



Dear Community Member

The Council and GCA December meetings are scheduled this week.

Council Meeting

Council will meet this **Monday night 7 December at 7.00 pm.**

The agenda can be accessed on this link [Agenda of Ordinary Council - 7 December 2020 \(nsw.gov.au\)](#)

There are several East Ward related items on the agenda:-

- A notice of motion by Councillor Vissel that the Chief Soil Scientist at AgEnviro Solutions be invited to address Councillors about the EPA's initiative to rebuild sporting ovals with compost
- Council's response to a Planning Proposal for a 32 storey commercial building at 46-52 Nicholson Street and 57-67 Christie Street, St Leonards
- Council's community consultation from December 2020 to February 2021 in relation its proposed Section 7.11 (developer contribution) plan to raise funds to deliver open space and other infrastructure in St Leonards South.

COVID restrictions have eased but Council has not altered its decision to close its meetings to the public.

The meeting will be webcast [Lane Cove Council - Council and LPP Meeting Webcast \(nsw.gov.au\)](#)

If you wish to address the meeting in public forum, **please remember to register by midnight on Sunday** [Speaker Information \(nsw.gov.au\)](#)

GCA December Newsletter ([Click Here](#))

Many of you will have received our December newsletter already, thanks to our wonderful volunteer letter box delivery team.

You will have read the disappointing news that 4 of 7 of our Councillors voted in November to proceed with the plan to replace the grass at Bob Campbell Oval (BCO) with a synthetic surface.

This vote took place despite a petition signed by 1,600 community members and 200 community submissions, all delivering the unambiguous message that

We will continue to push for a reversal of Council's decision and, on this note, were pleased to have emails last week from the DPIE Director Infrastructure Grants & Delivery confirming that Council does have the right to drop the synthetic proposal from its BCO project nomination whilst preserving its approved funding.

"In relation to your query regarding the availability of funding allocated to Lane Cove Council for the Bob Campbell Oval project, should Council wish to change the project scope to remove the synthetic turf or submit an alternative project, they can apply within the established process under the Program"

"I can confirm the Precinct Support Scheme funds have been reserved for Lane Cove Council. If Council wish to submit a new project nomination, the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces will be the final approver as to whether the funds reserved for Council are allocated to the new project".

Now that we have confirmation that the \$3.6 million DPIE funding is not contingent upon a synthetic surface at BCO, we ask Council to actively engage with its community to identify a project that will be approved for funding by the Minister.

GCA Meeting on Wednesday 9 December at 7.30 pm

Our last community meeting for the year will be held at the Greenwich Sailing Club off O'Connell Street.

We hope that our Councillors will take the opportunity at the meeting to explain in detail why they voted as they did in respect of BCO.

There was very little discussion in the November Council meeting about exactly why 4 Councillors voted to proceed with the plan recommended by Council officers, especially with minimal detail in the officers' report as to the environmental impacts of the synthetic surface and the design features of the sports ground.

And we also hope to have the opportunity to congratulate Councillor Brooks-Horn on his recent marriage.

Since our newsletter went to print, we have become aware of an announcement by Captain Cook Cruises that its Lane Cove River ferry services will cease from 18 December.

Unwelcome news, short notice and a bad time of year to deliver it – this will be on the agenda for Wednesday night.

in a very tough year.

Best wishes for a happy and, most importantly, healthy festive season.

Kind regards

Merri Southwood

President

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