

Minutes



Bicentennial Reserve and Flat Rock Gully Advisory Committee

**Wednesday 17 April 2024
4.00-5.30pm**

Location:	31 Victor Street Chatswood and Microsoft Teams
Facilitator:	Councillor Anna Greco
Attendees:	Benita Dwyer (online) – Member Kristina Dodds (online) – Member Heidi Key – Member Jenny Roxborough – Member Bob Taffel – Member Les Tyrpenou – Member Peter Lisle – Sustainability Team Leader Stephen Alderton – Open Space and Recreation Lead Samantha Connor – Governance
Apologies/absent:	Denis Fernandez – Member Brian Norton – Member Andrew Stone – Member Nicola Ward – Member Bushra Salam – Governance
Guests	Councillor Anna Greco Angela Casey – Public Spaces and Leisure Manager
Attachments	Nil

Agenda items

Item	Topic / Discussion	Action
1	Welcome The meeting was declared open at 4:07 pm when a quorum was reached.	
	Acknowledgement of Country Governance Risk and Compliance Manager, 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:

- Heidi Key nominated Councillor Anna Greco
- Seconded by Bob Taffel.
- Against: None
- All in favour

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

Apologies

Members: Denis Fernandez; Brian Norton; Andrew Stone; Nicola Ward

Declarations of interest

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

Confirmation of minutes – 21 February 2024

Members of the Committee were sent the draft minutes prior to the meeting and the feedback received was included in the final draft and approved electronically. The Public Spaces report developed by the committee were included as an attachment to the minutes. It was noted that this attachment has not been attached to the minutes included in the April Council meeting agenda and that the Governance team will ensure the report is presented to Council. The committee unanimously accepted the minutes of the 21 February 2024 meeting.

Attach Public Spaces report to minutes for presentation to April Council meeting (done)

Moved by Heidi Key and Seconded by Jenny Roxborough

Actions arising from previous minutes

- a. **Update on testing for Bicentennial Reserve** Council still awaits an update from the EPA after the Draft Sampling and Quality Assurance Plan was submitted early 2024. Further details are available on the Council website:

<https://www.willoughby.nsw.gov.au/Council/News-and-media/Bicentennial-Reserve-Environmental-Site-Report>

- b. **Willoughby Leisure Centre Upgrade - update**

See notes below

- c. **Progressing StreamWatch**

Noted the information on the Council website is comprehensive- see

<https://www.willoughby.nsw.gov.au/Environment/Environmental-Health/Water/Waterway-health>

Annual reporting of water testing is available on the water quality health website

Noted the mayoral minutes going to Council in April regarding cost shifting of the state governments beach watch program

Additional water treatment devices implemented via funding from Sydney Water – information is available on the WCC website – waterway health – link was provided in the February minutes. Website to be added to the status actions page.

Noted that water quality in Flat Rock Creek in general is of a good standard.

- d. **Defective Lighting under Flat Rock Gully Drive**

Five light fittings attached to concrete, not connected to council electricity supply, but may go to street light.

Officers have requested information from Transport for

Peter Lisle: Provide an update on the lighting issue the next meeting once a response is

NSW to understand the connection supply and address the defect. A further update will be provided at the next meeting once a response is received from Transport for NSW.

received from TfNSW.

Committee also requested follow up of the painted mural with update provided to the next meeting

Peter Lisle: Provide an update about the painted mural at the next meeting

e. The Incinerator Update

Works near completion with some minor retaining still to be done followed by re-turfing. No current works are scheduled for the area between the incinerator and leisure centre car park – sandstone retaining wall and fence will remain in place

Explore opportunity to include removal of fence at the back of the Incinerator for better public access and use. Further update to be provided at the next meeting.

f. Flat Rock Gully Reserve Action Plan 2023

See notes below

3 Strategic Activities

3.1 Update on testing for Bicentennial Reserve

Nothing further to report at this stage.

3.2 WLC update re: upgrade

Presentation provided by Angela Casey- Culture and Leisure Manager:

- Will be a greatly improved Centre for the community
- More than 75% of the site now has a capping layer, an important element of the asbestos management of the site.
- Council is hoping to be able to confirm, in coming months, a more specific predicted completion date in 2025.
- Netball courts and leisure centre are still busy and being accessed safely by the community
- Committee thanked Angela for a very good

Link to time lapse video can be found here: [Timelapse Video - September 2023 - January 2024 | Willoughby Leisure Centre Upgrade | Have Your Say Willoughby](#)

Time lapse video also available on screen at the leisure centre

Presentation to be included with the minutes

No further update required for the committee in this term of council.

presentation.

3.3 Flat Rock Gully Reserve Action Plan

Committee have previously discussed the desire for Flat Rock Gully to have an individual management plan. Previous minutes indicate this is not possible as all reserves are covered by the Council wide Reserves Plan of Management.

Review request to place council report with feedback as FAQs on the webpage.

4 Other Business

- Contaminated mulch – 11 sites were tested across the LGA and sample test results were clear of contamination
- Bob Taffel to inform Peter of location erosion observed in Flat Rock Gully for investigation
- Removal of fox bait poison 1080 from potential use by Council was raised as a desire of the committee.
- Noted that the NSW Government Planning Reforms could result in high rise development very close to Flat Rock Gully and this may have a significant impact on vegetation and waterways within the Reserve
- A decline in weed management - in FRG was noticed Kristina Dodds asked if staff allocation has changed at the reserve – officers to report at the next meeting – as general maintenance seems to have reduced.
- Les Tyrpenou raised that Junior baseball are experiencing difficulty with overlapping use of the fields when back to back bookings occur with Northbridge Football Club.
- Les Tyrpenou requested a more balanced approach to use of the fields.
- Les Tyrpenou raised concerns about unsafe use and storage of football goals and requested safety tests to be conducted and compliance information to be

Weed management and staff allocation to maintenance of Flat Rock Gully

Officers to check use and storage and condition of the soccer goal posts against Australian safety standards.

Officers continue to monitor balanced use of fields and can look at site-specific solutions including breaks

provided.

between hire bookings to provide space to users.

5 Next Meeting

Date: Wednesday 12 June 2024 (4:00-5:30pm)

Suggested Agenda Items:

- Incinerator update – fencing, pits, area at back of building;
- Defective lighting and condition report on mural in the pedestrian underpass under Flat Rock Gully Drive.

6 Meeting Conclusion

Meeting concluded at 5:29 pm.
