



# Greenwich Community Association Inc

PO Box 5057, Greenwich, NSW 2065

**MINUTES GCA PUBLIC MEETING**  
**Wednesday 13 December 2023 at 7.30 pm**  
**Greenwich Sailing Club, O'Connell Street, Greenwich**

ITEM NO	DISCUSSION TOPICS		
	<b>WELCOME:</b>	PD welcomed everyone	
1.	<b>APOLOGIES:</b>	Councillor David Brooks Horn Councillor Kathy Bryla Councillor David Roenfeldt Liz Gill, John Southwood, Karen Macalister-Hohnen, Patricia Quealey, Alan Winney, Dianne Kennedy, Richard Muller and Liz Walton.	
2.	<b>CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF MEETINGS:</b>	Moved by Peter Stavely Seconded Julia Sharp	
3.	<b>CORRESPONDENCE:</b>	Addressed under Notified Business	
4.	<b>REPORTS ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE ASSOCIATION:</b>	Addressed under Notified Business	
5.	<b>COUNCILORS' REPORTS:</b>	Councillor Merri Southwood addressed the meeting – see Notified Business.	
6.	<b>TREASURER'S REPORT and MEMBERSHIP REPORT:</b>	See documents distributed at the meeting.  PD confirmed GCA operating within its budget (income received) but all should encourage residents to become financial members at \$20 pa. All funds go towards payment of hard external operating costs.	
7.	<b>NOTIFIED BUSINESS:</b>		
	a) Canberra Avenue Closure	Despite PD addressing the Traffic Committee on behalf of the GCA (along with others) to delay the decision until development completion to obtain accurate traffic figures; and despite motions at Council by councillor Merri Southwood, the Traffic Committee recommended closure and Council accepted. Council agreed for this to occur in 2025.  Another example of sensible Community wishes being ignored.	

	b) Bob Campbell Oval Progress	Main construction contracts still not awarded almost 2 years after the Natural Grass decision. Appointment expected in the next month or so. Completion will not be until sometime in 2025, although design has ben progressing. Turf laying, etc will be the last activity.	
	c) Sport & Rec Facility	<p>(i) Construction Progress: Councillor Merri Southwood unhappy that Councillors are not being kept fully informed with quality reports as required. Also, concerns about contaminants and how this is being treated. Total cost, Construction status, other issues still only with GM and staff. Residents and Councillors being unnecessarily 'kept in the dark'.</p> <p>(ii) Management Reports: Report due to go to Councillors on progress etc, however, instead they have received advice that Council will go to external tender for an Operator which is contrary to the original Business Plan. Again, Councillors out of the loop.</p> <p>Tom Lawson agreed to obtain information on an operator of a similar facility in Perth. John Southwood has written to Council, but no response.</p>	
	d) Greenwich Baths Lease Renewal	<p>As a result of feedback from local residents, Council agreed with the majority:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Weekends and School holidays: Operator (including lifeguard) in attendance. Cost to enter with shop operational.</li> <li>• Other Times: Open and free with no staff (lifeguard)</li> <li>• Closed winter months (as per current calendar)</li> </ul>	
	e) Greenwich Community Garden (GCG)	Julia Sharp outlined progress to date. Current preference is on Church land at St Giles Anglican Church in Greendale St. Some complications still to resolve.	
	f) SUP along River Road	<p>Confirmed as essential. We need to pressure Council to complete design (without depending upon Government funds) to get the ball rolling.</p> <p>Whilst it is agreed this work should be completed before opening of the Sport &amp; Rec facility at the latest – there are no funds for this within the S&amp;R budget.</p>	
	g) Cockatoo Island Development	<p>Period for input closed today, Wednesday 13 December 2023.</p> <p>General comments: initial outline concept plan acceptable, but no real detail provided. This may or may not ensure that Greenwich Wharf works are completed in the near future (or to suit Cockatoo Island Development).</p>	
	h) NSW Govt proposal for High Density Residential around Crows Nest	No real detail provided; however, current plans include a large area of Greenwich well south of River Road. We must monitor this development closely, as further information comes to hand.	

8.	<b>OTHER BUSINESS:</b>		
		<p>a) Councillor Merri Southwood raised problems with communication between Councillors and Council Staff. GM has now insisted all comms go through him which will delay input and progress especially as his 'executive assistant' has resigned. Advice is for residents to write directly to Council on any issue and copy in Councillors:</p> <p>To: <a href="mailto:service@lanecove.nsw.gov.au">service@lanecove.nsw.gov.au</a>  CC: <a href="mailto:councillors@lanecove.nsw.gov.au">councillors@lanecove.nsw.gov.au</a></p> <p>If no response is received, there is a complaints process documented on Council's website.</p> <p>Councillor MS commented that the GM has complained for some time that he has been unable to acquire and keep suitable experienced staff. AB suggested that this may not be due to a shortage of suitable people, but more so the management of the Council staff and activities from the top down. This is not a Councillor's problem.</p>	
		<p>b) Gore Bay Terminal:  Tom Lawson brought the meeting up to date with the progress of major maintenance activities. Works due to be completed by March, then crane will be removed. Councillor MS commented that Council has attempted to discuss licence fee for pipeline in Roa Reserve and also Shell Park but cannot get a response from VIVA.</p>	
		<p>c) A comment was made that the Council is to be congratulated on the tidying and repair of the footpath along the Pacific Highway from Epping Road to Greenwich Road.</p>	
		<p>d) Bus Shelters:  DM again raised the issue of bus shelters blocking sightlines for cyclists and pedestrians on footpaths. The panel that blocks the sightlines is an advertising panel which generates revenue for Council. Apparently, Willoughby Council insists that panels are not full height(depth) to allow safe vision.</p>	
		<p>e) River Road Traffic Lights:  A comment was made that the normal time (non-peak hr) for allowing traffic from Greenwich Road South has been reduced causing backup of traffic. This should be monitored through to when school starts to gain a construction of the corner nursing home completed.</p>	
		<p>f) Tom Lawson commented that he like the coloured hard copy Newsletters better than the current mailchimp system (this was changed September 2021). PD commented that the change was to reduce costs and to provide timely information to the community.</p>	

		All other comments over the last 2 years have been positive.	
	<b>Meeting closed:</b>	The meeting closed at 8.30pm following which the gathering enjoyed a glass of wine and some Christmas cake.	
	<b>Next Meeting:</b>	The next meeting is the AGM @ 7.30pm @ the Sailing Club on Wednesday 21 February 2024.	

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