

**MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING  
19 FEBRUARY 2020 at 7 PM**

**GREENWICH COMMUNITY HALL, 46 Greenwich Rd Greenwich**

The meeting commenced at **7.05** pm.

**Apologies:** Liz Gill, Lisa Perry, Penny Mabbutt, Ross Williams, Libby and Rob Hunter

**Transdev Ferry Route Changes**

The earlier than usual start to the meeting was to enable Transdev representatives to present to the meeting on the reasons why and how proposed changes to the ferry routes will affect Greenwich residents.

This was arranged because the proposed changes were causing concern in the community. After a question and answer session the following motion was passed:-

*“1. Transdev’s consultation process did not provide adequate detail of changes at key locations, required those who wished to comment through its consultation interface to navigate an unnecessarily complex process, and did not allow adequate time for meaningful community engagement.*

*2. Barangaroo is not a major transport interchange. Public transport links:*

- are not adjacent to the ferry wharf*
- require commuters to walk distances that will add significantly to travel times*
- are not easily accessible for less mobile members of the community.*

*3. We request that the current F8 ferry route be maintained and that a stop at Barangaroo be added to the route at peak times.*

*4. That this resolution be communicated to Transdev, Transport for NSW, the Premier, the Minister for Transport and Roads and the member for Lane Cove.”*

Moved: Merri Southwood. Seconded: John Southwood.

After the Transdev item, it was agreed to deal with an update on St Leonards South to allow those who did not wish to attend the AGM to leave before the AGM commenced.

**St Leonards South**

Merri Southwood outlined developments to date:-

- SLS is a Council plan but the final approval rests with the DPIE
- The IPC advised the Minister that it found that the SLS Plan was over development, that it wasn't required under housing targets and it met only five out of the 23 design principles for the 2036 St Leonards and Crows Nest Plan
- Council asked the DPIE for guidance as to how the plan should be amended and the DPIE set up a charrette.
- The Charrette took place on Monday 11 November.
- It was facilitated by communications consultancy KJA.

- Attendees:
  - DPIE representatives
  - Council representatives
  - State Design Review Panel
  - NSW Govt Architect.
- The report was written by DPIE and released simultaneously to Lane Cove Council and the community on 7/2/2020.
- The Charrette recommendations are to go into the 2036 Plan with no clarity as to where the Charrette Report and SLS and the timing of 2036.
- GCA concerned that the Charette report failed to address some of the key concerns of the IPC – namely impact on heritage items in Park Road West and fact that SLS is an overdevelopment. It gives no indication of dwelling numbers proposed.
- The GCA asked Council to demonstrate that it would not be bullied by DPIE to accept the Charrette proposals. Councillor Frances Vissel attempted to move an urgency motion but this was disallowed.
- The GCA understand that Council seems to be very sure that DPIE will not rush to get 2036 out with the Charrette recommendations in it and that Council can spend time to make its own assessment of what it will agree to in the Charette report.
- There has been no report from Council on the 2017 SLS exhibition submissions.
- We have had assurances from the DPIE that SLS Planning remains with Council so hope that Council will come up with a plan that addresses all those issues that we've been talking about.

Mayor Pam Palmer advised the meeting as follows:-

- The Charette report appears to have the same density as Council's plan and the same amount of open space, just redistributed
- The key takeouts from community submissions are that the community wants reduced density, more open space and minimum overshadowing
- Council will put the revised plan out to community consultation. We want to take your views on board and we'll be doing that

Mayor Pam Palmer outlined the SLS process:-

- The Council made a decision in 2015 to progress higher density in this area and the boundaries of the area were mapped out
- Step one is the gateway process was that Council had to get permission from DPIE to go ahead on the 2015 decision
- The DPIE took 18 months to come back to Council
- Council elections were then held and Council voted to go ahead with community consultation
- Consultation went from Oct 017 to Jan 2018.
- Council was ready to consider submissions at the first meeting in 2018, however, at that meeting Council also heard that the 2036 Plan for the greater Crow's Nest

area was about to be released so Council deferred making a final decision with DPIE approval.

- The DPIE did not release the plan until October 2018 and Council then had to wait for the IPC advice.
- Council needs now to take Charrette report and analyse it to see where it can go from here, taking into account everything it has heard from the IPC, the DPIE and the community.

Community members made the following comments:-

- the Charette plan is a different plan from the one that has been in the public domain for 4-5 years. It is not a continuation of the SLS Plan process. It is a new plan and should be submitted to the community for consultation
- the Charette plan is a vastly superior plan to the Council's plan
- will the Mayor agree that the IPC advice was damning of Council's plan?

Mayor Pam Palmer responded:-

the IPC was damning of Council's proposal, but some of the things in the IPC report were not an accurate reflection of Council's planning. Council put its plan, after it got through the gateway, on public exhibition and it has not responded to those submissions yet. The plan has not altered since 2015 when Council went to the Gateway.

Merri Southwood noted, speaking for herself, not for the GCA:-

all the technical reports that were developed to support the original plan in 2015 (before the boundaries changed) will need to be revised. The revised reports were not available when the SLS plan went on exhibition in 2017.

Will Council revisit those reports?

Mayor Pam Palmer responded:-

She was just one Councillor, it was up to nine Councillors to decide where Council was going.

Community member:

Does Council have a clear focus and vision for SLS?

Mayor Pam Palmer:

- Council is required by the state government to accommodate a growing population
- The government is now asking councils to revise their planning every five years.
- In the last round in 2009, some industrial lands were rezoned.
- This time around the vision was for transit-oriented development.
- The three councils got together actually, even before 2009. In 2006, they produced their vision for the area, which was more employment and more housing.
- When the community in SLS came to Council, they were very eager for their properties to be rezoned and to make money out of selling their properties.
- The Council at the time decided that this would be a wise location to increase density in this area and that is where it all started and went from there.

- As far as the density goes, there were many consultations prior to the plan coming on board.
- Council's plan had to consider the environment, density, community facilities and worker housing. Its allowances for those put mean extra height.
- The new infrastructure has to be funded by Council at this stage. The state government has not promised us any funding.
- It started out simple. It got complex and it is very hard to explain all the complexity in the plan.

Community member asked if the purpose of the Council is still to have a high-rise transit focus?

Mayor Pam Palmer confirmed that it is transit focused in the area.

Discussion closed and the following resolution was passed:-

*"We, the attendees at a meeting of the Greenwich Community Association on 19 February 2020:*

*1. re-affirm our opposition to the dwelling numbers proposed in Council's St Leonards South Planning Proposal on the grounds that such development will place unacceptable pressure on the infrastructure, amenity and character of Greenwich and all other areas included in the St Leonards/Crows Nest Planned Precinct;*

*2. express our disappointment that The Outcomes and Recommendations Report of the SLS Design Charrette (the Charrette report) fails to address key issues of concern about SLS raised by the IPC, including but not limited to impacts on heritage items in Park Road West, over-development of the site, housing mix and traffic impacts;*

*3. call on the Minister for Planning to direct the Department of Planning Industry and Environment to review the Charrette report to address fully all key issues listed on p 12 of the report, namely*

- *Quantum of public space*
- *Scale and bulk of development*
- *Preservation of local character*
- *Transition to surrounding area*
- *Overshadowing of public open space*
- *Connection and movement through the site*
- *Potential overdevelopment;*

*4. call on Lane Cove Council to undertake to engage in genuine community consultation about its St Leonards South planning proposal before it is submitted to the DPIE for finalisation."*

Moved: Merri Southwood, Seconded: John Southwood

The meeting then moved to the conduct of the Annual General Meeting.

### **Minutes for last AGM - 20 February 2019**

Moved Accepted Peter Deane, Seconded Di Willis. No matters arising.

**President's Report** as attached A.

**Treasurer's Report** as attached B.

### **Sub-Committee Reports**

#### **Active Transport - Don Murchison**

Reapplied to Council for the cliff section of River Road to be rectified. The GCA has been supporting the need to widen the cliff section of River Road so that there's a shared user path from Greenwich Road down to the golf course.

We're really hoping that that will go ahead this year because the narrow goat track is extremely dangerous and at the end of the year, a trailer came off a car and crashed into the small section of the fence in front of the school. That really drew attention to the dangers of that road as it is with the speeding traffic. Hopefully we'll all hear some results from Council and achieve something over the next year or two or three or 40 years.

#### **Greenwich Baths - Alan Winney**

No report

**Election of Office Bearers.** This was carried out with Pam Palmer acting as Returning Officer. The new committee is as follows:

President - Merri Southwood. Nominated Tom Lawson. Seconded Peter Deane

Vice President - Peter Deane. Nominated Alan Winney. Seconded Merri Southwood

Vice President - Alan Winney. Nominated Peter Deane. Seconded Merri Southwood

Secretary - Liz Gill. Nominated Merri Southwood. Seconded Ricki Deane

Treasurer - John Southwood. Nominated Patricia Quealey. Seconded Peter Deane

Committee member - Penny Mabbutt. Nominated Merri Southwood. Seconded Peter Deane

Committee member - Lisa Perry. Nominated Liz Walton. Seconded Ricki Deane

Committee Member - Don Murchison. Nominated Alan Winney. Seconded Ricki Deane

Committee Member - Liz Walton. Nominated Merri Southwood. Seconded Alan Winney.

There was some discussion about the need to attract younger members onto the committee, with a suggestion that a box on the subscription slip could be ticked if people were interested. Thanks were offered to Pam Palmer and the rest of the Lane Cove Council for all the work they do for the community, a difficult and exacting task with long hours.

**Councillors' Reports** as attached C

## General Business

Attendee Tom Lawson thanked Council for the tremendous work that Council did clearing out fallen trees after the last big storm. It was a huge effort and much appreciated.

Merri Southwood thanked Council officers for their prompt action in rerouting the vehicles coming from construction sites that were using Greenwich Road as a through route and creating chaos. They apparently were working with an outdated tracking management plan. Council officers got onto things very quickly and those vehicles are now using the highway, which is their approved route.

Greenwich Hospital SSD - had 131 submissions. Now just a waiting game. One reason for hold up is because the Department of Planning had a technology glitch.

International Chinese School - no response from proponent to DPIE requisitions. Whole project seems to be bogged down.

266 Longueville Road - also seems to be bogged down, as not much has happened.

Northwood Shops - were imminent. Now in the hands of the Department to finalise.

Open space subcommittee formation. This is derived from the fact that there are a lot of competing demands around how we use open space: whether we need artificial turf or grass; whether dogs go through chicanes or gates, red flags, green flags, yellow flags, etc. The community is really under pressure now with our open space and it is a question of working out what is the appropriate balance between all the competing forces, especially given future considerations around St Leonards South. Next meeting the GCA will be seeking approval to set up a subcommittee that can look at open space.

Comment from Mayor Pam Palmer: Regarding the new operating procedures mentioned and referring to Kingsford Smith Oval, a reminder to people who live around that oval that sports fields are for sport, not dog walking.

Don Murchison: An open day at the new school campus tomorrow. This is a chance to inspect the new building and the new playground area which is magnificent compared to what it used to be. This is having a big impact on the kids because they have the space to play and kick a ball around. The new building is mostly open plan, with two teachers and two classrooms, which can be opened to one gigantic classroom. Two teachers can teach in a team teaching situation. It is fairly experimental, especially for our area, but people are warming up to and seem to really enjoy it.

A. Jubian: A little disappointing that in trying to add capacity the Department took away the teachers parking, so forcing the teachers to park on the street, causing problems on adjoining streets, especially St Vincent's and Gore streets. It would have been very easy to construct an underground car park.

Merri Southwood reported that she had received an email from a member of the community who expressed disappointment that the school grounds will be enclosed land.

The meeting closed at 10.10 pm

## President's Report Attachment A

2019 will go down as "The Year of the Submission".

We kicked off 2019 with submissions on the draft 2036 Plan for St Leonards and Crows Nest, the 2036 Green Plan, the Local Character Statement and the Special Infrastructure Contribution Plan.

Since then, we have made submissions on Council's Bike Plan, Council's Community Land Plan of Management, the Bushfire Risk Management Plan, Council's Community Participation Plan, Council's Customer Experience Strategy and Council's Local Strategic Planning Statement.

And just to keep us on our toes over the holidays, we have made a submission on the Transdev ferry route changes.

We have taken the view that you need to make the most of the opportunity to have input but, frankly, it is hard to keep the enthusiasm up. It takes a lot of work to pull submissions together and there is generally very little responsiveness or engagement from the people on the other side of the email address or portal.

But just when your spirits get low you have an IPC moment. A St Leonards South IPC moment.

How refreshing was the IPC approach – a little too responsive it seems, given that it is now under attack.

Community members should take a bow. Their public hearing presentations were so professional and focussed and the hundreds of written submissions were truly impressive. Not just a lot of form letters. These were submissions from people who truly believed what they were saying.

And what a result. The IPC advice on St Leonards South has given the community heart that changes will be made to the St Leonards South Plan. We need to be in for the long haul, but, perhaps, now, a little more confident than we were a year ago that our concerns about this development will be addressed.

And we now have the additional support and excellent working relationships with adjacent community groups who are impacted by what happens in our LGA.

Thanks to our witty, talented and dedicated newsletter editor. Liz Walton, we have kept you informed about GCA initiatives and priorities. And to our newsletter deliverers, our thanks again, especially for your patience when you get John's little subs slips that add a step to the process.

Thank you to John Southwood for his enthusiastic and successful membership drives, for keeping the books in order and for taking on the role of getting our email broadcasts out. This is so important with the need to respond quickly at times.

To Alan and Pete, what sounding boards – thank you for so graciously taking those calls when I just need to bounce something off you both. Really solid and good advice from you two.

And to Liz Gill, Penny Mabbutt, Lisa Perry and Don Murchison – each one of you has taken on specific tasks so readily and with skill when you have several other complex demands on your time and energy.

Yes, a great committee to work with and I thank you.

Dion Weston has again kept our website updated as he juggles an exciting project in his own home.



MaryEd Hartnell has counted more newsletters than I care to imagine and has the unenviable job of trying to stuff bags of newsletters into letterboxes designed to sever fingers.

And our thanks again to our auditor, Brian Bird.

Best wishes to the incoming committee. We cannot promise a quiet year but we know it will be interesting.

***Merri Southwood***  
***President***

## Treasurer's report Attachment B

### Membership - Individuals or families registered

195 as at 31 December 2019

200 as at 31 Dec 2018

234 at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2017

183 at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2016

276 at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2015

### Accounts as at 31 December 2019

#### Trading for Financial Year

1 January 2019 to 31 December 2019

<b>Profit and loss (Refer attached)</b>	<b>FY 2019</b>
Gross Income:	\$5,009.99
Total Expense	\$4,511.67
<b><u>Net Income (Loss)</u></b>	<b>\$498.32</b>
<b>Cash Book balance</b>	<b>\$6,440.29</b>
<b>Balance Sheet (Refer attached)</b>	
<b>Bank Statement balance</b>	<b>\$6,440.29</b>
<b>Term Deposit</b>	<b>\$12,989.11</b>

#### Comments

Donations of **\$920** with FY 2020 renewal subs and interest \$209.99 bolstered revenue.

A comparative profit and loss and balance sheet for FY 2018 and FY2019 is attached.

The Hon Auditor's report is also attached.

The FY 2020 has started well with 140 residents paid up. (We need 200+).

***John Southwood***

***Hon Treasurer***

## Councillors Reports Attachment C

### Mayor Pam Palmer

Major projects - **The Canopy Development**. Council is on track with this. The car park is now open and at the moment it's all free, with 400 car spaces now; intending to increase to 500. The supermarkets have been fitted out. The park on the top is being built at street level and new restaurants are being leased. There's still a long way to go but mid year we should have a big opening and I hope you'll come along.

The other major project is the new outdoor swimming pool that's on track for completion late this year, around October before the summer swimming season starts.

We'll also be getting a brand new and better grandstand and incorporated within the grandstand, as with the old grandstand, will be a youth centre but this time it'll be purpose built for youth. It should be a fabulous centre for them. That should all be ready for October opening.

There are lots of other things happening. There is a new park being built at the corner of Longueville Road, and Epping road. There is a new, huge park being built in **the Mowbray Precinct**. **Mindarie Park** Stage 1 is completed with \$1 million worth of play equipment in that park. Stages 2 & 3 are currently being built.

So there's a huge amount of works going on at the moment.

This year is Council's 125<sup>th</sup> birthday so there are lots of celebrations being planned, and we will let you know about those.

February has been Senior's month. We don't just have Senior's week, we have **Senior's** month in Lane Cove starting with a Photography exhibition for Seniors in the library which opened tonight. I hope you go along and see that. Then next month in March is our annual celebration of cultural diversity, **the Autumn Harmony Festival**.

We're celebrating diversity and inclusion. There are some great events on. The highlight for me personally is **International Women's Day** where we speak to women living in Lane Cove who are inspiring, who've had success in following their interests, they're going to tell you about their life journey, what's been important for them, the milestones and we'll have a bit of a Q&A after they've spoken. It's a very lovely night. Of course men are invited but it's obviously targeted at women getting to hear about other women who actually live in our community. There's a great connection there because they're local and so engaging. It's always a great event.

Then for Harmony Day we have **Kaleidoscope of Lane Cove** a cultural diversity part of our March festival.

Then there is **Clean-Up Australia Day** on 1st March. Council's site is at Manns Point. If you want to come and join me by the Greenwich Sailing Club at 10 o'clock on 1st March, Council supplies gloves, bags and hand grabbers for picking up the garbage. Other community groups sponsor Clean-Up sites at various locations across Lane Cove. With our new **harbour care** program, Council supplies kayaks and participants collect rubbish along the river or harbour foreshore. That's been an extremely popular program. People like getting out in kayaks. They've collected tons of rubbish. That's been a really successful program, so no doubt they'd be running on Clean Up Australia Day as well. We have lots of environmentally positive programs. As well, we'll be receiving a report this year responding to the **climate emergency** declared by Council. That's going to be a focus for continuing sustainability

measures in Council. We will be asking the community to get on board, to do their bit, as well as Council.

On that note, someone who is very interested in sustainability wrote to me today. They didn't know that we had free **electric car charging stations** now in all our car parks so Little Street, Market Square, the new Canopy all have electric car charging stations. Tesla owners and others have availed themselves of those, as well as Council's own hybrid vehicle. On the sustainability front again, our **Return and Earn** Scheme facility, a reverse vending machine for your recyclable cans and bottles, is going gangbusters in the Little Street car park. You can park right at the machine and put your bottles and cans in for your 10 cents return, which you can either receive in Woolworth's vouchers, as cash to your PayPal account or you can donate it to the charity of the month, which currently is for farmers.

You can go through your recycling bins and take your containers to the facility to redeem your 10 cents. However, Council's waste contractor also uses the Scheme and returns the benefit to Council, that is, to ratepayers. People are going there with the hugest bags full of containers to earn their 10 cents.

**Councillor Frances Vissel**

No report – covered in Mayor's report