

COMMITTEE MEETING – MINUTES

MEETING INFORMATION	
Meeting date	Wednesday, 2 March 2022
Location	Artarmon Community Hall, 139 Artarmon Rd, Artarmon NSW 2064
Chair	Ashish Sethi (AS)
Present	Adrian Alexander (AA), Ashish Sethi (AS), Barry Cheung (BC), David Roberts (DR), Jordana Goodman (JG), Judy Simpson (JS), Kesh Anand (KA), Mai Mullins (MM), Mary Ann Irvin (MI), Michael Dawes (MD), Peter Wang (PW), Plamen Bassarov (PB), Winsome Byrne (WB)
Apologies	Anna Greco (AG), Deepak Nair (DN), Georgina Roussac (GR)
Disclosure of interest	None
Meeting opened	7:45 PM
Meeting closed	9:30 PM

MINUTES

1. Meeting Introduction

1.1 Welcome

The President took the Chair and, noting that a quorum was present, opened the meeting at 7:45 PM.

1.2 Confirmation of previous minutes

The 2 February 2022 meeting minutes were accepted.

Proposed: Judy Simpson Seconded: Winsome Byrne Motion: Carried

1.3 Correspondence

Email correspondence is documented by the Secretary and circulated before the monthly meetings. When an item of correspondence requires follow-up, it is forwarded to the appropriate committee member and noted in the circulated report. The return email actioning the enquiry is copied to the Secretary.

2. WCC Councillors Update

2.1 Council advisory committee

- The Federation of Willoughby Progress Associations (FWPA) recently sent a letter to the Mayor, copying in councillors, asking Council to rescind the motion to disband the WCC advisory committee model. The FWPA also requested some improvements to the model.
- GR (though absent) was interested in hearing the APA's position and views on advisory committees and Council's decision
- The APA strongly supports the FWPA motion, and discussed the deep local expertise and knowledge that the advisory committees held and value in providing input to council decisions

2.2 Monthly update

- Monthly email update from Councillor Anna Greco was circulated to APA executive members
- Any other questions or items for follow up can be emailed to AG or GR after the meeting

3. Business arising from previous minutes / outstanding actions

Pending meeting with new Willoughby MP

3.1 Improvements to Pacific Hwy/Mowbray Rd intersection

- Last action was to discuss this with the new Willoughby Member for Parliament which can occur now that Tim James has been elected
- Action: MD to set up a meeting to discuss this and other items on the APA priorities list

3.2 Request to reconsider inaccessible east-side access to Artarmon Station

- As above, this item is on the APA priorities list for discussion with the new Willoughby MP
- Action: MD to set up a meeting to discuss this and other items on the APA priorities list

Federation Willoughby Progress Association (FWPA) items

3.3 FWPA action re: community participation in the planning process

- This has been added to the list of FWPA Goals 2022 and the executive committee agreed this can be taken off ongoing APA meeting agendas
- FWPA matters and progress on goals to be reported on at the Committee Reports agenda item
- Action: This matter can be removed from ongoing agendas and reported on with other FWPA matters at the Committee Reports agenda item

WCC concerns / submissions progress

3.4 Proposed Herbert Street Precinct development concerns

- As above, this item is on the APA priorities list for discussion with the new Willoughby MP
- Action: MD to set up a meeting to discuss this and other items on the APA priorities list

3.5 Artarmon Loop bus correspondence to WCC

- GR has followed up twice with WCC in her new role as Councillor.
- Action: GR will follow up again

3.6 Hampden Rd-Broughton Rd intersection improvements

- As above, this item is on the APA priorities list for discussion with the new Willoughby MP
- Action: MD to set up a meeting to discuss this and other items on the APA priorities list

3.7 Council's proposal to ban the right turn from Mowbray Rd into Hampden Rd during peak hours

- Given the Artarmon Gazette is in the midst of distribution, the committee agreed to defer this matter to next meeting to allow time for residents to provide feedback.
- Action: MM to carry over agenda item to April meeting

3.8 Draft WCC Urban Bushland Plan of Management 2021

- JS and MI have drafted a response to the WCC [Urban Bushland Plan of Management 2021](#) (UBPoM) and have circulated for APA executive committee input
- The APA discussed how to give feedback without seeming to be overly critical of WCC
- DR proposed approaching the feedback as "help us understand so we can explain to our readership"
- The committee also discussed the difference between bushland management versus plants used in streetscape plantings
- AA raised concerns about hazard trees (and other maintenance issues) on the Sydney Trains land adjacent to Artarmon Station and MM offered to confirm the process to lodge a rail corridor maintenance request
- Action: APA to please review and provide feedback and comment to JS and MI by Friday 4 March, for submission to WCC by 6 March 2022
- Action: MM to confirm the process to request maintenance for railway corridor jobs

3.9 Village Green update

- MD reported that Council has released a 95% plan, and it is hoped that an update will be presented at the upcoming Public Information Meeting

3.10 Street and garden maintenance list

- MD provided a summary of the response from Council and shared that WCC have acted on many of the items raised on the list
- The committee expressed their thanks and discussed providing that acknowledgement to Council, and discussed how to continue to address ongoing and new items
- The committee noted that some items require more frequent maintenance such as grass cutting in summer (e.g. currently monthly and should be fortnightly in summer)
- MD notes no further comments have been added to the spreadsheet and requests the executive to continue to add to the spreadsheet
- DR suggested would it be worthwhile inviting the shopkeepers at Wilkes Ave to sign a petition along with local residents however AA spoke about joint responsibility between council and shop keepers for general street upkeep such as sweeping
- Separately, MI reported on the encouraging response from Council on the Elizabeth St/Wilkes Ave rain gardens maintenance and stormwater issue. Council have investigated and has committed to engaging engineers to review (with a view to constructing forebay and increasing kerb height) and maintenance has been increased to weekly.
- Action: MM to investigate providing access to GR to live maintenance file on the APA SharePoint site
- Action: MD will send the updated list to GR prior to her meeting on Friday 4 March 2022 with WCC council officers and discuss with GR proposed approach for ongoing checking of the maintenance list

APA ongoing initiatives/priorities

3.11 Vision for Artarmon (East Artarmon, including old library site etc)

- AA reports no further update at this time

3.12 APA membership engagement drive

- Given the time constraints at the meeting to fully discuss a range of membership drive ideas, the committee agreed that a working group progress on the ideas and report back to the committee at the monthly meeting
- The following members expressed interest in joining the working group: JG (in absentia), AS, KA, DR, MM and BC. It was agreed the working group would be led by AS.
- Action: AS to establish a working group, develop some plans and bring proposals back to the committee for voting

3.13 Upgrade APA website

- MM reports the new website wireframe/mock-up was circulated to the committee and some feedback received already with suggestions for minor changes. MM asked for final feedback by Friday 4 March 2022.
- Draft website should be ready in a few weeks and the executive will have the opportunity for another review before it is made live.

3.14 Annual thank you event for Gazette advertisers, distributors & volunteers

- The committee discussed various venues and dates, including consideration for wet weather and COVID. The agreed event details were proposed as:
 - Date and time: Sunday 3 April 2022 at 3pm
 - Venue: Thomson Park Oval Pavilions, Jersey Rd, Artarmon
- Action: AS to lead coordination and invitation to Gazette, advertisers, distributors, and volunteers

3.15 Public Information Meeting (PIM) – Topic and speaker

- The next PIM will be held on Wednesday, 16 March 2022 at 7:45pm-9:00pm over Zoom
- MM reported that the Mayor has been booked, other speakers confirmed and a PowerPoint slide deck prepared
- Action: AS to draft e-news and circulate to APA exec committee for input.
- Action: MD will send out e-news once reviewed by the executive committee

4. President's Items

4.1 Federation Willoughby Progress Associations Goals 2022

- The committee briefly discussed the FWPA goals for 2022
- Action: JS to coordinate with APA executive committee members who wish to raise for any other matters to be added

4.2 APA 2022 priorities

- The President has met with almost all of the committee members over the past two months and has collated a list of suggested priorities for 2022. These include:
 - Increase APA membership with targeted drive activities
 - Website upgrade, run analytics for insights, explore the introduction of advertising packages on the website (e.g. an advert in the Gazette also gets an ad on the website)
 - Improve links between e-news and website and the Gazette
 - Reduce wastage with undistributed copies of the Gazette
 - Noting that AA advised not a real issue as the copies are exhausted over the 3 months between issues
 - This will be removed from the APA priorities
 - Improve relationship with Artarmon Public School Parents & Citizens
 - The APA agreed for KA to be the APA representative at P&C meetings
 - P&C have asked for help with gardening which the committee suggested would be best directed to the Artarmon Parklands Community Garden group
 - Action: AS to contact Glenda Hewitt of the Artarmon Parklands Community Garden group
 - Increase relationship with the Artarmon Village Incorporated (AVI)
 - Organise an Artarmon community event or fundraiser
 - DR suggested an art competition, publish the winning art pieces in the Gazette and website

5. Committee Reports

5.1 Gazette update

- The Editor advised the Gazette edition went out and was very smooth this edition
- It was discussed whether Sydney Metro topics has run its course, particularly with the APA's subject matter expert having moved on
- The committee agreed and noted that any additional stories on Sydney Metro (such as the dive site re-opening) could be managed ad hoc
- Action: WB to convey APA thanks to PE and advise Metro articles will be deprioritised out for the time being

5.2 Review of WCC Committee minutes

- MD advises nothing of great significance regarding Artarmon in the recent Council minutes
- Of minor note is that Willoughby Theatre Company has leased the old library at 2 Elizabeth St, Artarmon
- Traffic Committee minutes:
 - Works planned near the Nine by Mirvac site for a new roundabout at Artarmon Rd and Richmond Ave, and a new wombat crossing in Artarmon Rd west of Edward St as conditions of consent for the residential development
 - High Pedestrian Activity Area (HPAA) of 40km/hr to be implemented in St Leonards
 - No stopping signs to be installed in the Artarmon Industrial Area

5.3 Treasurer's Report

- Report circulated prior to meeting
- The Treasurer gave a verbal update

6. Any other business

6.1 Pedestrian refuges at Elizabeth/Muttama and Artarmon/Elizabeth

- MD shared Council's proposals for the refuges at Elizabeth/Muttama and Artarmon/Elizabeth
- The committee discussed some initial concerns with the designs

6.2 Removal of legacy APA Twitter account

- AA was recently made aware that there is a Twitter account active representing itself as the Gazette editor.

- There was some discussion about whether the APA should have a social media presence and the committee agreed this warranted a fuller discussion at the next meeting.
- AA advised that the APA has a social media policy and provided reasons why the APA does not have a social media presence
- Action: MM to log request to Twitter for the account to be closed
- Action: AA to locate APA social media policy and send to MM for circulation, prior to the next meeting
- Action: MM to add social media presence to the April 2022 agenda

7. Open Forum

- No items raised due to meeting running over

Meeting closed: 9:30pm

Next meeting & date	Wednesday, 6 April 2022
Time	7:40 PM for 7:45 PM start
Location	Artarmon Community Hall, 139 Artarmon Rd, Artarmon NSW 2064