

**The Millers Point Community  
Resident Action Group (MPCRAG)**



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## MINUTES

### DATE

Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> June 2020

6.30pm

Meeting held via ZOOM, in line with current  
COVID-19 restrictions

### COMMITTEE

President Anne Warr

Vice President John McInerney

Public Officer John Dunn

Treasurer Jim Warren

Secretary Yasmina Bonnet

Committee Margaret Bishop  
Bernard Kelly  
Anne Crabb  
Heather Smith

### APOLOGIES

Suzan Clear, Nic Woolf, Margaret Bishop, Ling Yoong

### ATTENDEES

#### Visitors

Mark Ayto - Infrastructure NSW

Laurie Foy – Richard Crookes Construction

Katya Robinson – Infrastructure NSW

Mark Dowsing – Sydney Metro Construction

Anne Diwell - City of Sydney

#### Residents

John Dunn, Anne Warr, Yasmina Bonnet, Bernard Kelly, John McInerney, Jim Warren, Bernard Kelly, Charley Kelly, Jan Powell, Anne Crabb, Caroline Pidcock, Heather Smith, Ashley Yields, Mary Moloney, Helen Meddings, Candice Murphy, Nicholas Wolff, Robert Hansen, Anthony Bekker, Jaz Stephens, Stuart Murray, John Brown, Natalie Stioanoff, Margaret Wright, Ross Styles

<b>AGENDA ITEMS</b>	
<b>Meeting Opening</b> Anne Warr	Acknowledgement of Country
<b>Previous Minutes</b> June 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>That previous minutes be adopted: <b>Moved:</b> Bernard Kelly <b>Seconded:</b> Jim Warren</li> </ul>
<b>Walsh Bay redevelopment update</b> Mark Ayto Infrastructure NSW	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Constructions works on Wharves 4/5 are running to schedule</li> <li>Bar at the End of the Wharf is taking shape</li> <li>Seating is being installed into Sydney Theatre Company space July-Oct 2020</li> <li>Sydney Dance Company will be the last area completed</li> <li>Sections of the roof facilitates the installation of sunroof panels</li> <li>Forecast completion date November/ December 2020</li> <li>Piers 2/3 – most of timber works have been rectified and completion date will be in late 2021</li> </ul> <p>Q: Any shopfronts proposed for the wharves A: No but Simmer on the Bay will be operating again</p>
<b>Barangaroo Metro Station Construction Update</b> Mark Dowsing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Work has commenced on the perimeter wall construction at Barangaroo Station. This will involve steelwork, waterproofing and concrete pours</li> <li>Work has finished by the foreshore to remove the spoil shed and tunnelling support equipment that was used during under-harbour tunnelling. This area will be handed back to Infrastructure NSW later in the year</li> <li>An underground community site visit has been postponed due to Covid-19. The site visit is likely to occur later in the year.</li> <li>The acoustic shed on Hickson Road will remain in place until at least mid-2021, when work is expected to finish in the underground crossover cavern</li> <li>There have been no confirmed cases of Covid-19 at the Barangaroo Station work site. All necessary social distancing measures have been implemented, including staggered meal breaks to minimise large group gatherings</li> </ul>
<b>Development Applications:</b>  <b>Former Older Women's Building (Submitted 27<sup>th</sup> April 2020)</b>  Anthony Bekker	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Proposed demolishing of current building on site, clearing of most vegetation on site, subdivision of site into two blocks and amalgamation of the existing laneway beside 64 Argyle Place into the western most block.</li> <li>Key community concerns include close proximity to the many neighbours surrounding this site; no indicative development with envelopes was submitted as part of the DA documents, as required; important state significant archaeology on site; the importance of retaining buildings from our community's past and restoring, instead of just demolishing – this building served as a baby centre as well as the older women's network</li> </ul>

	<p>building; and privatisation of the now public laneway (which contravenes City of Sydney’s laneway policy to prohibit further laneway amalgamations). A possible use could be a café with garden or men’s shed for our community; future significant privacy issues if new development was to take place.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The City of Sydney requested the applicant (NSW Property) to withdraw their application due to not having submitted all documents required</li> <li>• The applicant has since requested more time to submit these documents, which the City of Sydney has granted</li> <li>• Alex Greenwich MP asked several questions in Parliament to the Minister of Water, Property and Housing – response required by 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2020</li> </ul>
<p><b>State Significant Development (SSD) Submission:</b></p> <p><b>Fort Street Public school redevelopment Submitted Due 29<sup>th</sup> April 2020</b> John McInerney/ Anne Warr</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The many concerns around our local primary school’s redevelopment in: it seems an overdevelopment on such a small historic site; when at capacity (550 students) the play area per child will be dramatically reduced; having one point of entry on Upper Fort Street for 550 students will lead to much traffic congestion at peak drop off/ pick times; the planned new school hall is only for 220 students whilst project numbers are for 550 students</li> <li>• Community members have grave safety concerns about the Sydney Harbour Bridge cycle way’s temporary route during the two-three year construction period – 2,000 cyclists per day would be directed down Watson Rd and then Kent Street during the two-three year construction period</li> <li>• Due to the project being a State significant project, all submissions were made public. There were 24 key submissions made in total including 8 from authorised bodies such as Transport NSW, The Heritage Council of NSW and the City of Sydney – who said it would refuse certain aspects of the suggested drop off zones</li> <li>• John Dunn has reached out to key cycling groups in relation to the temporary Sydney Harbour Bridge Cycleway’s proposed route on behalf of MP CRAG.</li> <li>• John Mc, Anne Warr and Caroline Pidcock in contact with Clive Lucas from the National Trust about proposed new Fort Street PS masterplan. Trying to set up a meeting to discuss a wider masterplan for Observatory Hill and all its facilities as Sydney’s Foremost Education Precinct</li> </ul>
<p><b>New Planning Controls for Central Sydney Due 10<sup>th</sup> July</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• John McInerney and Martin Crabb attended the City of Sydney’s community consultation, on behalf of the community</li> <li>• There is concern that the new planning controls are very pro-office development rather than allowing more residential</li> </ul>

John McInerney	<p>apartment buildings in the area. It doesn't take into account the impact of COVID-19 on the demand for CBD office space</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• John Mc is writing a draft letter to send to Clover Moore and City of Sydney Councilors on CRAG's concerns prior to our end submission</li> </ul>
<p><b>Rocks Heritage Management Plan</b> Anne Warr</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Originally produced in 2010, the Rocks Management Plan is currently being updated with community input.</li> <li>• Mel Tait, Isabel Silva, John Dunn, Anne Warr and ?????? attended an online meeting on the 27<sup>th</sup> May with Susan Lee from Place NSW and Curio Heritage architects. Key community concerns discussed were the use of Dawes Point Park, lack of connectivity, the Disneyfication of The Rocks, commercialization of the area (how many UGG stores do we really need?), lack of appropriate seating for children on school visits, lack of overall co-ordination of authorities in the area</li> <li>• Place Management had three reports completed recently – flora and fauna, retail leasing strategy and indigenous ????</li> <li>• Anne Warr said Place Management should ensure that the protection of our area as a heritage precinct is foremost in their plan</li> <li>• Susan Lee has agreed to address our July meeting</li> </ul> <p>Q: What is your objection to VIVID? A: Only the use of Dawes Point Park as the festival's back of house, which leads to noise pollution and long term damage of the historic park</p> <p>Q: Who runs the Rocks markets on the week-end? A: Place Management NSW</p>
<p><b>Sofitel Darling Harbour Helipad Plans</b> Yasmina Bonnet</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The owner of the Sofitel, Darling Harbour (Jerry Swartz) has plans to build a helipad on the hotel's rooftop.</li> <li>• Supposedly to ferry guests from the airport straight to the hotel but once their plans were reviewed, a flight path over Barangaroo, Walsh Bay to the Sydney Harbour Bridge was put forward – a potential significant noise pollution for our community.</li> <li>• Once the development application has been submitted to council CRAG will object, and ensure this isn't used as a precedent for other buildings</li> <li>• Yasmina has been in contact with Clover Moore who said she is opposed to the idea</li> </ul>
<p><b>Local Updates</b> Heather Smith</p>	<p><b>Farmers Market</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Heather would like to thank the community for its support</li> <li>• Live music has been stopped so people will not linger at the markets</li> <li>• Still very much under NSW Health restrictions - please remember to sanitise your hands-on arrival and social distance.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Live music has been stopped so people will not linger at the markets for the time being. This may change as NSW COVID-19 restrictions are changed.</li> </ul> <p><b>Podiatry Service at Ling’s Clinic</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We have a new excellent podiatrist working from Ling’s clinic every Thursday. Please call 9232 7694 for an appointment with Nathan. The Millers Point clinic is attached to the Harry Jensen Centre(17 Argyle Street, Millers Point)</li> </ul>
<p><b>Reports</b></p>	<p><b>Treasurer’s Report – Jim Warren</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Member’s funds at the end of April, represented by cash at bank, were \$3495.30</li> <li>• Income for the month comprised bank interest of 28 cents. Expenditure for the month was \$129.40 on flowers for the widow of the late Jack Munday</li> <li>• Year-to-date income is \$1074.62 and year-to-date expenditure is \$2420.84</li> </ul> <p><b>Traffic Committee Report – Mary Moloney</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Have commenced meeting on a fortnightly basis</li> <li>• Gathering information for a traffic plan for the area, which will be presented at a future community meeting for feedback</li> <li>• John Mc has reached out to urban planner, Spackman Mossop Michaels, Landscape Architects, about urban design/traffic issues in Millers Point. There is a meeting scheduled for June</li> </ul> <p><b>After Hours Activities Committee - Heather Smith</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• After hours activities at the Harry Jensen Community Centre will take place on Thursdays 6-10 pm when the community centre opens again and City of Sydney offers a grant to forgive rental costs for centre</li> <li>• Suggestions given so far include: Movie nights, yoga, study space/study groups for young adults, and book readings.</li> <li>• Additional ideas for afterhours activities are encouraged and can be sent to Margaret Bishop or Heather</li> </ul> <p><b>Sustainability Committee – John Brown</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Opportunity to use stormwater to water gardens; rain gardens, lots of space in a compact nature which the community could use – a real hot button for the City of Sydney at the moment.</li> <li>• A meeting has been set with Steve Ordette from the City of Sydney to look at the use of rain gardens in Millers Point – 27<sup>th</sup> July 2020 at 1.30pm. All residents are welcome to attend.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Update from City of Sydney</b> Anne Diwell</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Palisades Hotel has now removed illegal exhaust from its rooftop.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Anne was contact by Ling and Heather to have Argyle Street bus stop cleaned. It is owned by State Transport Authority but Anne has organised the shelter to be put on the City of Sydney cleaning roster for our community. Thank you, Anne.</li> </ul>
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<b>OTHER BUSINESS</b>	

<b>Meeting closed</b>	8.00 pm
<b>Next Meeting</b>	<b>Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> July 2020, 6.30pm, via ZOOM</b>
<b>Amendments to Minutes</b>	Send amendments to: Yasmina Bonnet <a href="mailto:yasmina@ybconsulting.com.au">yasmina@ybconsulting.com.au</a>
<b>Items for next meeting's Agenda</b>	Send agenda items to Anne Warr warr.anne@gmail.com