



**SYDNEY HARBOUR FEDERATION TRUST
PLATYPUS COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
20th MARCH 2018**

Time: 6:00 – 7:15pm

Venue: Platypus Site, Gatehouse Building, 118 High Street, North Sydney

Present:

Zena O'Connor
Chris Skinner
Chris Staplton
Ken Williams
Tammy Dodd
Paul Forward
Jessica Keen
Neil Schafer

Daniel Sealey (Harbour Trust)
Rebecca Hill (Harbour Trust)
Mary Darwell (Harbour Trust)
Rebecca Hage (Harbour Trust)
Libby Bennett (Harbour Trust)

Apologies:

Mayor Jilly Gibson
Trent Zimmerman MP
Flynn McDermont

Prior to the meeting commencing, the group took a tour of the site where they discussed work progress and plans. The group viewed the Kesterton Park Link as well as the excavation of the playground.

Welcome, Acknowledgement of Country and Introduction – Mary Darwell (MD) welcomed attendees to the meeting and acknowledged the traditional custodians of the land and elders past and present.

Platypus Renewal Project – Project update

The Harbour Trust gave an update on the works underway as part of Stage 1A. These works include the near completion of the Kesterton Park Link, the Norther stairs, Upper Carpark and road safety improvements to Kiera Close.

An update was provided on the tenant and EOI process Stage 1B works. Tenants are likely to progressively move in over the course of 2019. This is likely to stagger the opening of the entire site to the public as each tenant will have differing fit outs. Expression of Interest (EOI) process is still underway with tenant selection committee currently assessing proposals.

Kesterton Park Link

Update includes:

- Final timber in place
- Railing installation
- Security gate at Kesterton Park
- Seating along link walkway to face the harbour
- Subtle lighting along walkway

As the Kesterton Park Link nears its completion the Committee enquired as to whether there would be railings included on the link. The Committee were informed that railing would be included on Harbour side of the wharf. Where pathway is less than 1.5 metres wide, fencing will be included on both sides.

The Committee enquired as to whether there will kayak facilities as part of the Kesterton Link. The Committee were notified that the original drawings included a clip on wharf with dip for kayak use, however, there is currently no funding for this. The Committee suggested this could be rented to kayak groups to promote revenue and use of this area of the Link.

Northern Park

Northern Park landscaping underway with playground being constructed by the Harbour Trust restoration volunteer team. This will reflect the history of HMAS Platypus with interactive recreational uses including, a phonetic alphabet for children. The Committee highlighted the possibility of the Northern Park being used for ceremonial events by Submariner groups.

Upper Carpark

Update includes:

- Garden at entry of Kiara Close
- 49 new carspots including a disabled carspot
- New crash barriers
- Handrailing installed
- Lighting stalled and lightspill within footprint of carpark

The Committee enquired about the finances of the site and the expenditure to date. It was outlined that \$2.4 million has been spent on Stage 1A and \$15 million had been proposed for the restoration of Stage 1B. This was base expenditure and tenants would also be investing in their fitouts to satisfy their own requirements. This is in addition to the decontamination program.

The Committee highlighted the need for further amenities as site foot traffic increases. Staff advised this will be taken into account in the Operational Plan for SBP, no further amenities are planned for the opening of Stage 1A, however, Stage 1B would include further provisions. As well as this, the Committee enquired as to other operational aspects of the site such as opening hours and security. It was advised the High Street gates at the site will be closed until the opening of Stage 1B,

following this, the site is likely to be closed at night, this includes gates to upper car park. Operational Plan is currently in development.

The architectural interpretation for SBP was discussed and will include a Razzle Dazzle wall. The printing on the wall will be similar to patterns used on navel ships during the war and therefore connect the site to its war history.

Kesterton Park and Kiara Close

The Committee were informed that North Sydney Council currently has the planned upgrade for Kesterton Park on exhibition and will conclude on 29 March. Staff will update the committee on decisions from council as they arise. Upgrade elements include:

- Walkway to increase from 1.5 metres to 2 metres in width
- Upgrade to ballastrades
- Landscape upgrade include restoration of turfing
- Playground upgrade
- Pathway to Kesterton Park Link

The Harbour Trust has requested Kiara Close be a shared zone with all parking to be removed from the street. Kiara Close will also display clear signage for traffic management with paved thresholds to reduce traffic. North Sydney Council has granted the Harbour Trust \$100k for the installation of the thresholds. This will be implemented following consultation with Iora residence and completion of funding agreement from Council.

The Committee expressed concern as to the public usage of the upper carpark. It was highlighted that the street is not wide enough for cars to turn around and therefore appropriate signage will be implemented to avoid public use. Any cars that wrongly enter the street will be able to use the carpark to turn around. Upon the completion of the funding agreement, the Harbour Trust and community stakeholders to consult on next steps. The Committee also highlighted the legality around Commonwealth spending on private land, this is an issue the Harbour Trust should seek legal advice around.

Site 1A Opening

The plans for a media call on 16 May were discussed which will include an official ribbon cutting for the Kesterton Park Link. Following the media call, a community day will be planned for Saturday 19 May, encouraging those in the local area and in walking distance to attend. Community day to be advertised locally only to limit crowds to the site and will feature a coffee cart. The site will also display the proposed interpretation to be used in all areas.

The Committee highlighted the opening event may attract larger crowds than anticipated. For example community groups who are looking to use the wharf area for recreational use. This should be factored into the planning of the day.

In closing the Committee raised matters pertaining to other elements of the site.

The Committee referred to the EOI process at the conclusion of the meeting, enquiring as to the results of the process and an update on progress. It was highlighted the results of the process were commencing in confidence and progressing.

The Committee also asked to the amount of tenders the Harbour Trust had received for the construction works and the amount of firms to complete the job. The Committee were informed 10 tenders were issued, ranging from small to large enterprises.

Finally, the Committee enquired as to the lease life. It was outlined the current lease life is 25 years and the Harbour Trust were required to legislate parliament to extend any lease beyond this.

Meeting closed at 7:15pm.