

RYDE HERITAGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE 02 / 07

DATE: Wednesday, 9 May 2007

TIME: 6.30 pm

LOCATION: Ryde Civic Centre – Room 1 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 Greg Blaxell
Community Representative
Mr Peter Mitchell
Community Representative
Ms Elaine Chaine
Community member
Mr Patrick Sullivan
Representing Denistone Heritage & Environment
Preservation Group
Mr John Hull
Representing Friends of the Hermitage

OBSERVERS

Councillor Gabrielle O'Donnell – Deputy Mayor
Representing City of Ryde
Councillor Edna Wilde OAM
Representing City of Ryde

COUNCIL STAFF

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

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
Mr Peter Bardos
Representing West Ryde–Meadowbank Progress Association
Ms Margarita Grunberg
Representing Putney District Progress Association
Mr Phil Hunt
Representing Ryde Hunters Hill Flora and Fauna
Preservation Society

MIN NO. 02 Consideration and adoption of Minutes 01 / 07

The minutes of the meeting 01/07 were adopted.

MIN NO. 03 Preliminary Draft Brush Farm Park Plan of Management

Peter Hickman, Manager Parks, advised that the preliminary draft POM has been distributed to key stakeholders for their comment. Gregory Blaxell confirmed that the Brush Farm Historical Society (BFHS) had received a copy and provided comments back to Peter Hickman. The Society generally found the POM acceptable subject to the adjectives “possible” and “potential” being removed from reference to the vineyard terraces, and correction to other issues of fact and grammar. The preliminary draft reviewed by the BFHS was endorsed by the Committee subject to the changes discussed.

The Committee asked that:

- they be advised when the draft POM is being reported to Council;
and
- a copy of the final draft POM and accompanying Council report be distributed to Committee members prior to the report going to Council.

The Committee also suggested that the Commonwealth Government be advised of the Ryde Flora and Fauna Study 2006 and be provided with a copy. This suggestion will be passed onto Sam Capelli, Manager Environment.

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. This matter is to be discussed with the Manager Parks and reported back to the Committee.

MIN NO. 04 Macquarie University heritage interpretation projects

Peter Mitchell advised this project had successfully commenced and that 3 students are interested in the opportunity to undertake interpretation projects. The committee was advised that Council had endorsed the project.

MIN NO. 05 Heritage Fund

The amount of the fund, individual funding amounts and criteria for the fund were discussed. Information on the heritage funds of other Councils was tabled. The suggested amount for the fund is \$20,000 with individual grants up to \$2,500 to be made on a \$ for \$ basis. Grants are not to be retrospective. It was noted that the heritage fund is not included in Council's budget for the next financial year and the Committee recommended that Council amend the budget to make provision for the heritage fund.

MIN NO. 06 Denistone Character Area

A set of preliminary draft controls is currently being prepared by Council staff in consultation with the Denistone Heritage and Environment Preservation Group. The preliminary draft controls will be tested with the community to determine the level of support. The controls focus on the retention of the character of the area but acknowledge that the area has changed and will continue to change to meet contemporary living needs.

MIN NO. 07 The Hermitage

The on-going maintenance of The Hermitage is still a concern and is actively being discussed with the NSW Heritage Office. It is hoped that a caretaker will be installed by the owners. It was noted that Council officers are open to discussions with the owners regarding future development of the site but that the conservation of The Hermitage remains a key issue.

MIN NO. 08 Meggitt's interpretive sign unveiling

The members of the Committee are invited to the unveiling of the interpretive sign at Banjo Patterson Park to be held at 10am on Wednesday the 23 May 2007. Concern was raised about the garbage bins located adjacent to the rock on which the sign is located. This matter will be discussed with Council's Parks section.

MIN NO. 09 Weeds in Council's parks

Peter Hickman, Manager Parks, has provided information which will be forwarded to Committee members. Information on weeds is also available on Council's website.

MIN NO. 10 Reports from Community representatives

Kevin Shaw advised that the Ryde District Historical Society was hosting a visit by the Ku-ring-gai Historical Society and that the visit will include a tour

of Brush Farm House. Council's Arts and Cultural Development Co-ordinator, Paul Graham, should be contacted to arrange access (ph 9952 8312).

The Brush Farm Historical Society Committee commented that the front steps require are handrail in order to be safe for users. This matter will be raised with Council's Property section. It was noted by Council staff that the front steps are only meant to be used on ceremonial occasions as the main entrance is now from the rear courtyard, but that handrails to the front steps could be considered during preparation of the landscaped plan.

Jenny Noble raised concern about the impact of a proposed development at 2 Stewart Street (Parramatta City Council development application) located within the vicinity of her house which is a heritage item listed in Ryde Planning Scheme Ordinance. Council staff advised that the heritage impact of the development had been assessed and Parramatta City Council advised accordingly. Jenny noted that there is an inconsistency between the letter sent to Parramatta City Council and the copy of the Council letter provided to herself. Council staff advised that this appears to be an administrative error but undertook to investigate this matter and update Jenny.

Gregory Blaxell read a response he had made to an issue raised regarding the Aboriginal perspective in [A Short History of the Life of Gregory Blaxell.](#)

MIN NO. 11 Next Meeting: Wednesday 20 June 2007 at 6.00pm.

Meeting Closed: 7.50pm