

NEWPORT RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

Notes from a meeting of the Newport Residents Association Committee.

Held Monday 20th April 2020 via video (Zoom), commencing at 7pm.

In attendance: Gavin Butler, President, Kyle Hill, Bill Thomson, Wendy Dunnet,
Peter Middleton, Sue Young, Glenn Moore

Gavin Butler commenced the meeting with a summary of the Queens Pde & Beaconsfield DA, No 2019/1280 approval by Northern Beaches Council. He highlighted that it was a local community member's submission that improved the outcome in regard to traffic & safety. The changes were made by the Developer to meet community concerns, not by Council. This reinforces the vital need for Community input.

It was noted due to the closure of a number newspapers, a Local Govt regulation has been amended to remove requirements for newspaper advertising of DA's by Council. Instead Councils are now required to publish notices on their websites & in such other manner that they consider necessary to bring it to the notice of the local community or other interested parties. GB to ask at his next meeting with Council how it will inform residents. One suggestion for Council would be to add the list of applications to their current communication 'NBC Have Your Say' which is distributed by email twice a month.

Rob Stokes announced the NSW Government is introducing the Planning System Acceleration Program to fast track planning processes to keep people in jobs and boost construction. State significant developments, re-zonings, local & regional DA's will be accelerated. Clearing the backlog of cases in the L&E Court & investing to co-fund new community infrastructure in the North West are also included in the program. Of concern is what will happen after COVID-19 and how this will impact the process of DA's and approvals in the future. GB to follow up at PCA video conference with NBC.

Following February 2020 members' meeting it was agreed to pass the following motion & write a letter to thank Rob Stokes MP for his support for a Pollution Monitoring Station to be installed on the Northern Beaches & that while this air quality station will bring the Northern Beaches in line with the Western Suburbs we will still need 3 or 4 real time Particle Pollution Monitors to handle the special needs of the Pittwater area. These monitors such as those used in the international PurpleAir system would be relatively low in cost & simple to maintain.

NBC initiated a Newport Activation plan last year which is due to continue this year. Meetings are attended by a couple of our members. The committee discussed a few ideas for Glenn Moore to take to the group working on this for when they next meet. He advised Noni Crawford is chairman of the Newport Chamber of Commerce and on that committee. The NRA agreed to support their endeavours & reinforced the necessity to help Newport businesses post COVID-19.

We were approached by a year 12 student to do a survey on line re: the B-Line. GB put it on our website. Hopefully quite a few people will fill it in, whether they catch the B-Line bus or not.

GB also advised that PCA (Pittwater Community Alliance) was to have a video conference with the CEO & Planning Director of NBC this Wednesday (since deferred a week) to discuss planning matters generally and in particular the following;

- How is work on integrating the 4 current LEPs into one progressing? (including DCP/s and local character statements). What is the timeline? Has the timeline been revised due to the pandemic?
- Seniors living developments bypassing density and population targets and Council.
- The Local Government (General) Regulation 2005 has been amended to remove requirements for newspaper advertising. This amendment is not temporary. In this new context, how will NBC inform residents, in a proactive way, of new DAs?
- What is NBC's position regarding the NSW Government's recent proposed Planning System Acceleration Program?
- We note that the official submission of a community/resident's association to a development etc is only counted as one response in the tally of responses. Most of our member organisations represent hundreds of individuals. How can this problem be made equitable?
- The role of planning panels
- Any new COVID developments by NBC

Finally, GB to contact Trish and ask if the lifeguards patrolling our beach are also able to nicely explain to people that dogs are not allowed on the beach, either on or off their leashes. Having the lifeguards help in this way would support the Rangers who are very busy.

Reply - [I have forwarded this to the Manger Beach Safety. However, the lifeguard patrols end on Sunday 26 April](#)

Also GB to ask Trish to clarify the status of the Youth Hub proposal at Newport as submissions closed in February. There are still signs up near the surf club showing the plan.

Reply - [The yoursay page has been updated](#)

<https://yoursay.northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au/newport-outdoor-youth-space>

[I understand that based on feedback the designs are being refined with construction still planned for later this year. The signs were removed yesterday.](#)

Meeting closed 7.50pm.