

RYDE HERITAGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE 01/ 08

DATE: Wednesday 20th . February 2008

TIME: 6.00 pm

LOCATION: Macquarie Park Cemetery and Crematorium

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 Margarita Grunberg
Representing Putney District Progress Association
Mr. Kevin Shaw
Ryde District Historical Society
Mr Peter Mitchell
Community Representative
Mr. John Hull
Representing Friends of the Hermitage
Ms. Jennifer Minifie
Representing the National Trust and the Hunters Hill
Flora and Fauna Preservation Society.

COUNCIL STAFF

Ms Meryl Bishop
Manager – Urban Planning – City of Ryde
Mr Garry Stanley
Heritage Advisor – City of Ryde

The meeting was preceded by a tour of Macquarie Park Cemetery and Crematorium by Mr. Tom Sweeney. Burial sites of famous people, were indicated and new landscape and development issues were outlined. The tour was completed with an inspection of the crematorium facility. The staff of the Park was thanked for their time and interest in inviting the Committee to the Park.

MIN NO. 01 APOLOGIES

Councillor Nicole Campbell
Representing City of Ryde
Councillor Vic Tagg
Representing City of Ryde
Community representative
Greg Blaxell

Community representative
Peter Bardos
Community representative
Eleanor Chaine
Council staff
Ms. Sue Weatherley
Council staff
Angela Phippen

MIN NO. 02 Consideration and adoption of Minutes 06/ 07

The minutes of the meeting 06/07 were adopted.

MIN NO. 03 Heritage Fund – consideration of one completed work

Garry Stanley reported that the applicant at 78 West Pde. Denistone has completed their work and payment from the fund is recommended. The attached sheet details the works and payments made to date. The owner of number 87 North Rd. has had difficulties finding tradespersons to undertake their project, and the three other applicants will be contacted to check on progress. The committee recommended that remaining funds will be rolled over to 08-09 programme.

MIN. NO. 04 National Trust Heritage Festival 5th. – 20th. April 2008

Two events have been identified as follows.

- Open day at Ryde Village on the 5th. April 08,
Walking tour 1: Precinct near St. Annes Church
Walking tour 2: Victoria Rd, including Willandra and Addington
- Open day at Brush Farm House on the 12th. April 08,
Brush farm House, Brush Farm Park. and Riverview.

They have been advertised in the National Trust magazine, distributed to Members. Council has received some bookings to date.

Brochures are being prepared for each event, and a trial run has been undertaken of the Brush Farm tour. The events will be advertised in "City View" 19th. March and 2nd. April.

It is noted that the Historic Houses Trust of NSW will also be conducting tours of the West Ryde Boiler House on the 5th. April.

MIN. No. 05 Brush Farm House Curtilage Update.

At Council's project co-ordination meeting 19.02.08, the current works programme was outlined. The project completion date is late April, and the current estimate of construction time is 12 weeks giving a completion of end of September 2008. A copy of the programme was tabled for members' information.

A bus tour was conducted by Matthew Taylor of Taylor Bremmer landscape architects to look at pavement issues at other historic sites. Present on the tour was Jenifer Noble, Diane Openshaw, Margarita Grunberg, Jennifer Minifie, Margaret Ralston, Terry Wilkinson, Jeff Deardon and Garry Stanley. The tour commenced at Brush Farm House and continued to Elizabeth Farm House, Experimental Farm, Admiralty House at Kirribilli, 44 Union St. North Sydney and finished at Willandra. Further comments on the landscape plan are to be received by the 26th. Feb 08.

The main issue raised by the committee was the driveway material. The consultant has recommended an epoxy bonded gravel surface, some members of the committee favour a natural gravel surface.

MIN. NO. 06 Brush Farm Park, Plan of Management update

An assessment report of public submissions of the draft plan, dated Jan 08, and a final mark up of the Plan of Management has been received by Council. A copy was provided to Jenny Noble.

MIN NO. 07 Heritage Projects for 2008-2009

Two projects have been identified for the coming year. The creation of a Heritage Development Control Plan and a City wide interpretation plan. The interpretation will build on the Heritage Study to create a comprehensive plan for interpretation on Council's web page and in the public domain. Built works could include public art and signage. The work would be done in accordance with the Heritage Office publication; Interpreting Heritage Places and items and reference will be made to Councils new Signage Strategy. The committee will be provided with further information on the projects.

MIN NO. 08 City of Ryde State Heritage Inventory, data input. Update

Garry Stanley reported that work has commenced on placing the City of Ryde heritage items on the Heritage Office data base. There are 175 heritage items plus four Conservation Areas. Each item requires information to be entered on 9 screens, total 1575 screens. On completion the information will be available on Council's website and the Heritage Office website. In the near future staff will be able to access the information internally. The project is currently 40% complete and it is anticipated that it will be completed by the end of August 08.

Macquarie Park Cemetery and Crematorium is a heritage item in the Ryde LEP. Information concerning the burials of famous people will be added to the data base.

MIN. NO. 09 Parramatta River Heritage Study, update

Stage 1 of the study has been completed and a copy will be forwarded to the Committee for comment. The project will gather information including oral histories, review existing heritage items and the possible identification of new items. The study will assist in the interpretation of the riverside walkway. In future the committee wish to be notified of when heritage projects are going to tender.

MIN. NO. 10 Reports from Community Representatives.

Kevin Shaw reported that twelve people have completed a course as heritage guides for the Village of Ryde, and later courses will include the Addington walk, and Field of Mars bus tour.

Concern was raised about the state of the Willandra fence. Garry Stanley Indicated that he is working with Jeff Deardon on an external scope of works and budget for Willandra with reference to the Conservation Management Plan. The schedule will include replacement of fences, upgrading of landscape, repairs to gravel paths, possible repainting exterior using traditional

methods, and reinstatement of shutters to first floor.
He is also working with Jeff on the refurbishment of Eastwood Town Hall.

Jennie Minifie pointed out that there are funding opportunities available to RCC if Brush Farm Estate is listed at the National and State levels. The recommendation for the expanded listings comes from the Geoffrey Britton report adopted by the Council . Such funding could be applied to capital works. This represents an opportunity foregone.

Jennie Minifie asked that Council establish an internal group comprising representatives from units that are involved in projects and works on Councils buildings and parklands that have heritage significance or are listed. The group needs to include representatives from the units – Parks, Property and Urban Planning.

The purpose of the group would be the sharing of information and ensuring that appropriate technical, design and heritage/planning advice is provided to the Units undertaking works on the heritage listed properties – including Brush Farm House.

Mr. John Hull confirmed that the Hermitage is still vacant, and expressed his concern for the number of units which may be built on the site. He understands the site is for sale.

Glenn Ford has provided the following information on the Hermitage:
The proponent has verbally advised of an intention to finalise the Construction Certificate for both Consents relating to the site and to commence work under the current consents. The CCs are being handled by a private certifier as the Principle Certifying Authority. Notice to commence is expected in March 2008. The proponent has verbally advised that the intention to seek additional floor space on the development site has not been abandoned but may be pursued as work proceeds under the current consents.

The proponent has previously submitted a copy of legal advice to the effect that the consent for the development site has been captured by work undertaken to date. This advice has not been tested in Court.

MIN NO. 11 GENERAL BUSINESS

Peter Mitchell was congratulated on his appointment to the Central Darling Alliance Committee.

Greg Blaxell has requested six months leave of absence from the committee.

The Committee congratulates Eleanor Chaine on their new baby boy.

Cards will be arranged to be sent to Greg and Eleanor from the committee.

The Denistone Character Area Development Control Committee has been adopted and effective.

Councillor Ryan expressed concern about the Eastwood Park Plan of

Management and the three heritage items within the park.

It is planned to run the Macquarie University Museum Studies project again this year. Kate Higgins and Garry Stanley will contact the University next week to initiate a project.

The Oral History Project of Brush Farm House is being undertaken with Angela Phippen. Jennifer Minifie is to contact Kate Higgins for some ideas on funding sources.

MIN NO.10 Next Meeting: Wednesday 16 April 2008 at 6PM
Civic Centre, Ryde.

Meeting Closed: 7.00 pm