

Minutes



Bicentennial Reserve and Flat Rock Gully Advisory Committee

**Wednesday 12 June 2024
4.00-5.30pm**

Location:	Dougherty Community Centre and Microsoft Teams
Chair:	Councillor Anna Greco
Attendees:	Kristina Dodds – Member Benita Dwyer – Member Heidi Key – Member Jenny Roxborough – Member Bob Taffel – Member Les Tyrpenou – Member (online) Brian Norton – Member Nicola Ward – Member (online) Peter Lisle – Sustainability Team Lead Stephen Alderton – Open Space and Recreation Lead (online) Bushra Salam – Governance
Apologies/absent:	Denis Fernandez (resigned); Andrew Stone
Guests	Councillor Anna Greco
Attachments	Achievements of the Committee for the End of Term Report

Agenda items

Item	Topic / Discussion	Action
1	Welcome The meeting was declared open at 4:04 pm when a quorum was reached.	
	Acknowledgement of Country Governance Officer, acknowledged Country on behalf of Council.	

2 Committee Governance

In accordance with Item 5.2 of the terms of Reference, the Committee appointed Councillor Anna Greco as the Chair for this meeting.

Nominations for the Chair of the meeting:

- Kristina Dodds nominated Councillor Anna Greco
- Seconded by Heidi Key
- Against: None
- All in favour

The Committee nominated Councillor Anna Greco the Chair for the meeting.

Apologies

Members: Denis Fernandez (resigned); Andrew Stone

Declarations of interest

A link to the Disclosure of interest by the Committee Members form was circulated with the Agenda. No declarations of interest were received.

Committee Member - Resignation

Governance advised Denis Fernandez had communicated to Council prior to the meeting that he wants to resign.

Confirmation of minutes – 17 April 2024

Moved by Heidi Key and Seconded by Kristina Dodds, the Committee unanimously accepted the minutes of the 17 April 2024 meeting.

Actions arising from previous minutes

- Flat Rock Gully Reserve Action Plan 2023 - Review request to place Council report with feedback as FAQs on the webpage:*** WCC Bushland Team Leader updated Peter Lisle (Sustainability Team Leader) that
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there were few comments but no questions in order to be placed as FAQs. But they are happy to update the webpage if there are any meaningful common queries. The Chair noted and suggested that there is already a report which included a FAQs in a Council report and we can pull out that Council report and put it on the RAPs.

b. Update on testing for Bicentennial Reserve; Defective Lighting under Flat Rock Gully Drive and the Incinerator Update: See notes below

c. Use of fields and sites specific solutions: Stephen Alderton (Open Space and Recreation Lead), noted that as it was raised in the last meeting, he would like to have an informal meeting with all sporting group users on the site and address couple of issues like booking times and operational issues etc. in the early July. He will reach out to the users and book a time.

d. Use, storage and condition of the soccer goal posts: Stephen Alderton did a site visit and found couple of small issues. He will provide the feedback separately to users prior to their catch-up. Stephen Alderton thanked the Committee for raising this issue.

3 Strategic Activities

3.1 Update on testing for Bicentennial Reserve

There was no further update from Council.

3.2 Incinerator update – fencing, pits, area at back of building

Stephen Alderton, briefed the Committee that all work will be completed by Friday 21 June 2024, depending on the weather. Upon completion of the works, the fencing immediately to the rear of the incinerator will be removed and the space accessible for park users.

Chair enquired whether these works include also fixing of arts space after the flooding. Stephen Alderton responded that it is more of an internal plumbing issue and he will check and get back on that.

Brian Norton noted that incinerator space is underutilized at the moment and is not being used to its potential.

Moved by Brian Norton and Seconded by Benita Dwyer, the Committee made the following recommendation:

“That Council consider a placemaking study to be considered for the green space behind the incinerator area.”

3.3 Defective lighting and condition report on mural in the pedestrian underpass under Flat Rock Gully Drive

Reg mural Cr Anna Greco updated the Committee, that she raised this issue with Council. The artist was contacted who is in Queensland at the moment and this issue has been raised with him. Artist agreed to come down and have a look on it. She will continue taking up this with Council.

Reg defective lighting Peter Lisle, updated the Committee that it is still not working. It is a Council asset underneath the pedestrian tunnel. Previously it was connected with one of the street poles. Ausgrid disconnected the supply. There is no formal agreement between Council and the Ausgrid about extracting the power supply at the moment. We are in the process of reinstating that agreement and hopefully to get the supply back to the lighting soon.

Peter Lisle will chase this up with the property reg Timeline.

Kristina Dodds also raised that there is a water bubbler, coming from the overflow of car park of FRG which has also been disconnected due to the works at the leisure centre and enquired when will it be reinstated.

Stephen Alderton will get back with the timeline of its reinstating.

4 Other Business

- **Site report:** On Committee’s request the site report was published attached with the minutes of the

February meeting on Council's website.

- **Weed management staff change at reserve:** Peter Lisle further updated the Committee that Council is aware of it and thanked them for highlighting it. He noted that someone is hired and taken responsibility to manage it as the previous staff has retired.
- **Drainage issue:** Brian Norton raised that there is poor drainage at bicentennial side of the sports ground. Northern half near the playground does not drain very well. If you want to play football you cannot play. He has already raised this with the Open Space Team.

Stephen Alderton noted that he already discussed this issue with Brian before the meeting and that as part of the 24-25 draft PCW program, a project has been identified to deliver designs for sports field drainage improvements at a number of locations including Bicentennial Reserve. Delivery of these drainage improvements will be considered in future Operational Plans. In the interim, staff will continue to work to improve the efficiency of the existing system through maintenance practices.

Les Tyrpenou added that it is dirt issue in summers esp. Feb-March part of the season. They are happy with the drainage at the moment as it is an off season for them and when they come back in September, they hope it will be good then.

- **Sewage Spill:** Lots of night works investigations along the sewage line that runs beneath FRG and towards Tunks Park going on with the view of upgrading the pipeline in around 12 months time by Sydney Water. Council will work with Sydney Water with aim of minimising any impacts on bushland, the reserves and neighbouring residential properties.

5 Meeting Conclusion

Meeting concluded at 5:26 pm.

Achievements of the Committee:

As stated in the terms of reference, each advisory committee is required to submit a report on the achievements of the committee at the end of the term of Council. While support was provided to the Bicentennial Reserve and Flat Rock Gully Advisory Committee to assist them to develop the report, the committee has not had capacity and therefore has not submitted their achievement report. However, it is noted by officers that the Bicentennial Reserve and Flat Rock Gully Advisory Committee achieved the following during the term of Council.

The Committee provided their advice on the following:

- Bicentennial Reserve – Public Spaces Evaluation Report submitted by the Committee for comment of action/works priority to be considered by Council.
- Discussed Council use of 1080 poison in fox baiting and other forms of fox control.
- Discussed defective Lighting under the underpass – the mural.
- Flat Rock Gully Reserve Action Plan 2023: The Committee requested a review and requested to place Council report with feedback as FAQs on the webpage.
- The Committee requested an update on the current works at the Incinerator, including background about the building, its heritage status and curtilage and follow up on the condition of the Ash Pits and any future works to be provided to the Committee.
- The Committee requested follow up on the removal of the rubble and broken bricks at the rear of the incinerator and then the temporary fencing that surrounds it once the remedial work is completed.
- The ongoing condition and environmental health of the adjoining Ash Pits at the rear of the Incinerator was queried by the Committee as to whether any remedial work is planned as the Ash Pits are inside the Incinerator heritage curtilage.
- The Committee raised and discussed issues of Flood Lights at Bicentennial Oval and progressing stream watch.
- Discussed further testing for Bicentennial Reserve which was declared ‘Contaminated’ by the NSW Environmental Protection Authority in September 2023. The Committee requested an update on the implications of the declaration.
- The Committee discussed weed management and Cat containment issues in FRG.