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" Our Community Matters"

Issue No. 130

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18th June 2023

JUNE UPDATE

Dear Community Member,

Next General meeting – Wed 21 June 2023 at 7.30pm at the Greenwich Sailing Club.

You are welcome to come along to have your say as a resident, be updated on community matters and hear your Councillors report.

This Newsletter covers the following:

- Status of Council's Sport & Recreation Facility.
- Status of request by developer to change the use of land leased from Council at 266
 Longueville Rd from Residential Aged Care & Seniors Living to only Seniors Living.
- Report on Gore Creek Valley Action Group & request for funds.
- · Community Garden Initiative.
- GCA Membership Drive 22 & 23 July
- Save the date for a Special Presentation by a representative from the Aboriginal Heritage Office on the indigenous history of Greenwich and surrounds.19 July at 7.30pm at the Greenwich Sailing Club.

Status of Council's Sport & Recreation Facility, River Rd

Development Application was approved by Sydney North Planning Panel on 3 May despite over 200 written objections and 40 speakers.

Council is now awaiting return of main construction tenders on 26th June It is expected that preliminary works will not commence until tenders have been confirmed as within budget.

It should be noted that traffic lights **have** been included within the \$75m works budget.

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(Please note updated detail)

Additionally, the proposed management model of the facility is yet to be confirmed and hence reliable budgeted income for loan repayment, life cycle asset management costs, depreciation etc is also yet to be confirmed.

Also of concern, for reasons in next item, is that Council proposes to use the \$32m long term lease payment for 266 Longueville Rd to make up a large portion of the \$75m allocated budget.

266 Longueville Rd Development

Status of request by developer to change the use of the land leased from Council from Residential Aged Care & Seniors Living to all Seniors Living.

The Sydney North Planning Panel heard the application by the developer to make the change under S4.55 (modification to approved DA) and also heard strong objections from the Gore Creek Valley Action Group (GCVAG), a number of community organisations and community members.

The panel decided to defer its decision to allow further investigation.

The objectors believe the change is major, not a small modification, and therefore should be re-advertised and properly submitted under a new Development Application.

It is noted that the Developer has paid Council the \$32m but we must wonder whether the council should proceed with spending this money on the Sport & Rec Facility whilst there exists doubt over the development which is to be situated on the land for which the money has been paid.

Report on the Gore Creek Valley Action Group & request for funds.

The GCVAG has been formed to protect the valley and restrict development which would affect this green heart of Lane Cove. The GCVAG has the support of 6 Community Organisations including the GCA. For it to continue its work, it is in need of funds and we encourage residents to donate. Please see GoFundMe details here.

Community Garden Initiative

A sub committee of the GCA has been very active considering sites, developing plans and budgets and we will bring you more details in the very near future.

Membership Drive 22 & 23 July at Greenwich Shops

In order for the GCA to continue its role supporting the community, we have hard costs each year that must be met by subscriptions. While the mailing list of residents interested in receiving Newsletters is over 1000, we need more residents to pay their annual subscription (\$20 for individual/family, \$10 for pensioner) to cover costs. Please say hello

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welcome.

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Saving the best until last, please save the date of 19 July 2023 for a presentation by Karen Smith from the Aboriginal Heritage Office.

This is a one off event focused on the indigenous history of Greenwich and its surrounds. All members of the community are invited, from seniors to children, noting however that the presentation will not be directly oriented towards younger children. This is a free event and we hope to see you there.

Peter Deane President

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