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| <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 1st October 2025 at 6.00
In the Library Theatre**

- 1 Welcome
- 2 Presentation Matt Press and Hayden David from the NSW Building Commission, were thanked for their presentation on the role Certifiers and implications of faults in High Rise Buildings and responding to questions.
- 3 Attendance 21 attended. Apologies, including Cllr Andrew Anthony, were accepted
- 4 Minutes of meeting of 3rd September were adopted noting Ron Knowles was also an apology.
- 5 Comments noted
- 6 Caveats **noted**
- 7 Responses
 - 7.1 **Gwynneville Irvine St Precinct::**
It was agreed That Council, and the Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure be urged not to proceed with any rezoning of the land until such time as:
 - 1 A more comprehensive engagement plan has been implemented;
 - 2 a Master Plan for area has developed in association with affected communities, and adopted;
 - 3 the financial implications of providing the necessary infrastructure have been assessed and the funding arrangements agreed;
 - 4 a fair and equitable way of providing social and affordable housing is adopted.
 - 7.2 **Issues awaiting responses** – noted some outstanding for a year.

8.1 Economic Development Strategy

It was agreed that:

- 1 Council be congratulated on the city's economic development performance over the past five years;
- 2 members be aware that the deadline for feedback on the draft 2025 - 2035 Economic Development Strategy is Thursday 6th October.

8.2 Roads Act Options:

It was agreed that

- 1 TfNSW be advised that the Forum supports Model 2 provided adequate arrangements are made for resourcing infrastructure noting that the first priorities are for walking and cycling;
- 2 members are encouraged to make their own submission by 30th October to:
roadsactfeedback@transport.nsw.gov.au

8.3 Figtree Community Group

It was agreed to defer a future meeting and review the situation later this year/early next year.

8.4 Figtree Centre:

It was agreed that the Forum no longer promote an expansion of the Figtree town centre until such time as Council renders the area flood free.

8.5 Surveillance cameras Stuart Park:

It was agreed that Council be requested to install permanent security cameras to act as a deterrent to stop antisocial behaviour in the Stuart Park precinct.

8.6 Lake Illawarra Estuary Management Committee:

It was agreed that the Forum expresses its disappointment at the lack of due process for the consideration of the local planning panel for the jet ski hire business which seeks to set up on Lake Illawarra. NF5 also seeks an explanation why the Lake Illawarra Estuary Management Committee wasn't consulted on this controversial proposal which will clearly have some impact on the Lake and those who use it or enjoy its quiet amenity.

8.7 BlueScope Surplus Land consultation:

It was agreed that the Forum make a submission offering its support for BlueScope's revitalisation plans.

8.8 Managing Wollongong City's flood risk

It was agreed:

- 1 that the Forum prepare a submission as part of the consultation process;

- 2 to request Council to release the report on the Flooding on 4th April 2024 in accordance with a Council Resolution by the previous Council.
- 3 that all members are encouraged to review the Floodplain Study and Plan and make individual submissions to Council by 3rd November if they wish

8.9 New Lease for Lagoon Restaurant:

It was agreed that, to ensure the public interest and access to this irreplaceable Crown Land will be protected and maintained, Council be requested to:

- 1 develop a community engagement plan for this project that enables the community (including agreed representatives of NF5) to be involved in developing relevant sections of the tender documentation;
- 2 ensure that a community representative be on the committee evaluating the tender submissions.

8.10 New Lease for North Wollongong Kiosk:

It was agreed that Council be requested to

- 1 extend the submission period to 28 days, ie closing Thursday 16 October, and provide plans indicating the areas proposed to be leased and licensed.
- 2 provide a copy of the draft lease and licence by close of business on Monday 5 October to enable consideration and a submission by 16 October;
- 3 if no extension is granted the executive make a submission before the cutoff of 2nd October.

8.11 Mt Ousley - Picton Roads community consult:

It was agreed that

- 1 a submission be made during the consultation period
- 2 Forum Members be encouraged to contribute to the feedback as individuals by 20th October:

Email: MountOusleySRI@transport.nsw.gov.au

8.12 Triathlon:

It was noted that event organisers recently advised Smith Street will be two-way between Corrimal and Wilson Streets during events, and the Gong Shuttle changed route map during events is available on website: 2025 World Triathlon Championships Finals \ transportnsw.info. Also that residents can get information at the final “drop-in” sessions on Friday 10 October at Friday Markets in the mall, and on Saturday 11 October off Cliff Road near Levendi café.

It was agreed that the Forum wishes Council and the race organisers well with the event, and Council be requested to ensure effective engagement earlier with local residents and businesses for future major events which come to Wollongong to maximise positive experiences for everyone,

8.13 NSW Building Commission: noted

8.14 Council Code of Meeting practice:

It was agreed that the Forum make an appropriate submission and residents be encouraged to make their submissions to Council by 30 October..

8.15 Stuart Park;

It was agreed to provide a report to the next meeting specifically addressing long-standing situation surrounding the SkyDive operation continuing to alienate the public's right to access Stuart Park oval daily, and at peppercorn rent., contrary to the Crown Land Management Act.

9 Planning

9.1 Planning: noted

9.2 DA-92024/818: 7 stories, 27 units, Keira St Wollongong

It was agreed (Ron Knowles dissenting) that the submission of support be endorsed, subject to Council confirming that the original DA was advertised.

9.3 DA determinations: noted

General
Business

10.1. Figtree response from Transport for New South Wales

See attachment 1.

10.2 Notices on sites with Development Applications.

A report to come forward spelling out exactly the changes needed to Council's documentation.

11 Snippets

noted

Current active membership of Neighbourhood Forum 5 : 462 households

Figtree Responses from TfNSW

Mount Ousley Freight Movements

Mount Ousley Safety and Reliability Project – In early optioneering stage:

- <https://www.transport.nsw.gov.au/projects/current-projects/mount-ousley-safety-and-reliability-improvements>
- Transport is in the early stages of investigating options to improve the safety, reliability and resilience of a five-kilometre section of the M1 Princes Motorway between Picton Road and the Mount Ousley interchange at the base of Mount Ousley (Mount Ousley safety and reliability improvements).
- The project aims to identify measures to improve safety for all road users, enhance traffic performance and reliability, enable effective operations management for maintenance, roadside assistance and incident response, and strengthen the freight network's resilience
- Transport is now seeking feedback on experiences travelling along and accessing the M1 Princes Motorway between Picton Road and the Mount Ousley interchange at the base of Mount Ousley. The community consultation period will run from Monday 22 September until 11:59 pm Monday 20 October 2025. Feedback can be provided via the project website - www.transport.nsw.gov.au/mtousleysri
- This project has \$10 million committed to the planning with 50:50 funding from Federal and State government.
- Transport is aiming to engage with key stakeholders including Freight in the coming months.

Mount Ousley Interchange Project – In construction:

- <https://www.transport.nsw.gov.au/projects/current-projects/mount-ousley-interchange>
- Working with NHVR
- We have been recently collaborating with the East Coast Stakeholder Engagement manager from the National Heavy Vehicle Regulator on promoting heavy vehicle safety on the Mount Ousley. In addition Transport for NSW and Transport Workers Union developed the following road safety educational video. <https://youtu.be/Hv5FURHZfn>
- Temporary speed limit works
- Details on the temporary limits are captured on Live Traffic:
- [Live Traffic NSW | Incident Details](#)
- A 60km/h speed limit reduction is now in place southbound on the M1 Princes Mwy from 7am Mondays to 5pm Fridays. Speed limit for light vehicles will be 80km/h at

all other times including public holidays and peak holiday periods. Heavy vehicles travelling southbound on the M1 Princes Mwy down Mount Ousley will remain 40 km/h on the decent, and will then increase to 60 km/h past Mount Ousley Rd.

- A 60 km/h speed limit reduction is also in place northbound on the M1 Princes Mwy between 7am and 6pm, Mondays to Fridays.
- Feedback from the forum was passed onto the project team

Suggestions for local network improvements

I have passed on the following suggestions to our Network Solutions team. This team is responsible for determining feasibility of projects and nominating them for funding.

Specific suggestions that were passed on were:

- Southbound slip lane at intersection of Princes Highway and Five Islands Road (adjacent to Just Bathrooms Shop)
- Increased congestion on Princes Highway during peak times occurring at similar times to congestion on the M1 Princes Motorway
- Ramp metering at Northcliffe Drive to limit traffic entering the M1 during busy periods
- Additional turning lanes at Memorial Drive southbound exit to Porter Street

Recently implemented projects

Northcliffe Drive roundabout line marking evaluation/feedback

- Transport received some feedback after the initial implementation. This has settled indicating the community have adapted to the changes.
- The changes are now performing as intended. Details for the rationale behind the project are located on the project page [Traffic changes to relieve congestion on the off-ramp at Berkeley | Transport for NSW](#)

Problems with roundabout Cordeaux Rd/Princes Highway

- Transport for NSW has no plans to replace the existing roundabout with traffic signals. Retaining the existing roundabout follows current road safety best practices. The geometry of a roundabout means vehicles travel through the roundabout at slower speeds and the angle of impact between vehicles is reduced. Both factors work together to ultimately reduce the severity of a crash.
- Transport for NSW will continue to monitor the roundabout to ensure safety for all road users and to ensure vegetation is maintained to a satisfactory level so vehicles approaching, and already in, the intersection are clearly visible.
- There are other intersections in the region that are currently considered a higher priority in terms of road safety. Transport for NSW must prioritise locations considered for upgrades and distribute limited funding where it is needed most.

Freeway is clogging up so more people using Princes Highway

Transport for NSW is aware of congestion on the M1 Princes Motorway at specific periods and is investigating various solutions to improve connectivity between Shellharbour and Wollongong.

Transport is investigating broader multimodal and infrastructure solutions, including:

- Infrastructure upgrades to the M1 Princes Motorway including construction of the Mount Ousley Interchange and planning for new south facing ramps at Dapto.
- New public transport services
- Options outside of the immediate motorway corridor to improve the travel experience of road users across different travel modes.

Transport is committed to consulting the community throughout all stages of the planning process. We will keep the community informed as each project progresses.

Strategic Regional Integrated Transport Plans

It's great to see so much passion within the group for improving Transport outcomes and the lives of the people living in Figtree and surrounding suburbs.

As I mentioned at the meeting, the Strategic Regional Integrated Transport Plans (SRITPs) respond to the NSW Government's election commitment for the delivery of integrated strategic plans for roads and transport in Regional NSW.

Below is a link to our consultation page which includes a map of suggestions made by others. We are currently finalising the Draft Illawarra Shoalhaven Strategic Regional Integrated Transport Plan in preparation for its public exhibition

[Illawarra-Shoalhaven | Strategic Regional Integrated Transport Plans | Have Your Say](#)

Items for council to address

The following items relate to council roads or development:

- Multiple roads/estates with one access road.
- Deer on roads – accidents and near misses.
- Need connections other than Princes Highway to get from O'Brien's Road to Cordeaux heights/Unanderra.

A/Senior Manager Community and Place, TfNSW