

RYDE HERITAGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE 01 / 07

DATE: Wednesday, 21 February 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

Mr Peter Bardos
Representing West Ryde–Meadowbank Progress Association
Mr Greg Blaxell
Community Representative
Ms Elaine Chaine
Community representative
Ms Margarita Grunberg
Representing Putney District Progress Association
Mr John Hull
Representing Friends of the Hermitage
Mr Phil Hunt
Representing Ryde Hunters Hill Flora and Fauna
Preservation Society
Ms Jennifer Minifie
Representing the National Trust of Australia (NSW)
Ms Jennifer Noble
Representing Brush Farm Historical Society
Mr Kevin Shaw
Representing Ryde District Historical Society
Mr Patrick Sullivan
Representing Denistone Heritage & Environment
Preservation Group

COUNCIL STAFF

Ms Sue Weatherley
Group Manager – Environment and Planning
Ms Meryl Bishop
Manager - Urban Planning– City of Ryde

Mr Mario D'Alessio
Heritage advisor – City of Ryde

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

MIN NO. 01 APOLOGIES:

Councillor Nicole Campbell
Representing City of Ryde
Mr Helge Sangkuhl
Representing Eastwood Community Association
Mr Peter Mitchell
Community Representative

MIN NO. 02 Consideration and adoption of Minutes 05 / 06

The minutes of the meeting 13/06 were adopted.

MIN NO. 03 Bushland and Environs Advisory Committee for Ryde (BEACR)

It was advised that a request has been made to be considered at the next meeting of BEACR that a representative of the HAC is included to sit on this committee.

Councillor Terry Perram chair of BEACR, advised that any members of HAC was invited to attend Urban Busland Committee meetings as observers.

The following are the dates for BEACR meetings;

5 March 2007
4 June 2007
3 September 2007
3 December 2007

MIN NO. 04 Heritage Incentive Fund

The revised draft local heritage assistance fund for the City of Ryde was further discussed and copies distributed for discussion at the next meeting.

The issues discussed were:

- Assessment criteria, provision for funding for works already undertaken including emergency works.
- Eligibility of places that were not heritage item sites

The committee requested that examples of the types of works and approximate funding levels that Council staff envisaged could be presented at the next meeting.

MIN NO. 05 Brush Farm

Pat Gunawardena Building & Property Project Manager together with Megan Jones of Brush Farm House Conservation Project – Principal House Architect presented to the committee a progress report on the Interpretation Strategy of Brush Farm House.

The works listed for completion during the first stage of the Brush Farm interpretation Strategy are:

1. Lighting & Signage for Brush Farm house with information on Blaxland will be visible at night.
2. Etched Stainless signboard is to be placed on balastrading to the reconstructed first floor veranda to indicate general impression of previous views and how they have changed over time.
3. Artwork to the Entrance Hall – Two early landscape paintings are to be reproduced as prints to hang in the Entrance hall.
 - i. The committee asked if it was possible that timber salvaged during the restoration progress could be used in the framing of these prints.
4. A Showcase is to be placed in the vestibule leading to the ballroom for a collection of artefacts including those of the Brush Farm Historical Society.
5. The naming of Meeting rooms to be in connection with the history of Brush Farm.
 - i. The committee asked if a draft list could be distributed and endorsed through the HAC.
6. A glass interpretive panel to be installed adjacent internal stair depicting photographs of the morphology of the history of occupation of the building.

Councillor Ivan Petch – Mayor thanked the efforts and the good job in relation to the progress of Interpretation Strategy of Brush farm House.

The current update on the building works and photographs are attached. This information is now on Council's website. The web addresses are:

http://www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/WEB/SITE/RESOURCES/DOCUMENTS/PDF/Heritage/project_update_15Feb07.pdf

http://www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/WEB/SITE/RESOURCES/DOCUMENTS/PDF/Heritage/progress_photos_15Feb07.pdf

MIN NO. 06 Brush Farm House and Estate Brochure

Greg Blaxell tabled a “mock up” of the revised draft Brush Farm House and Estate brochure demonstrating the intended finished document and discussed the upcoming Heritage week.

Councillor Ivan Petch – Mayor congratulated Greg Blaxell effort and was impressed by the production.

The committee thought the information on the brochure was suitable for a Brush Farm website, Council staff will advise committee of suitability of a separate website for Brushfarm.

Elements within the Brush Farm House and Estate brochure will be used during heritage week.

MIN NO. 7 Heritage plaques in Eastwood Mall

Kate Higgins presented to the committee a proposed extended route through Rowe Street, The Avenue, Progress Avenue, Hill View Road and West Parade so as to form a circuit of Heritage Plaques.

The proposed route had resulted from discussions with Councils Landscape Architect re linking the mall with other public open space and the for heritage plaques to be part of the Public Domain Master Plan for Eastwood.

The creation and implementation of a subcommittee was discussed and the committee supported a recommendation to be put to Council for the creation of a sub committee of HAC to select the location and choices of individuals to be commemorated through plaques.

The committee recommended

1. The history of Eastwood be interpreted through commemorative plaques to be part of public domain master plan for Eastwood and that the HAC be continued to be consulted on the proposal.
2. A sub committee be elected
3. Guidelines on the committee to be forwarded by Greg Blaxell
4. The election of a chairman of the sub committee at its first meeting.

The subcommittee elected were:

Councillor Terry Ryan
Mr Peter Bardos
Mr Greg Blaxell
Ms Margarita Grunberg
Mr Kevin Shaw
Mr Mario D'Alessio

MIN NO. 08 Heritage Week 3 – 18 March 2007

Greg Blaxell updated the committee on the preparation for heritage week.

There will be picnic in the Park. The home inspection tours were full with 80 people. Inspection for Brush Farm Park was not yet full.

The Mayor advised that he would support the tours of Brushfarm Park by providing details within his Mayor Column.

During the meeting Councillor Terry Ryan organised that Mr Mark Arnold of Wine Trust Estate Pty Ltd would provide catering for 500 people for wine tasting after being advised of the difficulty of obtaining support.

The Committee thanked both Councillor Terry Ryan and Wine Trust Estate Pty Ltd for their assistance.

MIN NO. 9 Hermitage

Kate Higgins reported to the committee the current status of maintenance of the Hermitage. It was advised that through cooperation with Mr Brad Vale of the State Heritage Office that a caretaker was now living on site and that a maintenance plan had been developed.

John Hull advised that Council had previously removed a row of Broadleaved paperback street trees adjoining the site and could these be replaced, Council Officers will report back to the committee on the previous removal of street trees adjoining the site and whether there is any heritage consideration to replanting.

The committee requested that Council ask the current owners for a copy of any existing Termite Reports for the site.

MIN NO. 10 Meggitt's Factory

It was discussed at the meeting that the plaque, which will interpret the history of Meggitt's factory at Banjo Patterson Park, should be finalised prior to Heritage Week.

MIN NO. 11 Electronic Conversion of Heritage Inventory Sheets

It was noted that Council has received from the Heritage Office electronic conversion of existing heritage inventory sheets. The committee will be further briefed and assistance in formatting individual item sheets will be discussed further,

MIN NO. 12 Noxious Weeds Bedlam point

Greg Blaxell advised of an issue raised by local resident Mr Ray Mangan in relation to management of weeds within the Bedlam Point Area. The land in

question is outside of the boundaries of Ryde City Council and the responsibility of NPWS and Hunters Hill Council.

The committee was interested in Councils Management of Noxious Weeds within and adjoining the LGA.

The committee resolved

1. Council Staff investigate the issue and write to the national Parks and Wildlife Service and Hunters Hill Council regarding the weeds and raising the issue that their removal will have an impact on habitats for birds and small animals.
2. The Manager of Parks Mr Peter Hickman or other representative is invited to address next HAC on how Council manages issues within our LGA.

MIN NO. 13 General Business

The meeting was changed from 2 May 2007 to 9 May 2007.

MIN NO. 14 Next Meeting: Wednesday 9 May 2007 at 6.30pm.

Meeting Closed: 9.15pm

CONSERVATION OF BRUSH FARM HOUSE IN EASTWOOD

Project Update

as at Thursday, 15 February 2007



Program -Target Dates

- Phase 1 (West wing, central wing, new roof over the entire building, rear verandah, front verandah and balcony) - due for completion by end March 2007
- Phase 2 (East wing and hall) - due for completion by mid April 2007
- Public opening - anticipated in late April 2007

Project Budget

- Total estimated cost of Phase 1 and 2 (building works only) - \$3.3 million with funding from:
 - ❖ City of Ryde \$1,950,000
 - ❖ Australian Government \$500,000
 - ❖ NSW Heritage Office \$50,000
- Phase 3 (landscaping front garden, fencing, car parking, lighting, etc.) - currently unfunded

Current Status

- Proposed conservation and adaptation works are nearing completion
- Overall progress: Phase 1 – 90% complete, Phase 2 – 80% complete
- Some delays occurred due to inclement weather and additional replacement works on the roof, floor structure which were required due to extensive termite damage
- Total anticipated project cost: On budget, with a potential saving of \$100,000
- Works currently in progress or due to be completed over the coming weeks include:
 - Dismantling of scaffolding and construction of roof over the rear verandah, access ramps and hand rails
 - Repair or replacement of fire places and staircases
 - Fit-out works to tea rooms and catering kitchen, polishing of staircases and timber floors, painting to walls, ceilings, doors and windows, and installation of hardware
 - Installation of light fittings, lighting control system, fan-coil units, floor console units, air-conditioning diffusers, data and communication control units, etc.
 - External works such as paved areas, down pipes, installation of fire hydrants and storm water lines, retaining walls, etc.
 - Commissioning of electrical, mechanical, hydraulic and fire protection systems

Status of Other Issues

- With regard to the use of basement for heritage tours, a Section 96 application to be lodged to amend the DA conditions
- Negotiations on the use of first floor and legal access to site agreed in principle with DCS
- An open day for public will be held on 17 and 18 March 07 during the heritage week

Prepared by: Buildings and Property Unit