Plan should include activities by Council and others, as well as adjustments to the planning regime.
- 3 To this end it should have an avenue of large trees to hide, or limit, the sight of the disarray of adjoining buildings.

- 4 The powerlines should be put underground or relocated to west of the railway track.
- 5 There needs to an entry statement as one comes over the bridge, but preferably near the Ajax Avenue traffic lights in association with the flood plain corridor landscaping.
- 6 Height limits and floor space ratio should be consistent on either side of the street once past the entry statement.
- 7 This is more important than views of Mt Kembla which realistically can only be pursued at the ends of Bourke and Gipps.
- 8 There needs to be a pedestrian/cyclist access from North Wollongong, where there is a glaring deficiency in local open space, across the railway to Beaton Park, preferably at Gipps Road.
- 9 The suggestion of employment concentrated along the railway and in the north can probably be supported without the need to re-zone, but with encouragement of the areas opposite Beaton Park and near North Wollongong station to be primarily shop housing.
- 10 In terms of statutory changes suggest:
  - i both sides of Flinders south of Bourke should be residential, other than adjacent to the railway;
  - ii the floor space ratio to remain as is;
  - iii height of buildings to be 24m both sides south of Bourke and reduced to 16m in the north to make a statement of arrival.

## **10.2 Locally Based Steel**

In the light of recent tariff imposts, it was agreed to request Paul Scully MP and Ryan Park MP to seek to ensure the government specifies to use of local steel on all their projects.

## **10.3 Annual General Meeting**

It was noted that the Annual General Meeting will be held on 2<sup>nd</sup> July at which we need to reaffirm our Policies, and in particular our Locality Plans which might be overshadowed by arbitrary State legislation. An election of a Convenor and Co-Convenor is not required until next year.

11 Snippets noted

**Next Meeting and Annual General Meeting**  
**6.30pm Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2025**  
**Library Theatre**

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Current active membership of Neighbourhood Forum 5 : 461 households

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