

RYDE HERITAGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE 02 / 05

DATE: Wednesday, 13 April 2005

TIME: 6.05 pm

LOCATION: Ryde Civic Centre – Level 5

REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT:

Councillor Nicole Campbell – Chairperson
Representing City of Ryde
Councillor Terry Perram – The Mayor
Representing City of Ryde
Councillor Terry Ryan
Representing City of Ryde
Mr Patrick Sullivan
Representing Denistone Heritage & Environment
Preservation Group
Ms Jennifer Minifie
Representing National Trust
Mrs Beverley McClymont
Representing Brush Farm Historical Society
Mr Kevin Shaw
Representing Ryde District Historical Society
Ms Margarita Grunberg
Representing Putney District Progress Association
Mr Peter Bardos
Representing Meadowbank West Ryde Progress Association
Mr Phil Hunt
Representing Ryde Hunters Hill Flora and Fauna
Preservation Society
Mr Gregory Blaxell
Community Representative
Ms Sue Weatherley
Group Manager, Environmental Planning, City of Ryde
Ms Angela Phippen
Local Studies Librarian, City of Ryde
Ms Meryl Bishop
Manager Strategic Planning, City of Ryde

OTHERS PRESENT:

Mr Roy Newsome
Group Manager – Corporate Services, City of Ryde
Mr Pat Gunawardena
Property Services, City of Ryde
Mr Stephen Tyter
Property Services, City of Ryde
Ms Shellie Buckle
Web Co-ordinator, City of Ryde

MIN NO. 01 APOLOGIES:

Ms Jane Haydon
Representing Friends of the Hermitage
Ms Jennifer Noble
Representing Brush Farm Historical Society

MIN NO. 02 Consideration and adoption of minutes 01 / 05

- The minutes 01 / 05 were endorsed by the Committee.

MIN NO. 03 Matters arising from the minutes

i) 7-9 Rutledge Street, Eastwood – Demolition of St Andrews Church

Issues in relation to this application are listed below:-

- Application to demolish the Church was lodged with Council in April 2001.
- The Heritage assessment on the building was addressed by Council's Heritage Advisor and an independent Heritage Planner. The matter was sent to the Heritage Office for comment.
- The site was incorporated into the Eastwood Town Centre (LEP 110) as a heritage item – August 2001.
- The application to demolish the building was deferred – awaiting the completion of the LEP.
- Council at the Committee of the Whole Meeting in April 2002 resolved to delete the clause in draft LEP 110 that proposed the listing of the Church as a heritage item of local significance.
- The development application to demolish the Church was approved by Council on 21 July 2003. The development consent is valid for 5 years.

ii) Heritage Festival

- Open Houses – 16 April 2005:-
 - Riverview – 135 Marsden Road will be open between 10.00am to 12 noon.
 - Addington – 813 Victoria Road will be open between 1.00pm to 3.00pm. The launch of the War Memorial and Honour Board Project will be at 2.00pm.

- “Remembering Eastwood in the 1940’s” – The display, which was put together by Brush Farm Historical Society, received a tremendous response – with people remembering in particular the cinema and various train accidents.

MIN NO. 04 Update on Heritage Matters

i) Brush Farm House

The documents:-

- *Brush Farm House – Update Report to 31 March 2005* – Council report dated 8 April 2005.

Brush Farm House, Eastwood – Consultation/Concept Development Report – by Tanner Architects dated 7 April

were distributed by Roy Newsome at the Committee meeting.

Councillor Campbell commented on the general success of the consultation workshop held by Megan Jones on 10 March 2005. A letter to Ms Jones from HAC is to be sent outlining the Committee’s support for her efforts / work undertaken at the workshop.

A number of the Committee members who attended the workshop indicated that at the workshop they were “unaware” that the Department of Corrective Services (DCS) may have some advantage on determining the future use of the building due to the Department’s financial contribution of \$800,000.

The Committee requested that Roy Newsome communicate the following points to the General Manager:-

- Concerns that the use of the building by DCS will restrict the public access to the building. Therefore, a suggested approach may be that Council as part of its negotiations with DCS should limit the area of the building occupied by the Department and place a maximum limit on the period of occupation.
- Consideration on the future use of the building ie calling for expressions of interest should be deferred until Council has negotiated an appropriate outcome with DCS on the occupation of the building.
- The funding required to complete the restoration of the building is \$5.5million. The funds secured to date are:-

DCS	-	\$800,000
Council	-	\$800,000

Heritage Office - \$50,000

ii) Special Rate Increase for Heritage Buildings Improvement Program

Information on the Special Rate Increase was distributed by Roy Newsome at the Committee meeting.

Points raised by the Committee members regarding the proposed rate increase and the process are summarised below:-

- The special rate increase for heritage matters should have been discussed with the HAC.
- It may have been more appropriate to propose a special rate increase for infrastructure, which would cover a range of areas including heritage.

iii) Lobbying the Federal Government for Heritage funding

The Committee needs to “watch” the Federal budget (10 May 2005) to establish whether funds have been allocated to the funding program – Cultural Heritage Trust.

HAC members should write to the Prime Minister in response to outcomes of the budget – in disappointment on not allocating funds or congratulating the Government on allocating the funds to the program.

From the discussions on the HAC making representation to the Prime Minister it was suggested –

- Council’s representatives - The Mayor and General Manager have already arranged a meeting with the Prime Minister. The General Manager will be invited to the Committee meeting in June to provide the Committee with an overview of the outcomes of this meeting.
- That the Groups / Societies that are members of HAC make a representation to the Prime Minister on heritage values and matters within Ryde.

MIN NO. 05 Heritage Web Site

Shellie Buckle distributed a hard copy of the content (work done to date) of draft heritage web page. Comments and suggestions made by the Committee are listed below:-

- FAQ – examples
 - Is my house heritage listed?
 - What is a conservation area?

- Does a heritage listing affect the value of my property?
- Remove the link to the 1988 study due to its poor reproduction quality.
- Heritage listing in the Ordinance – requires an explanation to explain the relationship of the Ordinance and the listing of heritage properties.
- A section should contain information on works / studies in progress. This information could be placed in News / Events.
- Photographs of Aboriginal images require the permission of the Metropolitan Lands Council.
- A link to the Land Councils website should be provided.

The Committee thanked Peter Mitchell for his work on defining heritage and all the work undertaken by Shellie Buckle to create the draft web page.

Committee members are to “mark up” the hard copy of the draft web page with comments and ideas and send to Meryl Bishop by early June.

MIN NO. 06 Work Program

- **Heritage War Memorial and Honour Board Project**

An update on the project, prepared by Dr Anne-Maree Whitaker was circulated to the Committee.

Note: Dr Whitaker was unable to attend the meeting due to a previous engagement.

Council has contacted Churches, Clubs, Schools, Sporting Groups seeking information on War Memorials and Honour Boards.

Council is receiving a positive response and information on the Memorials.

Suggested areas for Dr Whitaker to explore include schools that are now closed eg Ryde, Peter Board, Meadowbank Boys, Marsfield.

Angela Phippen indicated that further consideration needs to be given to restoring the boards (in Council ownership) and displaying the boards.

A strategy to deal with the Honour Boards and Memorials will be discussed at the next Committee Meeting.

MIN NO. 07 General Business

Brush Farm Estate – Landscape and Archaeological Assessment

The Geoffrey Britton Study was circulated to the Committee members.

The study was presented to Council on 5 April 2005.

Council resolved that:-

- The study be received and noted.
- The study be placed on public exhibition for 30 days – inviting all stakeholders and the community to comment.
- That presentations be given to the community and stakeholders during the exhibition period.

The exhibition period should commence late April / early May.

Gregory Blaxell, representing Brush Farm Historical Society will at the next meeting provide the Committee with an update on discussions with the Brush Farm Preservation Group regarding the preparation of a joint submission on the Study.

MIN NO. 08 Next Meeting: 15 June 2005

Meeting Closed: 8.10pm