

THE ENTRANCE PENINSULA COMMUNITY PRECINCT

DRAFT Minutes of the Special Meeting held on Tuesday 3 July, 2012 at 4:00pm

Meeting held to meet with WSC's General Manager, Michael Whittaker.

Meeting Room A, The Entrance Community Centre, Oaklands Ave, The Entrance.

Chairperson : Vivienne Scott declared the meeting open and welcomed everyone. In the absence of guest Wyong Shire Manager, Michael Whittaker Vivienne phoned WSC to learn the GM was travelling 20 minutes late.

1. **Attendance:** D Darlington, V Scott, T Scott, R Slater, T Thomas, P Littlefield, K Armstrong, R Young, E Matus, M Pennings, G Pennings, J Millard, G Holland, J Price, R Norberry, M Whittaker. (16)
2. **Apologies:** N Harvey, C Harvey, A Rowland, V McKendrick; R McKendrick; H Nayna, L Nayna.
3. **Standing Orders** were suspended at 4:20pm and the Chair welcomed WSC's General Manager, Michael Whittaker and invited him to address the meeting.

Michael described his extensive experience including his more recent ones as General Manager of South Sydney City Council and the City of Ryde. He then described in general terms the broad statistics of the Shire and how Council was organised to meet these challengers. He addressed the financial problems of Council stating that the standard of service that Council delivered has to be what Council can afford while ensuring it provided a best value service. The lack of new development and the level of unemployment was highlighted as the major issues.

Michael noted some of the achievements in the past 2 years, including the reduction of Council's debt from \$30million to \$12million.

When questioned on the issues facing The Entrance Peninsula Michael gave a strong defence of the Planning Staff's recent decisions saying that they had relied on what was legal under planning legislation. He stated that Council had not had any success in getting the State and Federal Governments to fund the Central Cost Highway through Long Jetty. Michael agreed to follow up on having changes made to the publication of the personal details of those making submissions to Council on development applications.

To Michael's comment on the general poor attendance by residents at Precinct Meetings, Vivienne explained that the experience of TEPCP was that when there were issues of community concern, such as the proposed development of apartments on either side of The Entrance Rd at Long Jetty, residents did actively respond and the plans were subsequently squashed.

In response to Vivienne's remark about the future viability of Precinct Committees, Michael suggested that he would consider combined meetings of the Precinct Chairpersons with Council on particular issues and that they could then report back to their respective communities.

Vivienne thanked Michael for attending and noted that all present were appreciative of Michael for giving his valuable time to meet with us. Everyone was impressed with his efforts to turn the financial fortunes of Council around and encourage development in our Shire, and in particular in The Entrance Peninsula.

The meeting closed at 6:00pm

NOTICES

Executive Meeting: 7th August, 2012 at The Entrance Community Centre at 4.00pm.

General Meeting: Tuesday 21st August, 2012 at The Entrance Community Centre at 7.00pm.
"Meet the Wyong Shire Council Election Candidates"

NOTE: THERE IS NO JULY GENERAL MEETING ON THE USUAL THIRD TUESDAY