



Greenwich Community Association Inc

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For current committee contact details see www.greenwich.org.au

9 August 2019

The General Manager
Lane Cove Council
P O Box 20
LANE COVE NSW 1595

Dear Sir

SU 264 Draft Community Land Plan of Management

The Greenwich Community Association Inc (GCA) welcomes the opportunity to make the following submission on Council's draft Community Land Plan of Management.

1. Community Engagement in dealings with land

It is noted that the draft includes no specific provision for community engagement in respect of dealings with community land.

Whilst it is acknowledged that Council will have the power to deal with community land in accordance with its finalised Plan of Management and with the Local Government Act (NSW) 1993, it will also be required to implement its own Community Engagement Policy if dealings with the land fall into one of these categories:-

- the issue directly affects a group or area in the community;
- a number of people or groups are likely to have strong views on an initiative.
- any potential change is likely to directly affect the quality of life for the community;
- and
- Council has insufficient information on which to make a decision about an issue affecting the community and requires community input.

Council will be aware of the high level of interest in the terms of the lease/sub-lease of Greenwich Baths negotiated in 2017-18. It was of concern to the GCA that there was minimal opportunity for input into the terms of the lease and even less in terms of feedback from Council as to whether these concerns were reflected in the final agreement.

Greenwich Baths is just one example of many sites that hold special significance for community members, all of whom will have strong (and constructive views) about the use/development of these sites or who may be impacted by a proposed use.

It is disappointing that the Introduction to the Plan makes no statement as to the importance of community engagement in its implementation.

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We request Council to insert an additional provision in Section 1 Introduction to acknowledge the importance of community engagement in the management of community land.

2. Inclusion and Classification of Greenwich Baths inappropriate

Crown Reserve is only one portion of the Baths area

Only one portion of the Baths is located on Crown Land, with the balance to the high water mark included in an RMS lease not covered by the Local Government Act 1993. For this reason, the Baths warrants a separate plan of management that addresses the controls applicable to the two discrete portions of the Baths.

Classification of Crown Reserve area as General Community Use inappropriate

The Office of Heritage and the Environment describes the Baths as *"The second tidal harbour pool to be built in Sydney and one of the few remaining harbourside baths in Sydney dating from the turn of the century and using iron rods for protection. As evidence of recreational use of harbour foreshore, the baths are of great social, architectural and historic significance. With the loss of other harbour pools they are of State significance because of their rarity."*

<https://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/heritageapp/ViewHeritageItemDetails.aspx?ID=1920001>

Council has recognised the heritage significance of the Baths in its recent restoration of the clubhouse.

For the above reasons the Baths should not be classified as General Community Use. It is more appropriately classified as an area of Cultural Significance (Section 36H Local Government Act).

We request Council to either:-

1. remove Greenwich Baths from the Community Land Plan of Management and prepare a separate plan that addresses the fact that the site is part Crown Reserve/ part RMS leasehold and that the site is of cultural significance

or

2. reclassify the Baths under Section 36H, thereby ensuring preservation of the cultural significance of the Crown Reserves.

3. Location of petroleum product pipeline warrants separate plan for Shell Park.

Shell Park has been classified as both Parks and Natural areas.

The pipeline that links the Viva Terminal to its Clyde storage facility runs through the park. This pipeline raises public health and safety/security issues which are not addressed in Council's draft plan.

Furthermore, the pipeline runs under Greenwich Road, which is not covered by the draft plan.

We request Council to develop a discrete plan of management for the portions of Greenwich Road and Shell Park through which the Viva pipeline passes and to include in the plan a requirement to address the public health and safety/security issues related to this pipeline.

We welcome the opportunity to discuss this submission with Council.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Merri Southwood'.

Merri Southwood
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