

<p><b>Neighbourhood Forum 5</b></p> <p><b>Wollongong's Heartland</b></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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### Agenda for meeting on Wed 4<sup>th</sup> August 2021 by email

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|----|------------------|--|
| 1  | Presentation     | None possible  |
| 2  | Apologies        | None necessary   |
| 3  | Minutes          | of meeting of 7 <sup>th</sup> July and matters arising; see pp. 12-14  |
| 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 Extending the Free Shuttle: see p. 2;<br>5.2 Character and Sustainability: see p. 2;<br>5.3 Greening: see p. 2;<br>5.4 Responses awaited: see p. 2;  |
| 6  | Reports          | 6.1 Housing Strategy: see <b>rec p.3</b> ;<br>6.2 Tourism Accommodation Review: see p. 3 & <b>rec p.4</b> ;<br>6.3 Neighbourhood Forums' Alliance; see p.4<br>6.4 Riparian Land Management Policy amended draft: see <b>rec p.5</b><br>6.5 Mobile Food Vending Policy trial: see <b>rec p.6</b><br>6.6 Outdoor Dining Policy: see <b>rec p.6</b><br>6.7 Pesticide Notification Policy draft review: see <b>rec p.6</b><br>6.8 Development contributions Plan 2021: see <b>rec p.6</b><br>6.9 Crown Reserves Plan of Management: see p.6 & <b>rec p.7</b><br>6.10 Smith St Cycleway update: see p.7<br>6.11 Safe Streets to School: see p. 8;<br>6.12 Illawarra Escarpment Mountain Bike Concept Plan: see p. 8 |
| 7  | Priorities       | 7.1 Livability: see p.8<br>7.2 City Centre: see p.,8<br>7.3 Stormwater: see p.8  |
| 8  | Planning         | 8.1 DAs: see p.8<br>8.2 DA determinations: see p.9   |
| 9  | General Business |  |
| 10 | Snippets         | see p.10   |

**Next Meeting/Agenda: on Wed. 1<sup>st</sup> September 2021.**

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**Current active membership of Neighbourhood Forum 5 : 399 households**

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## **5 Responses 5.1 Extending the Free Shuttle**

The General Manager picked this up from our minutes and indicated that he is making moves to get it implemented.

### **5.2 Character and Sustainability**

As an item for the Forums' Alliance meeting with Council – see 6.3 below – we raised character statements and the location of medium density housing.

“A Councillor briefing (the new Council) will guide a way forward. Character statements will need to be linked to the draft Housing and Affordable Housing Strategy – so locations identified for 00 more housing, or no increase in housing are tagged appropriately.” And

“Housing densities will be determined via the draft Housing and Affordable Housing Strategy. The draft Housing and Affordable Housing Options paper (2020) included the Forums suggestions. It will be up to the new Council as to what goes into the future Strategy”.

As noted in 6.1 below this is dragging on and on. These two elements are far more important to the local environment and communities than semantic changes to the Community Strategy.

#### **Recommendation**

that, given their critical importance to the local environment and communities, Council be requested to set out a programme and timetable urgently to achieve a responsible approach to sustainable suburban development.

### **5.3 Greening**

As an item for the Forums' Alliance meeting with Council – see 6.3 below – we raised the priority for street tree planting, for deep planting requirements to reinforce the streetscape and for the greening of new major buildings.

“The street tree planting priority is based on a suburb-by-suburb assessment of those with lowest current tree cover having the highest priority”

It is accepted and understood that the priority for street planting is on a suburb-by-suburb basis of overall need. However, within that there needs to be priorities set based on potential impact such as heavily trafficked roads, routes to schools or commercial centres. We need to discuss how the Forum can assist when the time comes.

### **5.4 Responses are awaited for:**

- 1 Mount Ousely Interchange: 8<sup>th</sup> July
- 2 Keiraville roundabout: 8<sup>th</sup> July
- 3 Reference Groups minutes: 8<sup>th</sup> July

## 6 Reports

### 6.1 Housing Strategy

On 16 March 2020, Council resolved to exhibit the draft Housing and Affordable Housing Options Paper. Now, over two years later Council have resolved to

- 1 note the community feedback received during the exhibition of the draft Housing and Affordable Housing Options Paper;
- 2 the feedback be used to guide the preparation of the draft Housing and Affordable Housing Strategy;
- 3 the draft Housing and Affordable Housing Strategy be reported to Council for endorsement prior to exhibition.

#### Recommendation

Council be requested to set out a programme and timetable to expedite the adoption of the Housing Strategy, now long overdue, as a matter of urgency.

### 6.2 Tourism Accommodation Review

Council has undertaken a massive 120 page review crammed with statistics and very detailed analysis of both the local (suburb by suburb), state, national and international situation which seems far more elaborate than is necessary to make the point of the need for more accommodation venues primarily to serve the domestic market. It goes on to suggest changes to the LEP and DCP to encourage this. These include:

	Provision	Comment	Response
1	Permitting Hotel and Motel Accommodation in the R1 General Residential zone, that surrounds the Wollongong City Centre.	The area has good accessibility to services and recreational venues.	Support
2	Increasing the floor space ratio for hotel and motel accommodation by 0.5:1 in this zone.	Setbacks and other controls were put in place when the fsr was lower than the arbitrary figure we now have, and the need to safeguard the amenity of existing and future residential complexes. Moreover, pressure would then be brought to bear to further increase height limits achieve other controls.	Strongly object
3	Commercial core and Mixed Use zones - an additional 0.5:1 for existing and proposed hotel and motel accommodation, and backpacker accommodation.	The commercial core is already way over the top in terms of fsr but further limiting the non-tourism residential component is a better way to go unless it is excluded from significant areas as the City Centre Strategy Study recommended.	Object

4	Removing farm stay accommodation use, being a means to get a dwelling house approved, on a property in an E3 Environmental Management zone.		Support
5	Reducing car parking standards to a lower rate in locations close to rail stations (with frequent train services).	The trend in demand for additional tourism accommodation rooms is from domestic visitors. Reducing car parking availability on-site would be a disadvantage.	Object

#### Recommendation

That a submission be lodged along the lines of this report.

### 6.3 Neighbourhood Forums' Alliance

The conveners of all the Neighbourhood Forums met Council senior staff via "Microsoft Team", which occurs at six monthly intervals and is greatly appreciated by the Forums. The General Manager expressed his strong support for the Forums and appreciation for their input to Council affairs.

He indicated that he stresses the importance of the Forums to Councillors (particularly those on the next Council) and encouraging them to attend Forum meetings. He also expects staff to have empathy with residents when planning and delivering services.

The General Manager advised that Council staff are very busy with unprecedented levels of activity. (Comment: This provides an opportunity to review Key Performance Indicators to measure and report on Efficiency and Effectiveness). A Manager advised there is a variety of techniques used, depending on the situation. It was suggested there may be some opportunities for improvement.

It was noted that Councils are required to develop a Community Strategic Plan to describe the community's vision and aspirations for a period of ten or more years. This provides a foundation for Council's annual Delivery Program and Operational Plan.

The current 10-year Plan was adopted three years ago and staff are now developing a community engagement process. Also progress on the strategies towards achieving the Plan's Objectives and results of the two yearly Community Satisfaction Surveys will be taken into account.

It was pointed out that the Neighbourhood Forums provide an effective two- way street of value to Council because of their close community contacts, for example illustrated by NF5's monthly agenda and information communication distributed to over 400 families within its responsible area.

Ways of improving collaboration and how Council and the Forums could work together more effectively were discussed. It was agreed that a major improvement would be for there to be a dedicated Council officer to attend meetings and act as the prime contact to ensure that issues raised were properly considered and dealt with. The General Manager will review the suggestions and opportunities to improve communications with Forums.

Widespread dissatisfaction with the attitudes and performance of the traffic section was manifest. It was noted that there had been a significant number of changes in personnel recently. It was agreed that the Forums would be notified of proposed projects to allow some input, hopefully in the design stage. The Manager advised that Traffic for NSW has shifted its focus from Functional Road Hierarchy approaches to a Movement & Place Framework and Multimodal Service Planning. A working group was recently established re Northcliff Drive which seems to be a valuable precedent.

Planning and Greening issues were proposed for the agenda but omitted, partly because of time constraints and partly because written responses were available before the meeting. These are reported in 5.2 and 5.3 above.

#### **6.4 draft amended Riparian Land Management Policy:**

This chapter (E23) of the DCP has been substantially re-drafted to clarify issues and incorporate changes to the legislation. It is difficult to establish whether or not there have been any substantive changes to requirements.

Recommendation: that the amended policy be noted.

#### **6.5 trial Mobile Food Vending Policy**

This trial, which incorporates most of the controls one would expect, will take place on 16 of Council streets. Those in our area are Eureka Street adjoining Roy Johansson Park in West Wollongong, and Strathern Avenue/South Street adjoining Neville McKinnon Park.

Recommendation: that the trial be supported.

## **6.6 Outdoor Dining Policy**

This is a revision of the existing policy and incorporates the streamlined approval process promulgated by the State Government. Apart from clarifications and the incorporation of legislative changes, the principal new provision is to allow small bars and pubs to have outdoor (ie. on street) dining.

Recommendation: that the revised policy be supported.

## **6.7 revised Pesticides Notification Plan**

Only two changes are proposed to the policy:

- 1 no glyphosate use in and around play grounds;
- 2 a trial of drone technology for aerial weed spraying.

Recommendation: that the revised policy be supported.

## **6.8 Development contributions Plan 2021**

These contributions, as we have previously noted, are basically a slush fund to supplement Council's (mainly works) budget and as such we have not felt the need to respond to the draft when on exhibition.

However, it now transpires that expected demand for public facilities does not extend to local open space and that whilst expenditure is spelt out in considerable detail, and contributions since 2006 are m\$46, but it does not indicate from whence these contributions came.

Recommendation

That Council:

- 1 include the provision of local open space in the list of services to receive Section 94 funds;
- 2 again be asked to advise of the contributions made from residential development immediately north of the city centre at least since 2006 and preferably since the last local open space was provided in the area.

## **6.9 Crown Reserves Plan of Management**

Council's' Business Paper for 2 August includes a 177 page report on the Draft Crown Reserves Plan of Management (PoM) following the public exhibition process in late 2019, and recommending the Plan be referred to the Minister for consent. Staff have worked hard to comply with the requirements of the CLM Act 2016 and no objection is raised re the Crown Lands included in this PoM.

NF5 considered the draft Plan in Nov 2019 and requested that Council develop separate specific PoMs for the Stuart Park area and for the Wollongong City Foreshore area from Stuart Park south to Swan St, and requested to ensure collaboration with the NF5 executive throughout the PoM development process.

The report mentions NF5 submission and confirms that Stuart Park is not part of this PoM, but it will be included in a future update of the Wollongong City Foreshore PoM . Unfortunately this is contrary to NF5 submission, and compounds problems created in 2008 when Council inexplicably included Stuart Park in the draft City Foreshore PoM, but the Minister did not approve that PoM.

This left the separately developed PoM approved in 2000 as the statutory PoM for Stuart Park. It was developed with productive involvement with community representatives in a working party.

#### **Recommendation**

That Council again be requested to develop separate Specific PoMs, one for the Stuart Park area and another for the Wollongong City Foreshore area from Stuart Park south to Swan St, and that Council ensure collaboration with the NF5 executive and effective community involvement throughout each PoM development process

#### **6.10 Smith St Cycleway update**

Since August last year there has been frequent communications with traffic section staff about the Smith St pop-up cycleway funded by Traffic for NSW, in particular re concerns about the safety of pedestrians, cyclists and vehicles. Council responded on 16 June to NF5 request for an on-site meeting with representatives of NF5 and iBUG, advising they are working with the Walking Cycling and Mobility Reference Group, they will be considering the findings of IBUG's May review, and will consider the need for a site meeting.

It was noticed on 22 July that improvement works started to remove the hazardous rumble bars from the bike lanes and changes to line marking on the Smith St and Keira St cycleways, which is most welcome. We look forward to Council's advice on the extent of the improvement works and whether a joint on-site meeting will occur.

### **6.11 Safe Streets to School**

A local organisation is running a campaign to make it safer for children to get to school primarily through reducing speed limits. They are also working with Healthy Cities Illawarra on a pilot in Figtree. These initiatives are important and seem to deserve support. NF5 has previously requested Council staff to investigate reducing traffic speed limits, particularly in some of the CBD streets, and make representations to Traffic NSW.

The link to the petition to Council is:

<https://me.getup.org.au/petitions/wollongong-residents-for-safe-streets-to-school-1>

### **6.12 Illawarra Escarpment Mountain Bike Concept Plan**

A new concept plan has been developed for the area between Mount Keira and Mount Kembla. It identifies a total network of 61 trails, delivering a trail volume of 44 kilometres. The concept follows International Mountain Bicycling Association (IMBA) track standards for design, construction and maintenance.

The network caters for all rider skill levels and a broad range of riding styles. Stacked loops of increasing length and difficulty and highly variable terrain and technical features, such as steep descents, obstacles, bridges and jump lines are part of the proposed network.

The proposal is available on the [project website](#).

## **7 Priorities**

### **7.1 Liveability for our Suburbs**

We still seem to be getting the brush off. See item 5.2.

### **7.2 City Centre Planning & Development**

We keep pressing for a reference or liaison group with wide representation but this seems to be resisted.

### **7.3 Stormwater Management – nothing more**

## **8 Planning**

### **8.1** There are no new significant Development Applications.



## 8.2 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

### 1 Odd

Researchers the Carnegie Mellon University in Pennsylvania expected that, when ride-sharing companies such as Uber move into a new town, vehicle ownership would fall. Instead, they found that it tends to go up. One explanation appears to be that people are deciding to buy a car on the basis that they can use it to earn money through the ride-sharing service.

### 2 Sculpture Safety

Given the propensity world wide to tear down statues which offend sensibilities, be they of dictators, slave traders, royalty, colonisers or just too avant guard, the interaction between passing pedestrians and statues is of interest.

However, now a metro driver in the Netherlands has demonstrated an unusual advantage of statues. Crashing his train through a barrier at the end of the tracks, his train fortunately landed, perfectly balanced, on a large sculpture of a whale's tail, rather than plummeting 10 metres into the water below.

Paul Burall



### 3 English (& Australia's?) planning's darkest hour?

The failure of the new National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) to prioritise climate change is a betrayal of our collective future. The global impacts of climate change are truly shocking. Extreme weather from Canada to Germany is costing lives and will, because of the fatal inaction of governments across the globe, cost many millions more.

The global spotlight is on the UK in the run up to the crucial UN climate change conference in November 2021, which is effectively our last chance to secure a sustainable planet. That is the context for the publication of the new English NPPF. It was an opportunity to show how planning can play a crucial role in climate mitigation and adaptation and how we can build a zero carbon and resilient future. And so, it is simply staggering that the new version does nothing to recognise the changing dynamics of the climate crisis

Hugh Ellis

#### Street Art



<p><b>Neighbourhood Forum 5</b></p> <p><b>Wollongong's Heartland</b></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 on Wed 7<sup>th</sup> July 2021 by email

1	Presentation	None possible
2	Apologies	None necessary
3	Minutes	of meeting of 2 <sup>nd</sup> June were endorsed and matters arising incorporated where appropriate.;
4	Comments	None received.
5	Responses	<p>5.1 Privatisation of Community Land: noted;</p> <p>5.2 Foley St Improvements: noted;</p> <p>5.3 Bourke St/Cliff Road Intersection: noted;</p> <p>5.4 Fairy Creek Pathway: noted;</p>
6	Reports	<p>6.1 WCC Operational Plan 2021/22: it was agreed that members of the executive seek a meeting with the GM to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>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;</li> <li>2 discuss the community issues raised;</li> <li>3 ask what the system is for measuring and timely reporting to the public on the efficiency &amp; effectiveness of the organisation in providing services to the community.</li> </ol> <p>6.2 Bluescope Liaison: noted;</p> <p>6.3 Smith St Cycleway: recently received submissions were noted and will be included in discussions with Council.</p> <p>6.4 Cosgrove Avenue development: it was agreed 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.</p>

- 6.5 Free Shuttle:  
it was agreed that, given the example of provision in Freemantle (with a smaller population), NF5 write to Wollongong City Council and the University requesting that they jointly approach the State Government to support introducing a second Free Shuttlebus service to Wollongong (to South Wollongong and or Figtree) and that existing and future bus stops be upgraded to providing real time advice as to how many minutes to wait for the next bus.
- 6.6 Transport:  
it was agreed that:
- 1 the Forum seek support from Ryan Park MP, Wollongong Council and the University for a start to work for the Mt Ousley interchange to commence in 2022;
  - 2 a representative from Transport NSW be invited to make a presentation to a future Form meeting after the Covid situation clears; and
  - 3 the Forum thank Paul Scully MP, for his representations and request advice on when work to reduce Wollongong Sydney train transit times may actually start.
- 6.7 Keiraville roundabout:  
it was agreed 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 Committees and Reference Group minutes:  
it was agreed 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 Livability:  
it was agreed 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.
- 7.2 City Centre:  
it was agreed that Council be requested that, before they introduce any significant changes to Crown Street Mall, they undertake an independent survey of users and detail options to be included in an effective engagement with the community.

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|----|------------------|-----|---|
|    |                  | 7.3 | Stormwater: noted   |
| 8  | Planning         | 8.2 | DA 2021/579 22 town houses 414 Crown St Wollongong<br>it was agreed that the submission of support be endorsed,                               |
|    |                  | 8.3 | DA 2021/620 3 lot subdivision 4-6 Gundarun St W. W'gong<br>it was endorsed that no submission be made.  |
|    |                  | 8.4 | DA 2021/615 Dual Occ 23 Kirola Ave Mangerton<br>It was agreed that the submission of support be endorsed.                                     |
|    |                  | 8.5 | DA 2021/609 Subdivision & Dual Occ Henley Ave W'gong<br>it was agreed that the submission of objection be endorsed                            |
|    |                  | 8.6 | DA 2021/705 Homeless Housing, 32 Foley Rd Gwynneville<br>It was agreed that a submission of support be lodged                                 |
|    |                  | 8.7 | DA 2021/714 Dual Occ 20 Paulsgrove St Gwynneville<br>It was agreed that a submission of objection be lodged.                                  |
|    |                  | 8.8 | DA determinations: noted  |
| 9  | General Business |     | It was agreed to consider improvement of the format of the<br>agendas so that the more important and pressing issues could be<br>highlighted. |
| 10 | Snippets         |     | noted.  |

**Next Meeting/Agenda: on Wed. 4<sup>th</sup> August 2021.**

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**Current active membership of Neighbourhood Forum 5 : 400 households**

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