



28 August 2024

**Harbour Trust  
Community Advisory Committee**

**Time:** 5.00 pm – 7.00 pm

**Venue:** Harbour Trust Head Office 28 Best Avenue, Mosman/ Teams Video Conference

**Present**

Erica Griffiths (*representing Zali Steggall*)  
Sue Heins – Mayor of Northern Beaches  
Rebecca Cardy  
Glyn Evans  
Cathy Griffin  
Sheila Foliaki  
Yolande Stone  
Anne Clarke

**Apologies**

Kylea Tink MP  
Lisa Trueman  
Linda O’Malley  
Jeremy Kenna  
Chido Mauwa  
Peter Doukas  
Carolyn Corrigan - *Mayor of Mosman Council*  
Trudy Phelps  
CMDR Kent Browning

**In Attendance - Harbour Trust**

Tim Entwisle (Chair)  
Terry Bailey (Board Member)  
Janet Carding, *Executive Director*  
Kathryn Roberts, *Director, Marketing & Visitor Experience*  
Graham Izod, *Director Assets and Parklands*  
Daniel Sealey, *Director of Planning*  
Susan Thompson, *Head of Engagement & Experience*  
Kathryn Werner, *Planner*

**1. Acknowledgement of Country**

- a. The Executive Director, Janet Carding (JC) conducted an Acknowledgement of Country.
- b. Apologies were noted.

**2. Executive Director’s Update**

JC noted that some papers had been sent out in advance with an invitation to raise any questions. None had been forthcoming. The meeting would focus on the discussion items including Middle Head, the next steps in the development application for the amenities block from Mosman Council, and the first stage in implementation of the Middle Head Master Plan and discussion on the engagement process.



The Corporate Plan which the CAC reviewed in May 2024 has been finalised and submitted to the Minister for noting. Once she has reviewed it, the Plan will be published online by 31 August 2024.

The Cockatoo Island / Wareamah Master Plan was well received by the community overall and the final version will be published online shortly with edits and additions included following the consultation process. Two of the Harbour Trust's design consultants have won Australian Institute of Landscape Architects (AILA) awards for their recent work with the Harbour Trust. Mark Tyrrell and Mott Macdonald have won an award for the Cockatoo Island / Wareamah Draft Master Plan, and Turf Landscape Architects have also won an award for their design work at Sub Base Platypus.

Images of Cockatoo Island / Wareamah were shared highlighting the Harbour Trust working with Sydney Institute of Marine Science (SIMS) on the installation of living seawall marine habitats for fish, seahorses, etc.

An inaugural Global Nature Positive Summit (GNPS) will be held in Sydney early October and delegates will visit both Cockatoo Island and North Head.

### 3. Members of the Trust Board Update

Regular Board Member attendee, Alex O'Mara, was an apology and Tim Entwisle reported on the last Board meeting. There was an update regarding Deductible Gift Status (DGR), and a Philanthropy strategy was discussed and approved. The budget for 2024-25 was approved, with an emphasis on sustainability. Maintenance projects were reviewed as was the rental subsidy policy - the process used to assess applications by charitable and community organisations for subsidy - and approved.

Research has been completed on Harbour Trust current and potential audience and visitors with a view to developing more opportunities and attracting more visitors to the Harbour Trust's sites. The Harbour Trust is committed to measuring how well tourism is tracking through new performance measures in the Corporate Plan.

There are currently three Members of the Trust vacancies, with the appointment of two new members in the pipeline. Dr Entwisle advised that he will soon be relocating to the Southern Highlands from Melbourne, and this will facilitate a closer relationship with Harbour Trust matters.

Cathy Griffin (CG) queried whether a summary of visitor statistics could be provided to the CAC, to which Kathryn Roberts replied that a briefing paper would be provided to next meeting.

### 4. Update from First Nations Advisory Group (FNAG)

JC reported that Paul Irish is completing an Aboriginal history of Middle Head / Gubbeh Gubbeh. The FNAG have requested that it is involved in all initiatives that will draw on the completed report and that, while the report should be used as a resource, it is not to be published due to the sensitivity of some of the material within and potential cultural intellectual property issues.

The FNAG has also advised the Harbour Trust that as it is a government agency, a First Nations strategy would be more appropriate than a Reconciliation Action Plan and work on a draft strategy has commenced. Consultant Terri Janke & Co. has run a series of internal workshops, with the first draft of the strategy in progress.

### MATTERS FOR INFORMATION



**5. Briefing Paper – Volunteer Strategy**  
Noted.

**6. Briefing Paper – Leasing Expressions of Interest, Sub Base Platypus and North Head Sanctuary**

The meeting noted the updated paper circulated with the agenda, prepared by Property and Leasing Management. Sue Heins, Mayor of North Beaches Council, will contact the Harbour Trust for a further discussion as the Council has been interested for some time in Building 17 at North Head due to the site's capacity for many kinds of sports. The EOI will remain open until 9 September 2024.

The Retort House at Sub Base Platypus is currently awaiting the completion of works prior to release of an Expression of Interest for commercial and community use.

**7. Update on Works in Progress**

Graham Izod (GI) updated members on the current status of projects, scoping, procurement etc, and these projects all have Government funding.

- a) Retort House at Sub Base Platypus. Consolidation work is underway with removal of hazardous materials and treatment of termites in wood structures
- b) North Head. Two residential properties are being renovated with completion expected by November 2024; it is planned to carry out two residential uplifts per year.
- c) Macquarie Lightstation – Greenway Wall. An archaeologist has been employed to advise on research project from a heritage perspective.
- d) Cockatoo Island – Patrol Boat Wharf. The wharf is being rebuilt to allow access to the cranes project and this will be completed in November 2024.

**MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION**

**8. Middle Head Oval – Proposed Amenities Building and associated works**

The Harbour Trust is the consent authority for this matter. Mosman Council has a licence over the oval and immediate surrounds which includes the existing amenities block. Council has submitted a planning application to demolish the existing block, which it built in the early 1980s, proposing to build a replacement building in a new location, along with a shade structure and associated landscaping. Supporting documents for the proposal have been publicly exhibited and over 270 submissions have been received. The Harbour Trust will assess the proposal, which will include consideration of all submissions. The matter is expected to be determined by November 2024, following which the Harbour Trust will publish its consultation outcomes summary.

The Committee discussed the process and elements of the proposal, and noted the high level of community interest.

**9. Middle Head Master Plan Implementation – Stage 1**

Funds were received for the remediation and adaptive reuse of the Harbour Trust site at Middle Head/ Gubbeh Gubbeh in 2019-20 and restoration work started in 2021 with external preservation to Buildings 1 and 3, and removal of hazardous materials. A Master Plan was developed to inform the long-term vision of place for the headland. Consultation with community has been underway in various forms since 2021 with two public exhibitions in 2023, for the draft Master Plan and then the revised draft Master Plan. The draft Master Plan was revised based on community



feedback, including from the CAC. Technical investigations were conducted in 2023-2024 to inform options for delivery including preferred delivery model for the available funds. This first funded stage of implementation includes the proposed removal of the two-storey timber buildings; new landscaping and interpretation; construction of an accessible path around the precinct; works on Buildings 6 and 7 to facilitate community use; and construction of car and bus turning near the roundabout.

A high-level program for the Stage 1 implementation was shared showing the project is currently in its procurement phase. The design phase will progress to the open tender process to deliver the outcome for Stage 1 – this is likely to be in the second half of 2025.

Kathryn Roberts (KR) provided an overview of the community engagement milestones both past and upcoming to support the Stage 1 Master Plan works. It is proposed that several small group workshops on specialised topics provide input on design development and interpretation. While dates will be confirmed once procurement is completed, the indicative schedule showed targeted stakeholder involvement in October/November 2024 during the design development, ahead of the statutory consultation as part of the EPBC referral and Harbour Trust Development Application in late 2024 and early 2025 respectively. JC advised that the workshop format proved successful during the master plans development. Workshops are planned to facilitate detailed discussions around environmental and ecological values, military history and access and inclusivity of the design.

CAC advice was provided and support for the process expressed, with two CAC members – Rebecca Cardy (RC) and Sheila Foliaki (SF) – volunteering to be involved with the Accessibility and Inclusion workshop. JC thanked them for their interest.

## 10. Any Other Business

It was noted there was no further news in regard to discussions with the Department of Education regarding the Environmental Education Centre.