

RYDE HERITAGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE 03 / 07

DATE: Wednesday, 20 June 2007

TIME: 6.00 pm

LOCATION: Ryde Civic Centre – Room 2 Level 5

REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT: COUNCILLORS

Councillor Ivan Petch – Mayor - **Chair**
Representing City of Ryde
Councillor Terry Perram
Representing City of Ryde
Councillor Terry Ryan
Representing City of Ryde

COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES

Ms Jennifer Noble
Representing Brush Farm Historical Society
Ms Jennifer Minifie
Representing the National Trust of Australia (NSW)
Mr Kevin Shaw
Representing Ryde District Historical Society
Mr Peter Mitchell
Community Representative
Ms Eleanor Chaine
Community Representative
Mr Peter Bardos
Representing West Ryde–Meadowbank Progress Association

OBSERVERS

Frank Smith
Local resident

COUNCIL STAFF

Ms Angela Phippen
Local Studies Librarian, City of Ryde
Ms Kate Higgins
Senior Strategic Planner – Heritage – City of Ryde

MIN NO. 01 Apologies

Councillor Nicole Campbell
Representing City of Ryde
Councillor Vic Tagg
Representing City of Ryde
Mr Helge Sangkuhl

Representing Eastwood Community Association
Ms Margarita Grunberg
Representing Putney District Progress Association
Mr Phil Hunt
Representing Ryde Hunters Hill Flora and Fauna
Preservation Society
Mr Patrick Sullivan
Representing Denistone Heritage & Environment
Preservation Group
Mr John Hull
Representing Friends of the Hermitage
Mr Greg Blaxell
Community Representative
Ms Sue Weatherley
Group Manager – Environment and Planning
Ms Meryl Bishop
Manager - Urban Planning– City of Ryde

MIN NO. 02 Consideration and adoption of Minutes 02 / 07

The minutes of the meeting 02/07 were adopted.

MIN NO. 03 Brush Farm House – future use

Paul Graham, Arts and Cultural Development Co-Ordinator gave a presentation to the Committee on what is happening with Brush Farm House. The notes he tabled are attached.

MIN NO. 04 Terms of Reference

The preliminary draft terms of reference were discussed and several issues raised. KH is to seek clarification of these issues and distribute a response to the Committee prior to the next meeting. The terms of reference will require some amendment. Revised preliminary draft terms of reference are to be distributed for comment prior the next HAC meeting.

MIN NO. 05 Preliminary Draft Brush Farm Park Plan of Management

KH noted that it was anticipated that the HAC would be advised of when the Draft Brush Farm Park Plan of Management was to be placed on public exhibition. The Committee understood that they would have the opportunity to comment prior to the document being placed on public exhibition and asked that this matter be queried with Peter Hickman, Manager. Parks.

The Committee raised concerns about the potential damage to the historical vineyard terraces caused by the felling of 2 old pine trees, and concerns about future work by Council's Parks section which may also cause damage. KH noted that it was hoped Peter Hickman would accept an offer of training for his team on the development approval implications of heritage listing. This matter is to be discussed with the Manager Parks and reported back to the Committee.

MIN NO. 06 Macquarie University heritage interpretation projects

Peter Mitchell advised this project is underway and he will follow up and report on progress at the next HAC meeting. Paul Graham agreed that suitable student projects would be exhibited at Brush Farm House.

MIN NO. 07 Heritage Fund

The Committee was advised that Council, at its meeting of the 19 June 2007, had approved a \$20,000 heritage fund for the next financial year. KH advised that a program for the fund has been prepared and the Committee recommended that Council amend the budget to make provision for the heritage fund. The Mayor thanked Kevin Shaw for his excellent presentation to Council in support of the Heritage Fund.

MIN NO. 08 Conservation Management Plans (CMPs) for Willandra, Eastwood Town Hall, The Parsonage and Westward Cottage

Kate Higgins advised that CMPs are currently being prepared for Willandra, Eastwood Town Hall, The Parsonage and Westward Cottage to assist so Council's Property section conserve and maintain these buildings.

MIN NO. 09 Membership of the Committee

It was noted that the Eastwood Community Association had not attended meetings for some time and suggested that the Association be asked if they would like to continue as a member of the Committee.

MIN NO. 10 Change of Location for Committee Meetings

Northern Suburbs Cemetery (Macquarie Cemetery) have invited the Committee to hold a meeting at the Cemetery and to enjoy a tour of the Cemetery prior to the meeting. The Committee welcomed this invitation and the meeting on the 17 October 2007 is to be held at the Cemetery with a tour of the cemetery to be conducted at 5pm.

It was suggested that a Committee meeting also be held at Brush Farm House. The Christmas meeting is suggested.

MIN NO. 11 Reports from Community representatives

Jennifer Noble advised that the Historic Houses trust is conducting a tour of Riverview and Brush Farm House Sunday 24 June 2007. Jennifer Noble expressed concern about the Draft Plan of Management for Brush Farm Park not being made available prior to exhibition, and concern about training people working in Brush Farm Park with regard to the conservation of heritage values.

Peter Bardos expressed concern about the poor and deteriorating condition of the John Whitton Bridge. Peter Bardos noted that there was an recent archaeological investigation at Meadowbank Park. This was an investigation into the breaking down of timber in land fill areas.

Kevin Shaw advised that Ryde District Historical Society had recently hosted a tour of Ryde village, the Field of Mars cemetery and other heritage places in the LGA for the Ku-ring-gai Historical Society. Kevin Shaw advised that they Society would also be hosting a tour of Addington by the National Trust on the 24 June 2007 and will host an Open Day at Willandra later in the year.

MIN NO. 12 Next Meeting: Wednesday 22 August 2007 at 6.00pm.

Meeting Closed: 8.15pm

INFORMATION TABLED BY CITY OF RYDE ARTS AND CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT CO-ORDINATOR

Heritage Meeting – Brush Farm House Update 20 June 2007

1. Introduction – Arts and Cultural Development Coordinator

- Strategic Arts Development
- Arts Development Framework

2. Brush Farm House – How did I get the job?

- EOI process – no interest
- General Manager's directive
- Council report
 - Directly manage Brush Farm House and establish it as a cultural and heritage facility.
 - Seek to finalise negotiations with the Department of Corrective Services for use and access to Brush Farm House.
 - Commit to supporting Brush Farm House Historical Society with appropriate accommodation for its meeting, research and storage activities.
 - Initiate a number of cultural and heritage activities and events during 2007-08 and develop a more detailed program and strategic plan for use of Brush Farm House in the 2008-2011 Management Plan and Budget.

Specific activities listed in the report were:

- Heritage tours facilitated by the Brush Farm Historical Society
 - Four "Open House" events
 - Ryde Writers Festival 2007
 - Four art exhibition (including an exhibition of Council's art collection)
 - Two art workshop programs targeting the local community
 - Heritage Week activities / events
 - Trial small commercial events such as a private social activity or a corporate event.
- Council resolution

That, pending development of a strategic plan for the use of Brush Farm House, Council:

- Directly manage Brush Farm House and establish it as a cultural and heritage facility for the next 12-18 months,
- Seek to finalise negotiations with the Department of Corrective Services for use and access to Brush Farm House as a matter of urgency,
- Commit to supporting Brush Farm House Historical Society with appropriate accommodation for its meeting, research and storage activities.
- Initiate a number of cultural and heritage activities and events during 2007-08 as outlined in this report and develop a more detailed program and strategic plan for use of Brush Farm House in the 2008-2011 Management Plan and Budget.

3. What's happened so far?

- Open days – Sunday 05 August, Sunday 07 October, Sunday 02 December 2007

- History Week – 19, 20 21 September 2007. Will include schools program.
- Writers Festival – 09, 11, 13 November 2007.

4. What's in the pipe line?

- Brush Farm Historical Society Licence agreement
- Policies and procedures for hire of space – community use and functions.
- Furniture – functions and everyday use
- Crockery and cutlery
- Architectural advice to establish gallery space
- Tender brief for Brush Farm House Curtilage next 4 weeks