



GREENWICH COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

NEXT PUBLIC MEETING

This will be held on **Wednesday, 21 October, at the Greenwich Sailing Club at Manns Point, 7.30 pm**, finishing about 9.30 pm. All Covid and social distancing requirements will be observed, so we won't be able to offer light refreshments, but we might be able to swing a cuppa. There will be some big and very relevant topics on the agenda, including the fate of Bob Campbell Oval, so please come along and have your say.

FUTURE PROSPECTS

We at the GCA have been thinking hard about how we can best represent the Greenwich community going forward. We think this means how can we be the most relevant and up to date voice in gaining traction in matters pertaining to the community, how we can keep our 'space' clean, green and a great environment to live in, how we can ensure that everyone has a say in how they want to live, how we continue to gently but firmly lead our representatives to recognise that our opinions - all of them - matter because we are the ones who live, work and play here.

We haven't come to any major decisions yet, and we want input from you, the community, but here are some of our thoughts:

- The way this newsletter is currently published means that it must be printed 10 days before our public meetings, so it may sometimes be out of date as new issues and conditions arise.
- We could give up printing this newsletter and distribute it electronically to make our communication more timely and therefore more relevant.
- Before we switched to electronic format only, we would concentrate our efforts on expanding our mailing list to reach ALL members of our community.
- We would ensure that those who do not have internet access will be

able to receive newsletters in hard copy through our current deliverer network.

- We could focus on FB administration and ensuring that our webmaster is provided with updated material for our webpage. Our GCA committee is small and we will need help to do this.
- We have more/fewer public meetings.
- We continue to invite the community to join the sub committees of the GCA, making make specific invitations to those with specific skills.

This topic will be on the agenda for our 21 October meeting, so please bring along or email your good ideas. No idea too outlandish!

BOB CAMPBELL OVAL (BCO)

Last newsletter we talked extensively of how Lane Cove Council plans to develop the Oval, and our personal view was that it would turn what is now a pleasant, green, unstructured area enjoyed by all sorts of local people and activities, into a structured sports field with a large area of synthetic turf that has health and safety and environmental ramifications of its own, smack bang in the centre.

Council has now put the plans on display and a couple of GCA members attended the drop-in session in the Terrace Room on 6 October.

Given that Council has made it clear that there will be no further engagement with the community about the BCO plans after the conclusion of the current consultation period (the end of this month), it was hoped that the information on display would have provided specifics about the proposed design features of the synthetic playing surface and the materials to be used.

It was also hoped that more information would be available about heat impacts of synthetic surfaces, particularly in a location that has no cross ventilation for most of the day and is bordered on one side by a rock escarpment that retains a lot of heat.

Council officers and Martin Sheppard, Council's Melbourne consultant, have clarified some aspects of the proposed synthetic surface, but many questions remain unanswered.

Design features/ height of playing surface and visibility for spectators

Here is Council's aerial view of the synthetic playing field.



Contrary to the advice of Council's FAQs that there will be no excavation proposed in the BCO works, it appears that it will be necessary for Council to undertake excavation of organic material from the current playing field surface.

Mr Webster, of Council, confirmed that the new playing field will need to be raised above the existing ground level

to ensure that the new soccer pitch will not get flooded. The playing surface will need to be raised about 400 mm above ground level to accommodate drainage, shock pad etc.

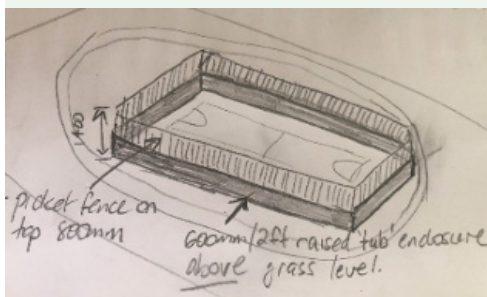
Above this surface will be a 200 mm kerb to retain infill.

And above the kerb will be a picket fence of approx. 800 mm.

This, in effect, means that the top of the picket fence will be 1.4 m above ground level.

Based on the above information, this is what the synthetic playing field and its perimeter **will actually look like**. A raised garden bed that will dominate the current open space.

It will have significant visual impact on the bushland setting of Bob Campbell Oval.



Our question is: will the land outside the picket fence be built up and slope down to the grassed area between the picket fence and the fitness track? - if so, how far will this encroach onto the grassed area depicted in Council's images?

Or will children and shorter adults standing at current ground level need to peer through pickets to watch games.

Heat effects of the synthetic surface

Mr Sheppard was able to provide general detail as to the heat impacts of synthetic surfaces.

However, when he was asked about the impacts of a location with minimal cross ventilation and the additional retained heat of the rock escarpment on the western side of the site, it came as a surprise that he has not actually inspected the site of the proposed playing field.

Whilst it is understood that travel restrictions have prevented Mr Sheppard from coming to NSW, it is surprising that Council did not have available at the drop-in session a technical expert who was actually familiar with the proposed location of the playing field

and its environs.

The lack of specific detail about the design features of the playing surface and the heat impacts associated with its specific location make it extremely difficult for community members to provide informed submissions to Council. In addition, it is difficult to gauge exactly to what extent the Greenwich Village Games will be impacted. This issue will also be on the agenda next meeting.

Your written submissions will count for a lot, so please get them in.

<http://www.lanecove.nsw.gov.au/CouncilConsultations/Pages/BobCampbell.aspx>



THE GREENWICH VILLAGE ARTS TRAIL

For the ninth year the local artists of Greenwich will be (safely) opening their studios, so visitors can take the opportunity to learn how artists work, their creative processes, methods and techniques - and perhaps purchase an artwork directly from the artist.

Paintings, drawings, sculptures, pottery, photographs, prints, textiles, jewellery and garden ornaments will be on display and for sale at 17 sites. Artists will abide by health regulations to limit numbers within their studios at any one time, and will request visitors to sign in upon arrival. Plenty of sanitiser will be available and visitors are requested to follow social distancing etiquette on all parts of the Trail, both inside and out.



When: Sat & Sun 7 & 8 November, 10am-4pm.

Maps available at the Greenwich local shops and on FB or www.greenwichvillageartstrail.com.au

Contact: Amanda Harrison
mob 0409 398 128

www.harrisonsculpture.net

LOCAL COUNCIL ELECTIONS - ARE YOU REGISTERED?

Another victim of the pandemic, local council elections have been postponed for twelve months to September 2021. We thought it appropriate, however, given the wide interest in the outcome, to remind you to not only make sure residents are enrolled, but also that non-resident commercial or retail landlords and business owners who contribute towards Council rates of their premises are also entitled to vote. The latter must obtain special forms from council four months prior to the election.

A new form must be submitted each time there is an election, so if you filled out a form for last election it is no longer valid.

STAY IN TOUCH

It is now more important than ever to join the GCA and keep up to date with electronic postings. If you have IT skills, we will welcome your help. Join our mailing list by emailing John Southwood at jsouthwood@spectrafin.com.au

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