



# **SUPPLEMENTARY BUSINESS PAPER**

**(Late Item Memo – Item 6)**

## **GENERAL MEETING**

**Wednesday 11 August 2021  
at 6:30PM**



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### **SUPPLEMENTARY ITEMS**

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**ITEM 6**      **CE18/21 - Minutes of Council Advisory Committees****Additional information with NO CHANGE to Recommendation**

Since the publication of Director's Report No. CE18/21 it has been identified that a number of committees have also held extra-ordinary or workshop meetings to develop and finalise submissions to draft strategies and masterplans that Council had on exhibition and had been referred to relevant committees for input.

In some cases, formal minutes were not prepared, rather the submission itself was finalised and forms the record of the meeting. In this scenario a copy of the submission itself has been attached to this late item information memo.

Details of these additional meetings are listed below:

- **BMAC**
  - 6 October 2020
  - 17 May 2021
- **ESAC**
  - 18 May 2021
- **HATSICC**
  - 24 September 2020
- There was also a presentation provided to committees including BMAC, ESAC, HATSICC and HAC on the 6<sup>th</sup> May 2021 as part of the consultation associated with the draft Hornsby Park and Westleigh Park Masterplans by the project team responsible for the Masterplans.

**RECOMMENDATION**









THAT the minutes of the meetings of Council's Advisory Committees held during the period since September 2020 and attached to Director's Report No. CE18/21 be received and noted.

STEPHEN FEDOROW

Director - Community and Environment

Community and Environment Division

**Attachments:**

1.   BMAC Record of Meeting including Sustainable Hornsby 2040 Submission - 6 October 2020
2.   BMAC - draft Hornsby Park and Westleigh Park Masterplans Submission - 17 May 2021 Meeting
3.   ESAC - Submission to the draft Hornsby Park and Westleigh Parks Masterplans - 18 May 2021 Meeting
4.   HATSICC - Record of Meeting regarding Sustainable Hornsby 2040 Strategy - 24 September 2020

File Reference: F2005/01147-002

Document Number: D08224597

**Bushland Management Advisory Committee**

<b>Date</b>	6 <sup>th</sup> October, 2020	<b>Time</b>	6pm – 8pm	<b>Location</b>	Zoom
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**Attendance:** P= Present, A= Apologies

Cllr Browne	A	Mike Barrett	A	Julie Ryland	P
Cllr Hutchence	A	Robin Buchanan	P	Tim Macdonald	P
Cllr Marr	P	Joanne Caldwell	P	Rachel Whiteley	P
Cllr Nicita	P	Katie Devine	P	Peter Coad	A
Cllr Heyde	A	Margery Street	A		
Alexi Boyd	P	Ross Walker	P		

**1. Welcome**

The meeting was opened at 6:00pm by Cllr Marr and Julie Ryland.

**2. Acknowledgement of Country****3. Attendance and apologies****4. BMAC Submission to Sustainable Hornsby 2040**

Tim Macdonald informed the Committee that a BMAC submission had been drafted to incorporate Committee feedback recorded during BMAC meetings on 22 September and 29 September 2020 and via email. Tim confirmed that the intent of the meeting would be to finalise a Draft BMAC submission. The draft submission was posted live during the Zoom meeting and amended to the satisfaction of the meeting.

Committee members were encouraged, should any of their comments not be supported for inclusion in the BMAC submission, to submit feedback as an individual during the exhibition period.

**Sustainable Hornsby Strategy**

The text and recommendations presented in the draft submission were supported by the Committee. Any amendments made, or discussions are noted as follows:

1	No change to text or recommendation.
2	No change to text.
3	No change to text or recommendation. The Committee was informed that the Waste Strategy had been previously exhibited and adopted by Council. Comments made by BMAC members regarding the definitions of eWaste and collection programs would be passed on to the waste section for consideration.
4	No change to text. The Committee was informed that Council will seek to use education as a constructive tool in mitigating bushfire risk and protecting biodiversity values.
5	No change to text or recommendation. It was highlighted that more detailed discussion of approaches to water recycling is presented within the Water Sensitive Hornsby Strategy.
6	Minor change to text. Addition of the term 'stakeholders' to better include businesses within the community.
7	New point and recommendation (text transferred from item 6 of the Climate Wise Strategy as resourcing is equally important for achieving implementation of all strategies currently on exhibition). The Committee considered the limitations of a single staff member operating as a Grants Officer

	across all Council departments. It was agreed that existing Council staff were best placed to seek funding opportunities.
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**Draft Biodiversity Conservation Strategy**

The text and recommendations presented in the draft submission were supported by the Committee. Any amendments made, or discussions are noted as follows:

1	No change to text or recommendation.
2	No change to text or recommendation.
3	No change to text or recommendation.
4	No change to text or recommendation. The Committee agreed that BMAC be consulted during the development and/or implementation of identified policy and guidelines within the strategy.
5	No change to text.
6	No change to text. Recommendation altered to assess the benefits as well as impacts associated with the proposed Green Infrastructure Framework.
7	No change to text or recommendation.
8	Text change to note benefits of natural area recreation. Recommendation that the Natural Area Recreation Strategy include an assessment of positive and negative, with the intention of measuring the Impacts of increased Natural Areas usage by the community.
9	The Committee agreed to include 1.2.4 (bird safe building guidelines) and 1.4.3 (dark sky policy) in the table, changing prioritisation from L to M. Committee members supported the amended prioritisation of listed tasks.
10	Text changed to include early childhood and tertiary education institutions within the preparation of a Natural Resources Communication Strategy. General discussion involved how Council can incorporate education based on the goals of the strategy. Recommendation altered to refer to <i>all</i> education providers and stakeholders.

**Draft Urban Forest Strategy**

The text and recommendations presented in the draft submission were supported by the Committee. Any amendments made, or discussions are noted as follows:

1	No change to text or recommendation.
2	No change to text or recommendation.
3	The Committee agreed that BMAC be consulted during the development and/or implementation of identified policy and guidelines within the strategy.
4	No change to text or recommendation. Committee members supported the amended prioritisation of listed tasks
5	No change to text.

**Water Sensitive Hornsby**

The text and recommendations presented in the draft submission were supported by the Committee. Any amendments made, or discussions are noted as follows:

1	No change to text or recommendation.
2	No change to text.
3	No change to text. Recommendation amended to include sewage harvesting and re-use to the Waster Sensitive Urban Design examples.
4	No change to text or recommendation.
5	Text amended to include stakeholders. No change to recommendation.
6	Text amended to refer to <i>all</i> water recycling initiatives and additional sentence to emphasise the importance of maintaining environmental flows when implementing water sensitive measures and development controls.
7	Additional point noting importance of maintaining partnerships across government, key stakeholders and engaging community to gain support for the implementation of Water Sensitive Hornsby initiatives and wider catchment planning activities (i.e. estuary management planning) via Coastal Management Program).

#### **Draft Climate Wise Strategy**

The text and recommendations presented in the draft submission were supported by the Committee. Any amendments made, or discussions are noted as follows:

1	No change to text or recommendation.
2	No change to text or recommendation.
3	No change to text or recommendation.
4	No change to text or recommendation.
5	No change to text or recommendation.
6	Previous point removed. The Committee resolved that the Grants Officer/resourcing recommendation is relevant to all strategies and be presented in item 6 of the overarching Sustainable Hornsby 2040 Strategy.
6	No change to text or recommendation.
7	No change to text or recommendation.
8	No change to text or recommendation.
9	No change to text. Recommendation amended to encourage an advocacy role for a Carbon Emissions Trading Scheme as it is unlikely council could facilitate such a scheme independently despite the desirability. It was resolved that 'within the Shire' be removed to indicate the advocacy role and participation from Council when required.
10	No change to text.
11	Change to text to include reference to stakeholders in engagement, education and innovation initiatives. General discussion involved the dynamics of employment opportunities associated with 'eco-friendly' tourism and the integration of the Green Infrastructure Framework and Walking and Cycling Strategy to compliment Natural Area usage across Hornsby Shire.

#### **5. Q&A**

It was noted that a Bushfire Strategy is also being developed by Council for reserves under its care, control and management. The Committee were informed that this strategy will not be publicly exhibited due to the sensitivity of the content, primarily due to risk management. The recommendations of the bushfire inquiry will

be considered in the development of this Strategy, including communication and education programs. It is anticipated that the report will go to Councillors in December 2020.

It was also noted that the Hornsby Quarry Development Application will be determined by the Sydney North Planning Panel on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> October 2020.

#### **6. General Business**

For matters that have not been incorporated into the Committee submission, Members were encouraged to provide a personal submission through the following link: <https://future.hornsby.nsw.gov.au/draft-sustainable-hornsby-2040-strategy/>

A Community webinar will be held online on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> October 6:30-8pm to provide an introduction to the Sustainable Hornsby Strategies to the community. Registration for the event can be completed at the following link: <https://future.hornsby.nsw.gov.au/event/sustainable-hornsby-2040-webinar/>

#### **7. Next meetings**

The next meeting of the BMAC Group will be the 24<sup>th</sup> November 2020, 6:00pm-8:00pm. It is likely that BMAC meetings will continue to be held on Zoom.

**The Meeting was closed at 8:00pm by Cr Marr.**





**Bushland Management Advisory Committee**  
**Submission to Sustainable Hornsby 2040**  
**6 October 2020**

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At its meeting on 9 September 2020, Council resolved to place the Draft Sustainable Hornsby 2040 Strategy and its supporting strategies on public exhibition until Friday, 30 October 2020. The supporting Strategies include the Draft Biodiversity Conservation Strategy, Draft Urban Forest Strategy, Draft Water Sensitive Hornsby Strategy and Draft Climate Wise Hornsby Plan.

During the public exhibition period, consultation was sought with Council's Bushland Management Advisory Committee (BMAC) with the purpose of advising Council on a review of the content of the various strategies. BMAC consists of seven community representatives and four Councillors who advise Council on bushland management related issues. The comments of BMAC members have informed this joint submission on the Sustainable Hornsby 2040 strategy (inclusive of the supporting strategies), following meetings on 22 September, 29 September and 6 October 2020.

The following comments and recommendations of BMAC are to be considered for inclusion into the respective Strategies and form a collective BMAC response. Members also made reference to minor edits which are incorporated directly into the strategy documents as appropriate.

***Draft Sustainable Hornsby 2040***

1. Committee members noted the strategies were comprehensive and supported the concepts contained within the strategy. It was also noted the strategies main goal was to be an overarching strategy and that detailed actions would be contained within the supporting strategies.
  - 1.1. **Recommendation:** That the Committee notes support for the vision and goals of the Draft Sustainable Hornsby 2040 Strategy.
2. Committee members noted a number of edits to strategy and examples of best practice implementation. Discussion was held on the topics relating education programs, engagement of local business, engagement with schools, progress bench marking, cycleways and bus services and bushfire risk. Following the discussion, the strategy actions were viewed as adequate in addressing these topics, subject to suggested edits being considered. Hence no recommendations were made for significant additions or alterations.
3. Committee members noted the importance of community members having suitable and equitable access to eWaste services throughout the shire, noting the inability of all residents being able to transport and access the Community Recycling Centre at Thornleigh. Further, members noted that it was unclear what eWaste could be collected at the recycling centre and noted that a better definition of eWaste was warranted to assist the community efforts in recycling eWaste.
  - 3.1. **Recommendation:** That eWaste collection services be made available to residents north of Hornsby and in rural areas of the Shire with information detailing what types of eWaste are accepted.
4. Committee members made comment of wording used to refer to risk within the Natural Hazards Strategy relating to bushfire within residential and rural areas. It was resolved that suitable language was required to inform the community on the risk presented to residents who lived adjacent or in close proximity to bushland areas which also noted positive aspects of such locations.
5. Committee members discussed the merits of water recycling and the utilisation of treated sewage from West Hornsby and Hornsby Heights Wastewater Treatment Plants, to assist in offsetting potable water supply. The committee noted that greater use of such water would have benefits during times of water shortages and drought.
  - 5.1. **Recommendation:** That the utilisation of waste water and treated sewage be considered in the strategy to assist communities meet water demands in rural, manufacturing, industrial and mining areas.
6. Committee members discussed general topics relating to Council maintaining a position leadership in sustainability, planning, zoning (with examples provided from Parramatta Council), resourcing, public domain and active transport. Committee members also reiterated the importance of community consultation and engagement with specific reference to approaches that seek integration, collaboration and improved communication with all stakeholders.
7. Committee members noted the importance of funding to support the implementation of Strategies.



**Recommendation:** That Council continues to seek all funding opportunities in supporting implementation of all strategies.



### ***Draft Biodiversity Conservation Strategy***

1. Committee members discussed the visions and goals of the draft Biodiversity Conservation Strategy. In doing so it was noted the strategies and actions were thorough, well considered and optimistic. Committee members noted future challenges that the strategy would have to encompass, such as climate change, species extinction and canopy loss.
  - 1.1. **Recommendation:** That the Committee notes support for the vision and goals of the Draft Biodiversity Conservation Strategy
2. Committee members discussed the importance of ensuring all vegetation communities and catchments were afforded protection. There was general consensus that the strategy was adequate in this regard but sought further clarity on vegetation communities on Maroota Sands.
  - 2.1. **Recommendation:** That in Section "Contemporary vegetation patterns" (p19) further clarity was suggested on how Maroota sands would be afforded protection.
3. Committee members noted the actions within the strategy were comprehensive and would lead to satisfactory enactment of the strategy's goals. However, members wished to specifically acknowledge migratory birds as a separate action and note this a priority.
  - 3.1. **Recommendation:** That in Section "Migratory Species" (p29) the assessment of migratory species was noted as a high priority. Hence, it is recommended that a reference to migratory species be included in the action table.
4. Committee members discussed their role in overseeing the enactment of the Biodiversity Conservation Strategy and requested that several actions be brought to BMAC's attention at subsequent meetings.
  - 4.1. **Recommendation:** That Committee members note the following actions be brought before the committee as they are developed and or implemented.

Reference	Action
1.1.4	Review current biodiversity conservation management within the HDCP
1.2.1	Assess Plans of Management for Natural Areas to enhance biodiversity conservation outcomes
1.2.5	Prepare/review guidelines for vegetation management and compliance
1.2.11	Prepare a Natural Areas Recreation Strategy
1.3.2	Prepare guidelines and identify special incentives to prioritise biodiversity on private lands
1.4.2	Prepare strategies that reduce edge effect impacts for biodiversity and wildlife
1.5.2	Prepare biodiversity adaption strategy to minimise climate impacts through policy, planning instruments and operational activities
1.6.1	Prepare biodiversity monitoring program for council managed lands (as part of a wider Natural Resources Monitoring Program)
2.1.1	Identify a GIF which includes core, transition, and corridor areas
2.2.1	Implement and review a biodiversity offsets policy to support conservation on private and public land
2.4.1	Prepare a Natural Areas Recreation Strategy
3.2.1	Prepare and implement Biosecurity Management policies and plans
4.1.1	Prepare Green Corridor schematics to demonstrate planning principles in wildlife corridors



Reference	Action
4.1.2	Address potential buy-back arrangements and other enduring protection mechanisms for areas recognised as critical linkages in GIF
5.1.1	Prepare a Natural Resources communication, engagement and education strategy

5. Committee members noted broad support for the actions and tasks within the strategy. Specific focus areas for conversation related to the Green Infrastructure Framework, Fire Management and a Natural Areas Recreation Strategy.
6. In relation to the Green Infrastructure Framework, additional assessment work was requested by members to determine if the Framework would favour the movement of non-desirable, highly mobile and aggressive fauna species such as Cockatoo's and Lorikeets between reserves. Ground fauna such as Bandicoots, Wallabies, Echidnas and Lyrebirds seem unlikely to use the corridors, as are small sedentary birds such as White-Browed Scrub Wrens. If they do, they will be greatly at risk from predators and vehicles. Discussion also noted the success of fauna movement infrastructure.
  - 6.1. **Recommendation:** That action ID 2.1.1 be amended to include a preliminary assessment of the benefit and impacts of the proposed Green Infrastructure Network on the Shire's fauna and biodiversity.
7. Committee members discussed the importance of fire management within the landscape and the need for greater community awareness of fire and its behaviour. In this discussion, topics of cultural burning, community education and ecological burning requirements were considered.
  - 7.1. **Recommendation:** That a reference to fire management within the action table be made noting the need to manage fire for the benefit of biodiversity conservation goals and to ensure implementation of bushfire management activities within the Hornsby Kuring-gai Bushfire Risk Management Plan.
8. Committee members noted the increased use of public recreation spaces and bushland areas for recreation, the benefits and pressures this brings to natural areas. The Committee therefore supported the development of a Natural Area Recreation Strategy in addressing such activity in the bushland areas.
  - 8.1. **Recommendation:** That a Natural Area Recreation Strategy be developed as noted as a means to assess impacts while balancing community interaction with nature-based recreation.
9. Committee members discussed and supported many of the priority rankings contained within the strategy, however recommended the following rankings be changed to:

ID Ref	Action	Current	Amended
1.2.2	Assess opportunities for the establishment and preservation of buffer zones around TECs, threatened species, remnant vegetation and riparian zones across the Shire	M	H
1.2.3	Identify mechanisms to inform residents of significant biodiversity features and remnant vegetation on their land	M	H
1.2.4	Assess potential new standards for bird safe buildings, including information material, guidelines for retrofitting and DA assessment	L	M



ID Ref	Action	Current	Amended
1.6.1	Prepare biodiversity monitoring program for council managed lands (as part of a wider Natural Resources Monitoring Program)	M	H
1.2.9	Maintain green wall and roof provisions for new developments/retrofits	M	H
1.2.3	Identify mechanisms to inform residents of significant biodiversity features	M	H
1.2.11	Prepare a Natural Areas Recreation Strategy (is high in 2.4.1)	M	H
1.4.3	Assess 'dark sky' policies and development measures to limit light pollution disturbance to wildlife	L	M
1.5.1	Prepare a vulnerability assessment to determine future impact of climate change on biodiversity values	M	H
1.6.1	Prepare biodiversity monitoring program for council managed lands (as part of a wider Natural Resources Monitoring Program)	M	H

10. Committee members noted support for actions and initiatives that involved community engagement actions that promote a sense of place, identity and community. The committee encouraged new ways of utilising positive messaging and engaging with the community be highly prioritised, with a focus on early/primary/secondary/tertiary education institutions, when implementing strategy actions. With regard to planning instruments, the committee was supportive of planning initiatives that supported the implementation of actions within the Biodiversity Conservation Strategy.

**10.1 Recommendation:** The Committee support the preparation of Natural Resources communication strategy to build community engagement and relationships with all education providers and stakeholders to view our natural resources as a community asset and tool for learning.



### ***Draft Urban Forest Strategy***

1. Committee members discussed the importance of maintaining and enhancing an urban forest with particular reference to the preservation of trees. In the discussion, the committee noted support for the urban forest strategy and considered it to be comprehensive in covering issues that needed to be undertaken to address the Shires declining tree canopy.

1.1. **Recommendation:** That the Committee notes support for the vision and goals of the Draft Urban Forest Strategy.

2. Committee members discussed actions within the strategy noting a number of points of clarification. Topics discussed included a selection of maps and their currency, street tree replacement, tree loss associated with development and the frequency at which tree canopy is monitored.

3. Committee members considered their role in overseeing the strategy's implementation and noted the following actions should be brought to the Committees attention at subsequent BMAC meetings.

3.1. **Recommendation:** That the Committee members note the following actions be brought before the committee as they are developed and or implemented.

ID Ref	Action / Tasks
1.03.2	Prepare a Street Tree Master Plan to inform the strategic and operational management of these assets.
1.05.1	Develop a urban tree management policy that standardises decision making processes against a clear Council objectives all elements of street and park tree management
1.07.1	Prepare a policy that aligns with the Biodiversity Conservation Management Plan 2020 to manage the protection of trees and provide guidance for other practices along rural roads.
1.11.1	Develop a tree valuation methodology, using data captured from the tree inventory, for Hornsby's public trees, including environmental, social and economic benefits of trees
2.05.2	Prepare guidelines for developers for exempt and complying development to support Council's local strategic planning strategy and character statements across the LGA. Controls must be consistent with LEP outcomes and DCP controls.
2.06.1	Develop relevant LEP standards (Part 4 of the standard LEP template) to support the protection and management of existing canopy trees and future canopy planting within relevant land use zones and consistent with local character statements
2.07.1	Revise and develop DCP provisions to reinforce the hierarchy of protecting, restoring and creating canopy across the local government area consistent with local character statements, tree canopy targets and district planning directions.
2.09.2	Develop a tree canopy policy to support the LEP and DCP if its determined that the focus of that Green Offset Policy remains primarily biodiversity
3.03.1	Prepare WSUD policy incorporating guidelines for all stormwater treatment and consistent with urban forest outcomes
3.04.1	Prepare green wall and green roof policy for new developments and retrofits



4. Committee members discussed priorities within the Urban Forest Strategy and noted support for the amending priorities contained in the strategy with following changes:

ID Ref	Action	Current	Amended
1.16.1	Measure canopy cover every five tree years and evaluate against baseline and intended targets for canopy and diversity	H	M
2.1.2	Measure every 5 years given the rate of development and tree loss across the Shire.	H	M <sup>1</sup>
2.1.3	Investigate and measure the effectiveness of DCP controls using updated data	H	M <sup>2</sup>
2.15.1	Actively promote and implement Council's free tree giveaway program	H	M <sup>3</sup>
2.16.1 2.16.2 2.16.3	Develop ongoing media, develop case studies, Implement interactive community workshops ...	M	M,L
3.8.1 to 3.9.4	Need to raise awareness within the public of Guringai and Darug people, and of the value of urban forest.	M	H
2.13.4	Develop development guidelines that include lot scale green infrastructure outcomes.	M	H

*1 – A lower frequency of data collection was recommended as substantial changes in canopy wouldn't be observed in a five year period. 2- A longer time between assessing DCP effectiveness was recommended noting the time taken to effect changes in DCP processes. 3 – A lower frequency of Nursery promotion was recommended as high frequency promotion wasn't considered necessary.*

5. General conversation noted a number of items that are addressed in the strategy and are considered to align with the interests and priorities of BMAC. These items include the support for; planning instruments that complement the implementation of Strategy, communication and education strategies which highlight the importance of maintaining and improving an urban forest with a focus on native trees being prioritised where appropriate, actions which seek to maintain tree coverage on private land, planning activities (such as master planning, and tree mapping) to ensure better integration of tree planting programs within the public domain and monitoring of Council's tree canopy and asset management.





### ***Draft Water Sensitive Hornsby Strategy***

1. Committee members discussed the importance of promoting appropriate water management and the need to move to a water sensitive city. Accordingly, the Committee was in agreement with vision and goals of this Strategy.
  - 1.1. **Recommendation:** That the Committee notes support for the vision and goals of the Draft Water Sensitive Hornsby Strategy.
2. Committee members discussed the language within the vision and noted a series of edits for incorporation into the document. Conversation was had on appropriate approaches to engage the reader with the language used being more emotive than technical in nature. The committee was supportive of this approach.
3. Committee members discussed and noted examples of items that could be incorporated into the strategy to highlight ideas that support the vision for a water sensitive city.
  - 3.1. **Recommendation:** That examples of Water Sensitive Urban Design be included in the strategy such as rainwater tanks, permeable pavers, rain gardens, water play, water for bushland fauna and stormwater/sewage harvesting and re-use.
4. Committee members discussed their interests in overseeing the implementation of the Water Sensitive Hornsby Strategy and requested the following actions be brought to BMAC's attention at subsequent meetings.
  - 4.1. **Recommendation:** That BMAC members note the following actions be brought before the committee as they are developed and or implemented:

ID Ref	Description
1.2.1	Review compliance policy procedures
2.1.1	Develop place-based plans that incorporate a strong narrative around the local environmental, historical and indigenous heritage (informed through community engagement) and highlight linkages to other valuable networks
2.3.1	Ensure integration across relevant LSPS strategies
5.1.1	Identify appropriate platforms to implement water sensitive solutions in place-based planning

5. Priorities within the strategy were noted and discussed. Of particular note to members was the need to inform and educate the community and stakeholders on information relevant to the strategy, in which updating Council's website was considered a high priority.
  - 5.1. **Recommendation:** That information relating to Water Sensitive Cities be updated as a high priority on Council's website.
6. General conversation amongst committee members noted the need for continued support with compliance initiatives to enact Water Sensitive Urban Design, planning controls to promote the construction and installation of gross pollutant traps, erosion controls and all water recycling initiatives. The Committee



highlighted the importance of maintaining environmental flows when implementing water sensitive measures and development controls.

7. Members also noted the importance of maintaining partnerships across government, key stakeholders and engaging community to gain support for the implementation of Water Sensitive Hornsby initiatives and wider catchment planning activities (i.e. estuary management planning).



### ***Draft Climate Wise Strategy***

1. Committee members discussed the urgency and importance of adapting to climate change noting the onset of an associated increase in natural disasters. In addressing climate change, committee members noted the importance of encouraging and supporting community attitudes that were commensurate with supporting the implementation of the strategy's goals and vision.
  - 1.1. **Recommendation:** That the Committee notes support for the vision and goals of the Draft Climate Wise Plan.
2. Committee members discussed strategies and noted general support for their implementation through the actions. Conversation then considered the adequacy of the benchmarking and targets, noting a desire to ensure the most ambitious targets were the focus for Council's strategic planning. Committee members were informed that Council's Environmental Sustainability Advisory Committee (ESAC) are concurrently considering the Draft strategy documents on public exhibition and the members agreed that the BMAC submission would adopt a consistent position to ESAC.
  - 2.1. **Recommendation:** The Committee recognises that the emission reduction targets are in line with the NSW Government commitment to Net Zero Emissions by 2050. BMAC recommends Council regularly report its programs, celebrate its achievements and review the targets in accordance with scientific research and set a more ambitious target in the coming years.
3. Committee members discussed the roll out of LED lights and noted concerns for their impacts on wildlife. Concern was noted for the use of filtered blue, violet and ultra-violet wavelengths which are considered to be problematic for night vision and navigation of nocturnal species.
  - 3.1. **Recommendation:** With regard to actions 1.1 to 1.4 that consideration towards the impacts to wildlife be included prior to the installation of LED lighting.
4. Committee members supported initiatives which encouraged the installation and utilisation of solar energy. Discussion was had on the merits of individual and community solar projects and Council's role in their promotion. In identifying suitable areas for installations, the committee noted that part shaded properties could also contribute to solar generation, noting advances in solar technology efficiencies and the use of micro inverters.
  - 4.1. **Recommendation:** That in an assessment of the suitability of solar energy installation, that part shaded roofs be considered as a viable location.
5. Committee members noted and discussed the importance of incorporating zero carbon processes throughout the Shire rather than just focusing within the Town Centres.
  - 5.1. **Recommendation:** That zero carbon processes be incorporated into the design, development and ongoing use in all areas of the Shire, e.g. building materials, waste generation & disposal, energy production on scale.
6. Committee members noted particular interest in overseeing the implementation and development of several actions within the Strategy and requested that they be brought before the committee at subsequent meetings.



- 6.1. **Recommendation:** That Committee members note the following actions be brought before the committee as they are developed and or implemented:

RAC05 (p48)	Decrease in the average annual rainfall may cause increased property damage or personal injury as a result of falling limbs and trees caught by droughts, fire and storms
FWAE6 (p55)	Increased number of FFDI days may cause loss/damage to private property including residential and businesses due to fire, fallen trees, accidents due to smoke reducing visibility levels
SLC12 (p59)	An increase in East Coast Lows and coastal inundation events may result in impacts on coastal nature reserves, beaches, natural public recreational sites, roads, carparks, jetties foreshore/ coastal natural walking paths (erosion) – loss of foreshore vegetation, beaches, boats moored closed to shore.
ERAE2 (p63)	An increase in the number of extreme rainfall/storm events may cause loss/damage to public property including Council assets due to fallen trees, accidents due to intense rain periods, etc, which could impact on Council's services to the public

7. Committee members commented on the prevalence of large retail and industrial roof spaces and requested a targeted campaign and incentive program be developed to encourage the utilisation of solar generation technology on these spaces.

- 7.1. **Recommendation:** That large retail and industrial areas be targeted with a specific campaign to encourage utilisation of large roof areas for solar generation.

8. The priorities identified for each task and action were considered by Committee members within the Strategy who have recommended the following changes be made:

ID Ref	Action	Current	Amended
2.6	Work with community on viability of community solar farm	Medium-Low	Medium
2.14	Solar farm + EV charging (related to 2.6 above)	Medium-Low	Low

9. Committee members commented on the importance in establishing a Carbon Emission Trading scheme through the Local Government Shires Association and Cities for Climate Protection. In doing so the potential for generating carbon credits in accordance with the National Carbon Offset Standard was acknowledged as potential mechanism.

- 9.1. **Recommendation:** That an action be included seeking Council's advocacy for a Carbon Emission Trading Scheme to be established.

10. Committee members further discussed broad issues relating to carbon sequestration, reducing the reliance on non-renewable sourced electricity and the need for complimentary planning and compliance controls to support the strategies implementation. These discussion topics are noted and will be considered when corresponding actions in the strategy are being developed.
11. Committee members noted the importance of community and stakeholder engagement, education and innovation when implementing actions within the strategy. Items of note include the need to engage the community and stakeholders in mechanisms which help the community cope with climate extremes,



construction of community solar farms and the need for a network of vehicle and bicycle charging points (and associated infrastructure).

## Hornsby Shire Council's Bushland Management Advisory Committee Submission - Hornsby Park Draft Master Plan – 2nd June 2021 (Final)

Council's Bushland Management Advisory Committee (BMAC) met on Monday the 17th May 2021 to discuss the Hornsby Park Draft Master Plan and to formulate a submission based on the agreed position of the members. This discussion followed the presentation of the Draft Master Plan to BMAC and other Council Advisory Committees held on Thursday 6th May 2021 at the Hornsby RSL Club. During the combined Advisory Committee presentation, attendees were provided an opportunity to ask questions of Council's Major Projects Team.

The following table presents the formal recommendations agreed upon by BMAC members that are consistent with the Committee's Charter.

The second table presents comments from some members that were agreed as being peripheral to BMAC's Charter but would be noted in the Committee's submission. Please note that the Committee does not necessarily support any of the comments listed in this table.

**N.B.** Recommendations and Comments in either table could in some cases equally apply to both the Hornsby and Westleigh Park proposals.

Theme	Recommendations:
General	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. BMAC would like to see Hornsby Park demonstrate the Sustainability Agenda of Hornsby Shire Council and believe this is a great opportunity to see the actions in the Sustainable Hornsby 2040 Strategy and its supporting documents of the Biodiversity Conservation Strategy and Urban Forest Strategy in particular, as well as the Water Sensitive Hornsby Strategy, Climate Wise Hornsby Plan and Waste Matters Strategy being implemented.</li> </ol>
Vegetation Conservation	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2. The Committee notes the presence of high conservation value vegetation on site and strongly recommends that the principles of avoid, minimise, mitigate and offset be applied.</li> <li>3. That vegetation be managed consistent with the comprehensive site vegetation management plan and habitat creation plan.</li> </ol>

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	4. That more trees be considered to be planted in the amphitheatre area. This area is likely to be very hot at times especially during the height of Summer. A mixture of deciduous and evergreen varieties be considered.
<b>Powerful Owls</b>	5. That protection of all fauna, particularly Powerful Owls (and habitat) be prioritised by avoiding, minimising and mitigating impacts from, but not limited to, lighting, noise, track density, infrastructure positioning and increased intensity of use.
<b>Dogs</b>	6. That if dogs were permitted in Hornsby Park, they must be on-leash.
<b>Tracks and Trails</b>	7. That tracks and trails be prioritised for walkers at Hornsby Park as there are far more walkers than mountain-bikers and walking has a lesser impact than mountain biking.
<b>Proposed Link Track</b>	8. There are concerns for the potential impacts on flora and fauna along some sections of the proposed Link Track between Hornsby and Westleigh Parks. 9. That if the Link Track proceeds, it must be routed to avoid or minimise vegetation and habitat impacts and utilise existing track as a priority.
<b>Mountain Bikes</b>	10. The Committee notes the presence of high conservation value vegetation and habitat on site and that the principles of avoid, minimise, mitigate and offset be applied. 11. BMAC prioritises the conservation of CEECs such that all mountain-bike trails must be avoided within these communities.
<b>Sports Fields: Environmental Impact</b>	12. That infrastructure be designed in keeping with best practice such that edge effects are avoided or mitigated. 13. That Maintenance Budgets must include provision for ongoing bushland management and opportunities for Bushcare groups to be sought and fully funded. 14. The location of any playing fields near bushland is a concern, particularly synthetic turf. All playing fields must be designed in keeping with best practice such that all offsite impacts are avoided or mitigated.

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	<p>15. That best practice night lighting be designed and implemented such that offsite impacts are avoided or minimised. Further, the impact from night driving on fauna also be considered and minimised.</p> <p>[Adopt where appropriate, the guidelines set out in the attached UN Environment document regarding <i>the Convention on Migratory Species: Light Pollution Guidelines for Wildlife ... dated 30<sup>th</sup> January 2020 (prepared by The Government of Australia)</i>].</p>
<b>Planting Lists</b>	<p>16. That exotic species recommended to be planted be reconsidered due to their ability to spread into bushland.</p> <p>17. The Committee notes the limited selection of species in the documentation and strongly recommends that the suggested species list be reassessed and referred to BMAC for advice and confirmation.</p> <p>18. Whilst the limited selection of species in the documentation is noted, the Committee also strongly recommends that the species list for plantings at the Higgins Family Cemetery be reassessed. The proposed exotic plantings at the Cemetery, should only be species with known Heritage value. Again, this should be referred to BMAC for advice and confirmation.</p> <p>19. BMAC strongly recommends that wherever possible, native species are to be sourced from Councils Community Nursery <i>Warada Ngurang</i> at Pennant Hills.</p>
<b>Pollution/ Contamination</b>	<p>20. That any site contamination and pollution issues be managed consistently with relevant legislation.</p>
<b>Education</b>	<p>21. The Committee unanimously supports the establishment of an integrated site education program that promotes the values of Bushland (including CEECs and EECs) within the site and the Link Track area.</p> <p>22. There needs to be greater consultation and education when dealing with mountain bike riders and the wider community about the impacts on and importance of bushland.</p>
<b>Hydrology</b>	<p>23. That a total water cycle management plan be developed and implemented consistent with the principles of the Water Sensitive Hornsby Strategy, including potential Water Harvesting opportunities from local streets and other sources.</p> <p>24. That the water supply needs of the NSW RFS be considered for firefighting purposes.</p>

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**Comments noted by Bushland Management Advisory Committee peripheral to its Charter:**

Topic	Comment
<b>General</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Both projects are huge undertakings and could probably be regarded as having regional, as opposed to just local, development status. Both projects will attract bike riders from outside the LGA. This is evidenced by the sheer volume of correspondence Council has already received from the bike riding groups. Their submissions refer to Hornsby as being the only extensive bike riding area in the Sydney Basin. There may be an opportunity for Council to lobby hard for additional State and/or Federal funding to get both projects underway. Both projects will benefit not just Hornsby Council but also the broader Sydney community, particularly Northern and North West Sydney. I expect Hornsby Park, with its unique assets and close public transport facilities to become a Regional facility within 20 years.</li> </ol>
<b>Site Design</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hornsby residents again paid for other people's benefits. It turns out the Quarry did not need to be filled to be stable and there would have been enough spoil on the unstable northern bank to stabilise it anyway. It has lost a lot of its uniqueness!</li> <li>Concern with the Quarry development is the actual circle design within the Quarry itself. Presently apart from a general amphitheatre it does not appear very useful. Will the tree lined area have picnic tables? Can the tree lined area be extended more around the perimeter to ensure more shade and more picnic areas, without losing the open amphitheatre?</li> <li>A water play area would make the area more desirable for young family visitors. The design of a water play area should be constructed with materials reflective of the environment. For example, quarry rocks rather than just holes of water that spout up with plastic displays. Any water play should be in harmony with its environment.</li> <li>BMAC recommends serious consideration of winter shadow diagrams for the quarry void. There are shadows on the northern escarpment. There will be little sun exposure due to the steepness of the topography and the depth of the void area of the park which will impact the design outcomes for that part of the Park.</li> <li>BMAC recommends consideration of the water temperature of the proposed lake. It will probably be cold all year. Swimming may well need to be restricted to part or all of the lake for a significant part of the year.</li> </ol>

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	<p>7. Council should wherever possible, use suitable cost effective recycled or second hand materials throughout the development. What protocols does Council have in place to ensure this occurs?</p>
<b>Interpretive Signage</b>	<p>8. It is hoped the suggested interpretive signs on page 148 remain a feature.</p> <p>9. The Quarry face is very likely unique in the world as suggested by the many geologists' reports and opinions that have been provided to Council since the beginning of the planning for the site. Only a suitably qualified geologist can comment on whether enough care is given to its interpretation and preservation.</p> <p>10. Notes that at the information pop-ups, many Hornsby residents had little or no idea about the Quarry or proposed projects. Information sharing about Hornsby facilities and attractions should be provided at key positions such as train stations and transport interchanges so that more people are captured in the consultation process.</p>
<b>User Conflict, Dangers and Risk</b>	<p>11. There are many visible safety issues such as tracks/paths intersecting, absence of high safety fences along trails with high drop areas; that is, people can fall off cliffs. Wetlands require protection from people and vice-versa; swimming requires lifeguards; water quality must be assured, and so on.</p> <p>12. Council must address the behaviour of park users relating to safety particularly in areas shared by cyclists, mountain bikers, walkers, and electric bikers and/or scooter drivers. Council must address park user behaviour where very young, very senior, those with physical or mental impairment, those managing prams or implements for mobility must mix and cross paths.</p> <p>13. Signage and behaviours: Need High Vis rules such as keep to the left or right and when and how fast and give way to pedestrians and so on. Signs on existing MBT's suggest mountain bike riders keep to the right. This can be disastrous as shown in recent accidents locally and elsewhere, if some keep to the left and others to the right, especially if pedestrians are also involved.</p> <p>14. The MBT's used to have mapped numbered positions displayed on signage and number signage along tracks so if there was an incident, and there have been many, their position can be identified for an efficient and effective rescue. These were pulled down with recent track upgrades and not replaced. There have been several accidents and serious injuries since. Very important for the difficult and remote areas of the track.</p> <p>15. Other risks include active adventures interaction with those engaged in passive recreation and play.</p>

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<p><b>Traffic, Congestion &amp; Parking</b></p>	<p>16. There appears to be concerns for the Quarry project from residents. For example, there appears to be only around 80 to 100 parking spaces for all the Quarry activities. This Park is to be the Centennial Park of the north with so many activities as a Shire wide facility with many people driving to the site, like it or not. Think a far greater number of attendances for both sites than Fagan Park that has large expanses of empty grassed paddocks it opens as overflow parking for busy times. These (Master Plan) reports should include a plan to manage these elements traffic, congestion, parking and amenity.</p> <p>17. One suggestion for the Quarry could be shared parking with TAFE. An existing TAFE car park is positioned on the western side of TAFE which is accessed from Bridge Road near to the OMV/Quarry entrance.</p> <p>18. Hornsby TAFE has a multi-story car park that may or may not be extended and/or used on weekends and school holidays. Overflow carparking arrangements or opportunities?</p> <p>19. Not enough provision for car parking. People from apartments and people from outside the Hornsby LGA might come by public transport, but that is not guaranteed and will become a real problem in the not-too-distant future. Council needs to plan for this future outcome.</p> <p>20. Most residents from surrounding suburbs will travel by car (due to poor connections with busses, trains and reduced weekend services).</p> <p>21. Concerns raised on increasing the carpark areas at either park site. Council is encouraged to identify more sustainable solutions for the parking considerations such as shuttle bus services that might for example run to the Quarry from the Railway Station at peak times and/or at least on a regular basis.</p>
<p><b>Access</b></p>	<p>22. Viewing platform and wetland would have been great and some ovals and facilities like Olympic Park at Homebush where the quarry section is fenced off to the public for environmental and safety reasons as Hornsby Quarry will have to be in some areas for public safety.</p> <p>23. Concerns about paths and lifts that do not appear to be necessary as the Quarry is a Quarry and people will be able to view it from the elevated platforms and trails. A drive/ walk down Rosemead Rd or the Bridge Rd will be good examples of its steepness.</p>
<p><b>Sports Fields: Social Impact</b></p>	<p>24. Removal or reduction in the size of sports fields would allow for increased informal play area and increased size of water and play equipment area. Would be needed if it is going to be a Regional Park.</p>

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	<p>25. Flat, boring and unshaded. Cannot be used as a Village Green at this scale, especially with synthetic turf.</p> <p>26. Looks like an entry to a Sporting Field Complex, not a great Regional Park!</p> <p>27. Traffic breaks up the area into two parts – not a coherent whole.</p>
<b>Accessibility</b>	<p>28. Presentation mentioned that the Quarry could be closed at night time. When and how? How is this achievable?</p> <p>29. Ongoing security and safety concerns.</p> <p>30. Access to onsite carparking: Hornsby LGA residents versus non-residents?</p> <p>31. There may be some choke points caused to enforce payment from non-residents. Plans for that scenario?</p> <p>32. We should charge non-residents and/or visitors to use our facilities. Locals should reap some benefits from their local resources.</p>
<b>Uses</b>	<p>33. Small and compact mini golf/putt-putt and other pocket activities could fit well, and quickly and cover weed infested areas.</p> <p>34. Need to ensure that there are lots of seating and eating facilities for large and small groups with shade for summer. There is very little in Hornsby at the moment and many people travel long distances to have a gathering. BBQ/cooking facilities? Access to a power source for individual users (including USB connections) apart from major event organisers?</p> <p>35. The idea of using the Crusher Plant at Hornsby Park for industrial heritage interpretation is a good idea and could be incorporated into any commercial business like a café or such like.</p> <p>36. Support for the idea of turning the Crusher Plant site into a museum/education centre.</p> <p>37. Like to see swimming allowed at the Quarry, such is the allure of places like Manly Dam, Parramatta Park and Pittwater Park.</p> <p>38. The heritage building (Crusher Plant) is important and could be incorporated into a heritage style Cafe easily. The need for Bike hire or admin area for paid camping or rock climbing etc, could see the construction of simple cabins near the heritage building to fulfil these purposes.</p>

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	<p>39. Will the Cafe have a view of the Quarry? Cafes and restaurants with a view are hard to come by in Hornsby and would attract a lot of interest.</p>
<b>Project Delivery</b>	<p>40. The opening of Stage 1 for Hornsby Park is expected in 2023. That seems optimistic as there is so much to do. Also, unless additional funding is obtained from, say the State or Federal Governments or other another source, then multiple staging may be required instead of the planned 2 stages.</p>
<b>Hydrology</b>	<p>41. Is any work being considered with regards to parking areas, foot paths or road construction (hard surfaces) to either see the use of more sustainable materials in the construction of the carparks or if the carparks, walkways or roads themselves will be of a permeable nature, which would turn the hard surfaces into effect soft surfaces?</p> <p>42. Given both the proposed developments at Hornsby and Westleigh Parks are situated within bushland it would be a great opportunity to not just put down slabs of concrete and road aggregate. Every development that does not look to reduce its hard surfaces is a missed opportunity particularly within bush settings where you will see reduced run off into the surrounding bushland.</p>

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## Hornsby Shire Council's Bushland Management Advisory Committee Submission - Westleigh Park Draft Master Plan – 2nd June 2021 (Final)

Council's Bushland Management Advisory Committee (BMAC) met on Monday the 17th May 2021 to discuss the Westleigh Park Draft Master Plan and to formulate a submission based on the agreed position of the members. This discussion followed the presentation of the Draft Master Plan to BMAC and other Council Advisory Committees held on Thursday 6th May 2021 at the Hornsby RSL Club. During the combined Advisory Committee presentation, attendees were provided an opportunity to ask questions of Council's Major Projects Team.

The following table presents the formal recommendations agreed upon by BMAC members that are consistent with the Committee's Charter.

The second table presents comments from some members that were agreed as being peripheral to BMAC's Charter but would be noted in the Committee's submission. Please note that the Committee does not necessarily support any of the comments listed in this table.

**N.B.** Recommendations and Comments in either table could in some cases equally apply to both the Westleigh and Hornsby Park proposals.

Theme	Recommendations
General	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. BMAC would like to see Westleigh Park demonstrate the Sustainability Agenda of Hornsby Shire Council and believe this is a great opportunity to see the actions in the Sustainable Hornsby 2040 Strategy and its supporting documents of the Biodiversity Conservation Strategy and Urban Forest Strategy in particular, as well as the Water Sensitive Hornsby Strategy, Climate Wise Hornsby Plan and Waste Matters Strategy being implemented.</li> </ol>
Vegetation Conservation	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2. The Committee notes the presence of high conservation value vegetation on site and strongly recommends that the principles of avoid, minimise, mitigate and offset be applied.</li> <li>3. That vegetation be managed consistent with a comprehensive site vegetation management plan and habitat creation plan.</li> </ol>

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	<p>4. That the vegetation on Sydney Water land be considered for future incorporation into a comprehensive site vegetation management plan.</p>
<b>Synthetic Turf</b>	<p>5. Artificial turf being used near any bushland area is of concern.</p> <p>6. That all playing fields, particularly synthetic turf, be designed in keeping with best practice such that all offsite impacts are avoided or mitigated.</p>
<b>Proposed Link Track</b>	<p>7. There are concerns for the potential impacts on flora and fauna along some sections of the proposed Link Track between Hornsby and Westleigh Parks.</p> <p>8. That if the Link Track proceeds, it must be routed to avoid or minimise vegetation and habitat impacts and utilise existing tracks as a priority.</p>
<b>Night Lighting</b>	<p>9. That best practice night lighting be designed and implemented such that offsite impacts are avoided or minimised. Further, the impact from night driving on fauna also be considered and minimised.</p> <p>[Adopt where appropriate, the guidelines set out in the attached UN Environment document regarding the <i>Convention on Migratory Species: Light Pollution Guidelines for Wildlife ... dated 30<sup>th</sup> January 2020 (prepared by The Government of Australia)</i>].</p>
<b>Mountain Bike Trails</b>	<p>10. The Committee notes the presence of high conservation value vegetation and habitat on site and recommends that the principles of avoid, minimise, mitigate and offset be applied.</p> <p>11. BMAC prioritises the conservation of CEECs such that all mountain-bike trails must be avoided within these communities.</p>
<b>Edge Impacts from Sports Fields</b>	<p>12. That all infrastructure be designed in keeping with best practice such that all edge effects are avoided or mitigated.</p> <p>13. That Maintenance Budgets must include provision for ongoing bushland management and opportunities for Bushcare groups sought and fully funded.</p>

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<b>Pollution/ Contamination</b>	14. That any site contamination and pollution issues be managed consistently with relevant legislation.
<b>Education</b>	15. The Committee unanimously supports the establishment of an integrated site education program that promotes the values of Bushland (including CEECs and EECs) within the site. 16. There needs to be greater consultation and education when dealing with mountain bike riders and the wider community about the impacts on and importance of bushland.
<b>Hydrology</b>	17. That a total water cycle management plan be developed and implemented consistent with the principles of the Water Sensitive Hornsby Strategy, including potential Water Harvesting opportunities from Quarter Sessions Road and other local streets. 18. That the water supply needs of the NSW RFS be considered for firefighting purposes.
<b>Dogs</b>	19. That if dogs were permitted in Westleigh Park, they must be on-leash.
<b>Future Planting Lists</b>	20. BMAC strongly recommends that wherever possible, native species are to be sourced from Councils Community Nursery <i>Warada Ngurang</i> at Pennant Hills. 21. That any exotic species recommended to be planted be reconsidered due to their ability to spread into bushland.

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**Comments noted by Bushland Management Advisory Committee peripheral to its Charter:**

Topic	Comment
<b>Mountain-Bike Strategy</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Should Hornsby Shire Council have a strategy to move bikes out of Berowra Valley?</li> <li>2. Needs a Shire-wide strategy?</li> </ol>
<b>Land Purchase</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3. I did not agree that HSC should have purchased and paid over \$20 million for disused polluted and contaminated land owned by the people and to be used for the people for facilities and parkland.</li> </ol>
<b>Traffic, Congestion &amp; Parking</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4. Residents of Westleigh have concerns and would like these reports to include a plan to manage these elements traffic, congestion, parking and amenity.</li> <li>5. There is nowhere near enough car parking. Because Sydney has a history of poor public transport, with poor interconnections and reduced services out of peak hours, Sydney riders have a poor mentality to public transport. The people who use this facility will drive there, just as they do with the existing. All the car spaces could be used for a busy athletics carnival alone.</li> <li>6. Support for paid car parking and resident exemptions.</li> <li>7. The traffic report summary states, overall, the development of the Westleigh Park must include alternative vehicle access arrangements over and above those which currently are available in Quarter Sessions Road.</li> <li>8. The traffic report recommends option 1 for the proposed road link through to Sefton Rd. The masterplan indicates that the whole of the east west access road from Quarter Sessions Rd, all the way through to Sefton Rd, is within Sydney Water land. The masterplan states that in principle agreement has been reached with Sydney water for this link road. The Committee could not find any details about cost of construction or land acquisition. It is assumed the road will be dedicated as a public road and vested in Council. There is concern about the costs Council is likely to incur from land acquisition and construction. If this is the scenario, then perhaps Council (if not already) should be taking the position that this link road will serve not just the playing fields but also as an essential benefit to the whole suburb of Westleigh and Thornleigh in not only easing sub regional traffic flow but for bush fire management. Therefore, this proposed link road is not a local requirement</li> </ol>

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	<p>for the playing fields only but an essential State Government regional requirement. Council could easily argue that this link is NOT essential for the operation of the masterplan, but simply makes it better from a holistic regional perspective.</p> <p>9. Accordingly, perhaps the masterplan should be restructured and reordered to make the link road a lower priority for Council's own essential needs and incorporate the link road's construction as a last stage with low priority. In other words, put pressure on the state govt to come to the party and fund and prioritise the link road.</p> <p>10. How often do the local bus services 586, 587 and 588 operate? The Traffic report has no timetable. If frequent, these services have the potential to take some pressure off the road network</p>
<b>User Conflict, Dangers &amp; Risks</b>	<p>11. Lots of visible safety issues such as many tracks/paths intersecting, absence of safety fences along trails etc.</p> <p>12. Council must address the behaviour of park users relating to safety particularly in areas shared by cyclists, mountain bikers, walkers, and electric bikers and/or scooter drivers. Council must address park user behaviour where very young, very senior, those with physical or mental impairment, those managing prams or implements for mobility, must mix and cross paths.</p> <p>13. Signage and behaviours: Need High Vis rules such as keep to the left/right and when and how fast and give way to pedestrians and so on. Signs on existing MBT suggest riders keep to the right. This can be disastrous as shown in recent other area accidents if some keep to the left and others to the right especially if pedestrians are also involved.</p> <p>14. The MBT trails used to have mapped numbered positions displayed on signage and number signage along tracks so if there was an incident, and there have been many, their position can be identified for an efficient and effective rescue. These were pulled down with recent track up grades and not replaced. There have been accidents and serious injuries since. Very important for the difficult and remote areas of the track.</p> <p>15. Other risks include active adventures interaction with those engaged with passive recreation and play.</p>
<b>Sefton Road Extension</b>	<p>16. Support for the extension of Sefton Road. In a bush fire there is only one way in and out. This would provide an alternative escape route.</p> <p>17. Support for alternate road access for the residents of Westleigh especially with regards to bush fires.</p>

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<b>Community Feedback</b>	18. Some Westleigh residents have said in general they were unimpressed. Apparently, some believe Ruddock Park is underutilised.
	19. Agree with the current concept although have some concerns about some people/groups not being included in the various stakeholder decision making and them thus believing the decisions made by others will be confounded.
	20. Perception that we are trying to squeeze too much out of this parcel of land, and the scale of the proposal should be reduced.
<b>Project Scale</b>	21. The opening of Stage 1 for Westleigh Park is expected in 2023. That seems optimistic as there is so much to do. Also, unless additional funding is obtained from, say the State or Federal Governments or other another source, then multiple staging may be required instead of the planned 2 stages.
	22. Both projects are huge undertakings and could probably be regarded as having regional, as opposed to just local, development status. Both projects will attract bike riders from outside the LGA. This is evidenced by the sheer volume of correspondence Council has already received from the bike riding groups. Their submissions refer to Hornsby as being the only extensive bike riding area in the Sydney Basin. There may be an opportunity for Council to lobby hard for additional State and/or Federal funding to get both projects underway. Both projects will benefit not just Hornsby Council but also the broader Sydney community, particularly Northern and North West Sydney. I expect Hornsby Park, with its unique assets and close public transport facilities to become a Regional facility within 20 years.
<b>Sports Fields</b>	23. The sporting and play areas are magnificent (coherent and elegant design suiting the needs of the users).

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## Environmental Sustainability Advisory Committee

### Submission to Hornsby Park and Westleigh Park Master Plans

#### 1 June 2021

At its meeting on 14 April 2021, Council resolved to place the Hornsby Park and Westleigh Park Master Plans on public exhibition until 2 June 2021.

During the public exhibition period, consultation was sought with Council's Environmental Sustainability Advisory Committee (ESAC) at a joint committee meeting held on 6 May with the purpose of advising Council on the vision of the parks and the content of the draft Master Plans. The following comments and recommendations of ESAC are to be considered for inclusion into the draft Master Plans and form a collective ESAC response. ESAC consists of six community representatives and five Councillors who advise Council on environmental sustainability related issues. The comments of ESAC members were consolidated following an extra ordinary committee meeting on 18 May 2021.

The committee would like to commend Council on its vision for public spaces and would like to see that these parks are sustainable in the long term.

#### ***Hornsby Park Master Plan***

The Hornsby Quarry regeneration project has been an ambitious project from its inception, and the committee is very interested to see it open to the public in 2023. The committee would like to see Hornsby Park demonstrate the sustainability agenda of Council and believe this is a great opportunity to see the actions in the Sustainable Hornsby 2040 Strategy and its supporting documents of the Climate Wise Hornsby Plan, Urban Forest Strategy, Water Sensitive Hornsby Strategy, Biodiversity Conservation Strategy and Waste Matters Strategy being implemented.

The following table presents the areas of consideration by the committee.

Theme	Recommendations:
<b>Carbon Neutral</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The Committee recommends the site aspire towards Net Zero Emissions to help achieve Council's target of net zero emissions by 2050.</li> <li>2. Streetlighting, elevator facilities and any buildings should be powered by renewable energy. Provision of renewable electricity should be made clear on the Master Plan.</li> <li>3. The site could be carbon negative (export power to the grid).</li> </ol>
<b>Sustainable Transport</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4. E-bikes and electric vehicle charging stations should be made prominent in car-parking areas to establish Hornsby Park as a vision for the future lifestyle of Hornsby residents.</li> </ol>



	<p>5. Parking availability will be an issue. There appears to be limited parking onsite. Residents and visitors will want to be able to drive and park at the site. Public transport from west of the Gorge is an issue and may preclude these residents from the site.</p> <p>6. A Transport Plan is required to look at narrow streets leading to the crusher plant and the impact on residents with minimal street parking.</p> <p>7. There is a parking station located at the TAFE site that could be extended or built upon to increase the availability of parking. Shared utilisation of the TAFE site afterhours should be investigated.</p> <p>8. Council should discuss with State Government the opportunity for commuter parking and ability to utilise this during weekend periods as an overflow for Hornsby Park.</p> <p>9. The site needs to have walkable and accessible routes from car parking areas in Hornsby Town Centre to the park.</p> <p>10. The park should also be integrated into nearby walks including the Great North Walk by remedying the diversion made to this route due to the Hornsby Rifle 'Danger Area' rezoning.</p>
<b>Education precinct</b>	<p>11. Hornsby Park could have a role as an educative hub with the possibility of earning some income while being of benefit to people of all ages.</p> <p>12. The Crusher Plant could be used as an interpretive, creative, artistic and Education Centre for schools, universities and community groups (STEM and History). The site could be similar to the Coal Loader (North Sydney) <a href="https://www.northsydney.nsw.gov.au/Environment_Waste/The_Coal_Loader">https://www.northsydney.nsw.gov.au/Environment_Waste/The_Coal_Loader</a>, Melbourne CERES Park (<a href="https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/CERES_Community_Environment_Park">https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/CERES_Community_Environment_Park</a>) and WA Sustainable Built environment National Research Centre (<a href="https://sbenrc.com.au/">https://sbenrc.com.au/</a>).</p>
<b>Historical links to the site</b>	<p>13. Apart from its role as a quarry and therefore an industrial site, many people do not know it has past links to many exciting discoveries provided by the CSIRO Radiophysics Division which had a field station in Old Mans Valley from 1947 to 1952. During this time the CSIRO led the way in low frequency radio astronomy research and monitored emissions from Jupiter the Sun and bounced signals off the moon and led the way in foundation studies of many related areas of research. <a href="https://hornsbyshire.recollect.net.au/nodes/view/1742">https://hornsbyshire.recollect.net.au/nodes/view/1742</a> <a href="https://www.atnf.csiro.au/news/newsletter/feb05/shame_about_shain.htm">https://www.atnf.csiro.au/news/newsletter/feb05/shame_about_shain.htm</a></p> <p>A notable person of that time was Dr. Ruby Payne Scott who was a brilliant astronomer and fought for women's rights. The CSIRO played an important role in both her endeavours and did not require her to resign after they found out that she had married, contrary to public service rules at that time.</p> <p><a href="https://csiropedia.csiro.au/payne-scott-ruby/">https://csiropedia.csiro.au/payne-scott-ruby/</a> <a href="https://link.springer.com/chapter/10.1007/978-3-642-03141-0_6">https://link.springer.com/chapter/10.1007/978-3-642-03141-0_6</a></p>



	<p>This past, along with rural foundations, could be recognised perhaps with an observatory display (maybe CSRO support) or at least some information about these times put into the crusher building which could become a museum with perhaps some meeting rooms for support talks.</p> <p>14. It would be good to include some of Edgeworth David's Antarctic work.</p> <p>15. Interpretive signage is not enough, a sense of place needs to be established, with historical, educative and engaging activities, after all future sustainability advocates start in places just like this.</p> <p>16. We need to embody the old and new, including Aboriginal history and local bush tucker.</p> <p>17. Consideration should be given to the Heritage value of being at a midpoint of the Great North Walk and how affordable accommodation or rest areas will be highly valued, and with the park being so close to the town centre it may encourage visitors to Hornsby.</p>
<b>Synthetic Turf</b>	<p>18. The use of synthetic turf is not recommended. Synthetic turf can cause plastic pollution in the surrounding environment and increase urban heat island effect.</p> <p>19. The flammability of the surface and risk of toxic fumes needs to be considered if the site was to be in a bushfire.</p> <p>20. A synthetic sports field is not in keeping with the sustainability and natural feel of the area or vision for the site.</p>
<b>Sustainable Products</b>	<p>21. All materials used onsite should be sustainably sourced (from the concrete, park furniture to track and trail construction).</p> <p>22. Materials used within the site need to have a life cycle assessment undertaken, be carbon neutral and sustainable.</p> <p>23. Ability to showcase sustainable products or innovative products.</p>
<b>Tracks and trails</b>	<p>24. Trails should be self-guided and if complex, could be volunteer guided to increase community connections.</p> <p>25. An art's trail could be established onsite.</p> <p>26. An educative science and biodiversity trail should be established which includes the plants and geology and minerals of the quarry. Combined orientation/maths trails could also be set up which lead children around the park identifying species, structure and so on - the sky is the limit.</p>
<b>Vegetation</b>	<p>27. There appears to be a lack of trees in the grass area in the amphitheatre. This will get hot in summer &amp; therefore people wanting to picnic will not use this space.</p> <p>28. Shadow diagrams are requested to show both summer and winter periods.</p> <p>29. A mixture of deciduous &amp; evergreen trees like Fagan Park would be suitable.</p> <p>30. The site must be able to withstand future climate scenarios.</p> <p>31. Hornsby Park should be seen as a heat refuge for future residents of Hornsby Town Centre.</p>



<b>Swimming</b>	32. Swimming in the lake as a natural swimming hole is desirable.
<b>Adventure recreation and commercialisation</b>	<p>33. Extreme sports to be reconsidered as nature play space areas. Nature based play and engaging kids in sustainability-based play is very important.</p> <p>34. Consider Hornsby Park like Hampstead Heath in London, a natural woodland space for walking, quiet contemplation and some nature time. Westleigh can be the active and sports play space.</p> <p>35. Commercial utilisation of the area needs to be done very sensitively as you don't want commercial creep. Hornsby Park needs to be looked at as the outdoor space to cater for increased development/density within Hornsby Park.</p> <p>36. With Hornsby population growing over the coming years there is a great need for quiet spaces where you can lie and watch clouds or sit and have a picnic without seeing others.</p>
<b>Community gardens</b>	<p>37. Possibility of community scale composting / warm farming onsite or community gardens around the cemetery and historical gardens (i.e. roses onsite).</p> <p>38. Opportunity to link to aboriginal heritage with native bush tucker and indigenous farming practices.</p>

### ***Westleigh Park Master Plan***

The committee would like to see Westleigh Park demonstrate the sustainability agenda of Council and believe this is a great opportunity to see the actions in the Sustainable Hornsby 2040 Strategy and its supporting documents of the Climate Wise Hornsby Plan, Urban Forest Strategy, Water Sensitive Hornsby Strategy, Biodiversity Conservation Strategy and Waste Matters Strategy being implemented.

The following table presents the areas of consideration by the committee.

<b>Synthetic Turf</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The use of synthetic turf is not recommended. Synthetic turf can cause plastic pollution in the surrounding environment and increase urban heat island effect.</li> <li>2. The flammability of the surface and risk of toxic fumes needs to be considered if the site was to be in a bushfire.</li> <li>3. Runoff from the synthetic turf is to be captured.</li> </ol>
<b>Sustainable Products</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4. All materials used onsite should be sustainably sourced (from the concrete, park furniture to track and trail construction).</li> <li>5. Materials used within the site need to have a life cycle assessment, be carbon neutral and sustainable.</li> <li>6. Ability to showcase sustainable products or innovative products.</li> </ol>



<b>Mountain bike tracks</b>	7. Despite the illegal and damaging nature of the tracks, there is a community of mountain bike riders that could be fostered with consultation and further planning to create a vibrant outdoor cycling community that builds upon the reputation of Hornsby MTB trails. Part of this process would need to ensure that nearby public transport hubs (e.g. Thornleigh Station) have safe and accessible cycle-paths to areas such as Westleigh Park which could attract visitors to the shire and encourage active transport options for local residents.
<b>Indigenous consultation</b>	8. The efforts for indigenous consultation on this project are positive and should be made transparent throughout the planning, construction and ongoing phases of the project. There could be provisions for an educational infographic series placed throughout the development or along newly defined walking trails.
<b>Wildlife corridors</b>	9. Wildlife corridors to be established with Hornsby Park and link to adjoining biobanking area.
<b>Sustainable Transport</b>	10. E-bikes and electric vehicle charging stations should be made prominent in car-parking areas to establish Westleigh Park as a vision for the future lifestyle of Hornsby residents. 11. Expanding shared paths and bike paths to improve active transport and linkages to the site. 12. Bike infrastructure required for end of trip. Greater links to public transport – trains and buses.





## MEETING AGENDA

## Meeting Details

Meeting Name and Number	<b>HATSICC</b>
Location	Via Zoom
Date and Time	24 September 2020; 3-5pm

Members		Present	Apology
Philip Ruddock	Mayor	✓	
Janelle McIntosh	Councillor	✓	
Emma Heyde	Councillor	✓	
Robert Browne	Councillor	✓	
Joseph Nicita	Councillor	✓	
Warren Waddell	Councillor	✓	
Laurie Bimson	Committee member		✓
Auntie Tracey-Lee Howie	Committee member	✓	
Sue Pinckham	Committee member		✓
Annette Salt	Committee member	✓	
Mariko Smith	Committee member	✓	
Leanne Watson	Committee member		✓
Dorothy Babb	Committee member		✓
Mick Gallagher	Committee member		✓
Samantha O'Brien	Committee member		✓

Invitees		Present	Apology
Julie Ryland	Strategy Manager	✓	
Peter Coad	Manager Natural Resources	✓	
Tim Macdonald	Natural Resources Strategy Manager	✓	
David Beharrell	Natural Resources Operations Manager	✓	
David Sheils	Manager Parks, Trees and Recreation	✓	
Louise Gee	Manager Strategy and Place	✓	

No.	Agenda Item	Person
1.	<p><b>Draft Sustainable Hornsby 2040</b></p> <p>Julie Ryland, Strategy Manager, gave a presentation on the overarching draft Sustainable Hornsby 2040 Strategy. JR outlined the community engagement undertaken as part of the development of the strategy and the main topic areas identified by the community.</p> <p>Discussions from the committee included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Terms are incorrectly spelt within the documents. [REDACTED] [REDACTED] Needs to be correct and consistent. [REDACTED]</li> <li>Suggested that an Indigenous consultant be engaged to review all documents.</li> <li>Strategies should look at contemporary connections not just focusing on the past.</li> </ul>	

## HATSICC – Meeting Minutes

No.	Agenda Item	Person
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Indigenous connection to country has been written from a European perspective. Would be good to have this written from an Aboriginal perspective</li> <li>The documents could be improved in relation to cultural heritage</li> <li>The word Aboriginal needs to be capitalized</li> <li>Embed, inform and including page 27 and 37 just seems to be lip service – good relationships need to be developed</li> <li>Recommended that staff undertake cultural competency training</li> </ul>	
2.	<p><b>Draft Biodiversity Conservation Strategy</b></p> <p>Tim Macdonald, Natural Resources Strategy Manager, gave a presentation on the draft Biodiversity Conservation Strategy.</p> <p>Discussions from the committee included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Involving Aboriginal learning</li> <li>Cultural Burning – be more informed on what this means – Fire Sticks Alliance Mob would be a good reference</li> <li>Understanding of seasonal calendar included in the Bushcare Calendar in 2017 – would be good to have a local Indigenous calendar - There is scope to develop local groups to produce seasonal calendar</li> <li>Terminology should be reviewed so that it is not from an anthropological approach</li> <li>Involve knowledgeable people [REDACTED]</li> <li>Bush tucker and bush tucker tours could be run to provide Aboriginal perspective</li> <li>Caring for Country services</li> </ul>	
3.	<p><b>Draft Urban Forest Strategy</b></p> <p>David Sheils, Manager Parks and Recreation, gave a presentation on the draft Urban Forest Strategy.</p> <p>Discussions from the committee included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pg 12 different spelling [REDACTED]</li> <li>[REDACTED]</li> <li>There should be a list of consolidated contacts and existing knowledge within Council</li> <li>Would be good to include dual naming of species – this would be in line with the Notice of Motion on Dual Naming with Indigenous names</li> <li>Pg 40 – research required</li> <li>Land management could be incorporated</li> <li>People of the River book – has list of plants and shrubs – incorporate knowledge into the strategy</li> <li>Auntie Tracey and Leanne Watson are options for knowledge and assistance</li> </ul>	
3.	<p><b>Draft Water Sensitive Hornsby Strategy</b></p> <p>David Beharrell, Natural Resources Operations Manager, gave a presentation on the draft Water Sensitive Hornsby Strategy.</p> <p>Discussions from the committee included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Most comprehensively referenced for Aboriginal information amongst all of the strategies</li> <li>Pg 39 pointing out knowledge and connection low – really good to acknowledge and do meaningful engagement</li> <li>Engage local Aboriginal groups first</li> </ul>	
4.	<p><b>Climate Wise Hornsby Plan</b></p> <p>Julie Ryland, Strategy Manager, gave a presentation on the draft Climate Wise Plan.</p>	

## HATSICC – Meeting Minutes

No.	Agenda Item	Person
	Discussions from the committee included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Climate change is a big risk to Aboriginal heritage. Midden sites are being lost to sea level rise</li> <li>• A number of areas are digitizing cultural heritage sites in fear of losing them due to climate change</li> <li>• Waterways are the veins of our country – water is life and needs to be acknowledged</li> <li>• Indigenous justice is climate justice</li> <li>• Section about listening to first nations and how the land was managed should be included.</li> </ul>	
11.	<b>Next Steps</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consultation is open until the 30 October – <b>An extension has been given to HATSICC to provide comment by 13 November.</b></li> <li>• Committee members were invited to submit an application to Council on the draft strategies. Submissions can be made via an online survey at <a href="https://future.hornsby.nsw.gov.au/draft-sustainable-hornsby-2040-strategy/">https://future.hornsby.nsw.gov.au/draft-sustainable-hornsby-2040-strategy/</a>, via mail or email.</li> </ul>	JR