

<b>Subject:</b>	Bushland and Environment Advisory Committee Meeting – Draft Minutes of Meeting	Page 1 of 6
<b>File No:</b>	CLR/07/8/101/1/6	
<b>Document Ref:</b>	D19/155976	
<b>Venue:</b>	Council Chambers 1 Pope Street, Ryde	
<b>Date:</b>	Wednesday, 11 <sup>th</sup> September 2019	
<b>Time:</b>	5.00pm	Started at: 5.08pm      Closed at: 6.45pm
<b>Chair:</b>	Councillor Penny Pedersen	
<b>Meeting Support (MS):</b>	Linda Smith – EA to the Mayor and Councillors	
<b>Staff Convenor:</b>	Kylie McMahon	
<b>Circulation:</b>	Bushland and Environment Advisory Committee and Councillors	

**Committee Role:****Committee Members as per the Terms of Reference**

Present	Apology	Name	Position Title	Organisation
x		Councillor Penny Pedersen	Chairperson and Councillor Delegate	City of Ryde
x		Councillor Christopher Gordon	Deputy Chairperson and Councillor Delegate	City of Ryde
	x	Councillor Edwina Clifton	Councillor Delegate	City of Ryde
x		Pamela Reeves	Community Representative	
x		Libby Lawson	Community Representative	
x		David Thomas	Community Representative	
x		Terry Perram	Community Representative	
	x	Simone McGinley	Community Representative	
		Jill Hartley	Community Representative	
x		Bev Debrincat	Community Representative	
	x	Joanne Taranto	Community Representative	
x		Jane Valentine	Community Representative	
x		Sylvia Lane	Community Representative	
	x	Jessica Wilks	Community Representative	
	x	Angela Maier	Community Representative	
	x	Amelia Saul	Community Representative	
x		Peter Davies	Community Representative	

**City of Ryde Staff**

Present	Apology	Name	Position Title	Organisation
x		Sam Cappelli	Manager Environment, Health and Building	City of Ryde
x		Kylie McMahon	Senior Coordinator Environment	City of Ryde
x		Sandra Payne	Natural Areas Coordinator	City of Ryde
x		Sean Simpson	Natural Areas Projects Officer	City of Ryde
x		Linda Smith	EA to Mayor and Councillors	City of Ryde
x		Vince Cusumano	Plan of Management Officer	City of Ryde
x		Michael Longworth	Senior Coordinator – Parks Planning	City of Ryde
X		Pablo Bateson	Resource and Resilience Officer	City of Ryde

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<p>1. <b>Welcome by Chair – Cllr Penny Pedersen</b></p> <p>Cllr Pedersen opened the meeting by welcoming all present, recognising the traditional owners of the land and thanking everyone for their participation. Cllr Pedersen noted the newspaper item in which local volunteers promoted the Wildlife Protection Areas and that the Australian Medical Association has declared a climate emergency.</p>	Noted
<p>2. <b>Apologies</b></p> <p>Attendance and apologies are as noted above.</p>	Noted
<p>3. <b>Adoption of previous Minutes – 12<sup>th</sup> June 2019</b></p> <p>The Minutes from the meeting of 12<sup>th</sup> June 2019 were adopted, with minor corrections provided by Bev Debrincat (2 typos and inclusion of 'Greater Sydney Landcare Network is now running Streamwatch')</p>	Adopted
<p>4. <b>Presentation – Generic Plan of Management for Natural Areas – Gondwana</b></p> <p>Vince Cusumano introduced Alan Ginns from Gondwana Consulting who gave the following presentation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Three plans of management have been drafted so far by Council:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) Parramatta River Parklands Plan of Management</li> <li>(b) Generic Plan of Management for parks, gardens and community use</li> <li>(c) Generic Plan of Management for sportsgrounds</li> </ul> </li> <li>- Work is now proceeding on the Generic Plan of Management for natural areas.</li> <li>- 70 parks in Ryde contain Natural Areas / 20 contain Crown Land</li> <li>- This covers community land including crown land</li> <li>- The Plan of Management is generic and will reference strategic plans such as:-             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Biodiversity plan</li> <li>Integrated open space plan</li> <li>Sport and recreation strategy</li> <li>Bicycle strategy</li> </ul> </li> <li>- Once adopted, the plan will complement the other plans of management and future specific plans of management</li> <li>- There will be community engagement and the plan must fit the legislative framework</li> <li>- It will set out land ownership, natural area characteristics, history, development and uses, licences and an Action Plan</li> <li>- The first stage of Public consultation will conclude on 28<sup>th</sup> September 2019</li> <li>- The Draft must be forwarded to the Minister for approval for the document to be placed on Public Exhibition</li> <li>- Bev D asked regarding the public exhibition period and timing over the school holidays. Vince explained that it will be extended to February for this reason.</li> <li>- Peter D commented on sub leasing and leasing of buildings nexus between the sub lease and line of sight. Vince confirmed that the Act specifies permissible activities and that it is a legislative requirement to address within the Plans of Management.</li> <li>- Cllr Pedersen commented on recent activities by telecommunications</li> </ul>	The information was noted.

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	<p>provider Optus who are undertaking works near a wildlife protection area and with no consultation. It was explained that works of this nature are exempt for consultation due to these falling under the State Planning Policy for necessary infrastructure and that community would not usually receive consultation but notification.</p>	
4.	<p><b>Actions arising from the previous Minutes</b></p> <p>The update provided by Sandra Payne regarding actions such as; composting promotion at The Habitat, Wildlife Protection Area signage, impacts of dogs education and use of Round Up was noted.</p>	<p>The information is noted.</p>
6.	<p><b>Standing Items</b></p> <p><b>Sustainability Matters</b></p> <p>Nil</p> <p><b>Climate Change</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Council has lodged two grant applications for increasing resilience for climate change, and preparing the community for future possible events. One in conjunction with Northern Sydney Regional Organisation of Councils (NSROC). There is currently no data around heat mapping / monitoring and to support to provide data on this for the northern region for future resilience planning and projects to combat urban heat impacts. The second grant will be for the Ryde community to pilot resilience building programs across the city to assist residents in 'getting prepared'</li> <li>- A further grant application is being prepared to assist residents living in apartment blocks to become more energy and resource efficient to deliver outcomes under a Cllr request for council to apply for a grant application to the Member for Bennelong, John Alexander's office/ Federal Government grant.</li> <li>- This grant will build on the work of current "Our common ground" apartment sustainability program which has seen overwhelming response in applications from 40 plus unit blocks who have received assistance in the form of home sustainability audits, compost farms, community gardens.</li> </ul> <p><b>Natural areas and biodiversity update</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The newly declared Wildlife Protection Areas come into effect at the end of November.</li> <li>- As part of the implementation of the Wildlife Protection Areas new signage will be installed at the 3 declared areas at each entry and a community education program will be rolled out.</li> </ul> <p><b>Parramatta River Catchment Group</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Council recently resolved to adopt a 'Zero Litter to the River by 2030' target. Council will then have to develop a program to deliver this outcome.</li> <li>- It is also hoped to make the Parramatta River near Putney swimmable and to date, water sampling has been undertaken on 20 occasions with results looking good. More sampling to continue later in the year/ new year.</li> <li>- 100 samples must be undertaken before plans to open the river to swimming can be progressed.</li> </ul>	<p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p>
7.	<p><b>General Business</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Cllr Pedersen and Delegates to NSROC put forward the suggestion to use Artarmon CRC for a repair centre.</li> <li>- It was noted that Adrian Kong has resigned from this committee as he no longer lives in the local area.</li> </ul>	<p>Noted</p>

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Council has recently employed a Biosecurity Weeds Officer, Viniana Vererua, funded by a grant won by Council from the Weeds Action Program/ LLS. Her role involves implementing the Greater Sydney Regional Strategic Weed Management Plan, community and staff education around priority weeds, inspections along high risk pathways and high risk sites, and inspection of private properties surrounding significant bushland areas.</li> <li>- It was noted that the new cycleway along Pittwater Road near the Field of Mars will be completed in the next couple of weeks.</li> <li>- Terry P asked the question as to whether street tree vandalism was common in the local area and do staff follow up where it has taken place. It was noted that tree guards do help to some extent.</li> <li>- Cllr Pedersen asked fines were placed for vandalism?</li> <li>- Some trees in the Field of Mars are now being wrapped due to the damage being caused by people putting graffiti on trees.</li> <li>- It was noted that Council was doing a good job protecting the very large trees at the corner of Epping Rd and Vimiera Rd (Stewart Park) near where a new shared user path was being constructed.</li> <li>- Pam R: The Ryde Gladesville Climate Group be hosting a special screening of the film "2040" film on 14 October 2019 and invited all members to attend. Council to see if advertisement is possible for this event.</li> <li>- Cllr Pedersen: A Climate Strike March will take place on 20 September starting at the Domain in the city. Interested members should meet at the fountain in Hyde Park at 11.30am. The Lower North Shore Climate Action Group will also be marching across the harbour bridge.</li> <li>- David T: A comment was made that some of the vegetation mapping being used by Council should be revised. There is a new mapping tool from Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPIE) and a new method. There are some inaccuracies with regard to the Turpentine Ironbark Forest and Blue Gum High Forest vegetation communities.</li> <li>- It was noted that at that level of detail is not currently a priority as there are many competing planning priorities for council to respond to the Local Strategic Planning Statements to inform the development of the LEP. As part of this updates to mapping will have to occur and it was agreed that the level of accuracy requires review. Presently there is pressure to update mapping in relation to heat island effects, tree cover and land use etc and the capacity is not there to focus on the vegetation communities at this stage. It was noted that protection of the endangered ecological communities is paramount and both Turpentine Ironbark Forest and Blue Gum High Forest are to both be protected in the same way.</li> <li>- Staff advised that Council is working to commence a new mapping project to update and accurately measure canopy cover, street tree assets.</li> <li>- An update on the plans for Ivanhoe Estate should be available soon. It is hoped that there will be improvements on the plans currently proposed as preliminarily indicated by the Developer in exchanges of meetings and newly proposed designs. These are indicatively showing great improvement/ protection to the Epping road corridor which if delivered, will provide the optimum outcome in preventing corridor loss.</li> <li>- Council has been successful in being a finalist in the national awards by the Cities Power Partnership - Renewable Energy Achievement Awards 2019. The awards were recently presented and it was noted by Cllr Pederson who thanked the staff for the wonderful job in getting the nomination. She said it was great for Council to be named and was a great attending the awards.</li> <li>- A sightings of powerful owls and a newly fledged chick were reported along Kittys Creek.</li> <li>- Sean S: The feral animal control program is progressing well with Field of Mars, Terrys Creek, Kittys Creek, Denistone Park, Darvall Park and Tyagarah Park being targeted. We will be working with other Councils for the next release of the calicivirus.</li> <li>- Brush Turkeys are very active in the area, with one at Denistone raking mulch all the way across the road to construct a mound in another garden.</li> <li>- Kylie M: There were 40 registrations in the water saving gardens workshop and staff are currently working with groups in high density areas to</li> </ul>	<p>Staff to provide advice on street tree vandalism to the next meeting – the number of incidents, what follow-up occurs, information on fines and follow up post after planting</p> <p>Council to assist where possible, the screening of the film 2040 on its website.</p> <p>Noted</p>
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<p>increase the uptake of sustainable measures.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Upcoming WSUD workshop to be held at Field of Mars Reserve on 28 September – 40 registrations have been received.</li> <li>- 'Our Common Ground'- there has been plenty of positive feedback about this new project, with 4 groups establishing vegetable garden beds and very positive feedback from groups who participated.</li> <li>- Sightings of an echidna at Epping Boys High School and Pittwater Rd near Rene St</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Presentation – local resilience Plan for City of Ryde – Pablo Bateson</b></p> <p>Pablo Bateson has been engaged to assist with development and implementation of the Ryde Resilience Plan 2030 to align with council outcomes to deliver objectives by the Greater Sydney Commission and Resilient Sydney Strategy.</p> <p>Issues to be investigated include climate change, carbon emissions, biodiversity, canopy coverage, urban heat island effects, transport, mental health, emergency preparedness, housing affordability etc. It will investigate to prepare the community for shocks such as heat waves, storms etc. Heat is a big issue for people in Ryde in relation to Climate Change.</p> <p>A consultant has been engaged to consult with the community and examine ways that the most vulnerable members of the community can be assisted. A series of inclusive workshops is being delivered to obtain this feedback including at the upcoming Granny Smith Festival in October.</p> <p>The Resilience Plan is not a standalone document but will complement and support various other strategic council documents acting as a framework. Resilience needs to be built into the whole of Council's activities.</p> <p><b>Pablo Bateson addressed the group and provided the following information:-</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Resilience means the capacity to recover from difficulties such as shocks, heatwaves, floods, infrastructure fails and ongoing pressures such as housing affordability, economic downturn, food security, connectiveness, mental health and climate change. It means the capacity of the community to survive, adapt and thrive</li> <li>- It involves individuals, communities, businesses etc all bouncing back from hard times.</li> <li>- Engagement is the key element of resilience. Resilience is the latest in a long line of buzz words including: - sustainability, biodiversity, climate change and adaptation</li> <li>- There is a need for the community (especially CALD) to understand the term resilience. Council is in a good position to help its community do this..</li> <li>- This group has been operating for five years after the City of Sydney took the lead. 33 councils now take part. Kylie is the Ambassador for Resilience Sydney representing Ryde.</li> <li>- Pablo believes that City of Ryde needs a local plan which will outline actions. There is a need to define goals, targets, outcomes, actions and who will be involved.</li> <li>- The Plan will be carried out over 10 years.</li> <li>- In terms of preparedness, Council is looking to pair up with the Red Cross which has launched an app, web link to some of the resources available.</li> <li>- Emergency preparedness week, is coming up as part of the campaign.</li> <li>- Cllr Pedersen has been advising Macquarie University staff and others about what Council is working on and the importance of community cohesion.</li> <li>- It was noted that following hurricane Katrina – often the areas that bounced back best were those that had high levels of cohesion and not developed communities despite financial capacity.</li> <li>- Some people are already experiencing climate anxiety and the Plan will be rolled out via engagement programs post adoption in 2020.</li> <li>- Pablo can be contacted at <a href="mailto:pbateson@ryde.nsw.gov.au">pbateson@ryde.nsw.gov.au</a></li> </ul>	<p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p>

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8	<b>Next meeting</b>  The next meeting is scheduled for 11 <sup>th</sup> December 2019 – 5pm to no later than 6.30pm in the Council Chambers – Level 1A Pope St, Ryde	
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Meeting closed 6.40