

## St Catherine's Development Community Consultative Committee

**Meeting No:** 40

**Date:** Wednesday, 6 March 2023, 6:30pm – 8:00pm

**Venue:** St Catherine's School and Zoom.

<b>Attendees</b>	
<p><b>Community members</b>                      Danny Caretti (DC)                      Eric Kleinman (EK)                      Julie McAlpin (JM)</p> <p><b>Waverley Council</b>                      Nikolaos Zervous (NZ)                      Simon Mueller (SM)</p>	<p><b>St Catherine's</b>                      Andrew Grech (AG)                      Ben McCloghry (BM)                      Warwick Smith (WS)</p> <p><b>Independent Chair</b>                      Professor Roberta Ryan (RR)</p> <p><b>Minute taker</b>                      Isa Crossland Stone (ICS)</p>
<p><b>Apologies</b>                      Kate Marshall (KM)</p>	

<b>Item</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Action</b>
1	<b>Welcome and introductions</b>	
	<p>RR introduces herself to the group and welcomes the attendees to the first meeting of the year.</p> <p>SM introduces himself; he is new to the Council and his role is Manager of Integrated Transport. He is getting to know the context and details of the CCC, which is part of his remit.</p>	
2	<b>Apologies</b>	
	KM is an apology.	
3	<b>Minutes and matters arising</b>	
	<p>1. NZ to update on Waverley Council's compliance strategies for traffic around Macpherson Street.</p> <p>NZ says that he has had discussions internally with the compliance team, and that there has been no firming up of</p>	<p>This item will be a standing item on the agendas going forward.</p>

	<p>strategies. On entering his new role, SM is beginning to get to know the landscape that surrounds the School and related traffic concerns.</p> <p>NZ suggests that this should be a standing item at these meetings so that changes around compliance can be discussed by the CCC.</p> <p>2. NZ to provide an update on the proposed works to the roundabout at Macpherson Street and Leichardt Street.</p> <p>NZ says that this proposal has now been formally adopted by the Council as a project for delivery over the next quarter. They are getting contractors to come in and complete work by the end of the financial year. The start date of the work is unknown.</p> <p><i>The details of this decision and planning were shared with the group by ICS following this meeting.</i></p> <p>NZ explains that the plans involve tidying up all the kerb ramps and traffic islands to improve pedestrian safety and compliance. It will also reinforce the 'Give Way' at the corner of Macpherson Street. A few additional parking spaces will be introduced on the Eastern Side of Leichardt Street because of these works.</p> <p>JM asks if this has any overlap with the Charing Cross streetscape upgrade. NZ says it does not.</p> <p>3. NZ to update on Council's potential installation of a new PUDO near the School for use outside of School hours.</p> <p>NZ explains that introducing a PUDO both on Leichardt Street and on Macpherson Street is within SM's remit, and SM will be working on these in the next quarter.</p> <p>They will be presenting and reporting to the traffic committee on these matters. NZ says that they will be</p>	
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	<p>presenting a recommendation that a PUDO be installed at the aquatic centre as discussed previously.</p> <p>4. NZ to determine whether the dirt driveway between 8 and 10A Macpherson Street is public property, and whether it is under Council's management.</p> <p>NZ says that this is actually not a laneway, but technically a road reserve. It is owned by Waverley Council. It is between 8 and 10A Macpherson Street. It only services the garages of the two (potentially three) properties that are on Leichhardt Street.</p> <p>NZ says that he is seeking more information on why it is there, and what the history around it is. The Council seems not to have done any formalising work in this space.</p> <p>NZ says that it is technically public land, meaning that at this stage there is no reason that people can't park there (i.e. the School teachers who typically park there are technically permitted to).</p> <p>EK asks if parking there causes issues for the residents on that street.</p> <p>NZ says that for a car to park there, they would not be blocking the garages that utilize the road reserve.</p> <p>NZ will continue to look into this, to see if the Council needs to formalise it as public property or parking areas by adding signage, etc.</p> <p>5. NZ to update on the possibility of installing a PUDO zone at the Aquatic Centre. SM will explore this in the coming quarter, and the CCC will revisit this.</p> <p>WS says to NZ and SM that they are welcome to reach out to him for any information/reporting on PUDOs, parking, and traffic that he may have and they may need.</p>	<p>This item to become a standing item in future agendas.</p>
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	<p>NZ thanks WS. He asks WS and AG to share with the Council and community feedback, complaints, or submissions that relate to the potential PUDO area at the aquatic centre.</p> <p>DC asks NZ if it would be helpful for the Precinct to officially endorse the installation of this PUDO zone.</p> <p>NZ says that it could be helpful for DC to raise it at the next Precinct meeting.</p> <p>6. DC would like to follow up with AG about the School's plan to return two car spaces to the residential parking at the end of the drop-off zone.</p> <p>AG says that because there is an electricity box at the end of the car line, it can be an inconvenient spot and parents don't tend to want to park there. For this reason, the School is still willing to return these car spaces to the residents. They do not get much use, and their repurposing as resident car spaces will not impact the flow of the drop-off line.</p> <p>BM agrees with this.</p> <p>NZ explains that proposed changes to the PUDO will be drafted into a report. This report will contain information on the above.</p> <p>NZ will provide this draft report to ICS to circulate to the members offline since the next meeting is not expected to occur for about 5 months. This way, the CCC can provide feedback on the draft and NZ can progress it at the Council.</p> <p>RR asks about the neighbouring building, which was at one point planned to accommodate 'over-55s'.</p> <p>DC explains that the studios have been updated now to be for 2-people per apartment, so there will be capacity for more than 80 residents.</p>	<p>Shortly after this meeting, NZ to provide a report on the proposed changes to the PUDO to ICS for distribution. This report will include the School's plans to return the two car spaces at the end of the drop-off zone.</p>
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	<p>RR notes that construction of this will be an issue in terms of traffic.</p> <p>AG says that it is still in operation as an aged care facility. It will be some time until construction begins.</p> <p>JM asks what the emergency evacuation strategy will be for the School, for example in the event of a fire, and particularly if there are new developments next door. There is not a lot of access to the property. These risk factors need to be taken into account.</p> <p>RR agrees that this is important.</p>	
4	<b>School update – AG</b>	
	<p><b>4.1. AG to update on the School’s strategies for achieving better screening between the PAC and neighbouring properties, including a revised tree coverage.</b></p> <p>AG says that the School is committed to improving the landscape screening here. It will be done this year.</p> <p><b>4.2. AG general update</b></p> <p>AG says that the enrolment at the School is now at its maximum capacity of 1110 students. There is currently also a waitlist.</p> <p>AG says that they have moved the drop-off for years 3-6 to Macpherson Street. This is the longer a car line, and the only driveway that should be impacted is the school driveway. This seems to have eased the issues of queuing at the Leichhardt Street roundabout.</p> <p>DC says that people are coming up Arden Street and turning towards Bondi, meaning that there is backing up at the roundabout. Some parents are making a U-turn up Macpherson Street or turning left from Macpherson Street to drop off their children. This causes congestion.</p> <p>AG says that the student traffic control is still operating, as are the uniformed wardens.</p>	

	<p>NZ asks if the School calls the rangers if they find cars parked in the wrong place.</p> <p>AG says that the School’s head traffic warden does. He has a good relationship with the rangers and calls on them when needed.</p> <p><b>4.3. Summary of complaints received</b></p> <p>AG says that there were some noise complaints about a school bus idling early in the morning. In future, the buses will park further away from the School.</p> <p>At one point, the students were cheering loudly in the morning before a sporting event. There were also some complaints related to parents parking across driveways in the evenings. The warden has contacted rangers, who have given fines to these parents as appropriate.</p> <p>AG notes that the school wardens are there to assist parents with parking lawfully, not to enforce the laws.</p> <p>AG says that a PUDO around the Aquatic Center will be helpful. One of the parents was fined recently for parking at the Aquatic Center.</p>	
5	<b>OTMP Review Document</b>	
	<p><i>This is a new standing item, and allocates meeting time for the CCC’s discussion/review of the OTMP. This discussion will be documented for a final annual review document.</i></p> <p>The CCC OTMP Review Document (which WS will write) will be updated in June/July.</p>	
6	<b>Additional Business</b>	
	<p>DC notes that this CCC was supposed to only run for 2 years after the operation of the Aquatic Centre.</p> <p>AG agrees. After March 2024, the CCC formally does not need to exist.</p> <p>From the School’s perspective, this forum is a helpful way to engage with the residents, Council, etc. It is a valuable forum to engage with the Precinct, the Council and the local neighbours.</p>	

AG acknowledges that the community representatives here are volunteers, and that they are not required to continue with the meetings.

RR says that it is a matter for the group to discuss together. The School is keen to continue, and hopefully the Council will be glad to continue.

RR asks the community members if they have a clear perspective on whether the group should continue, and whether they would personally like to represent the group in the forum if it continues.

DC says that the value of this committee is that it can help to resolve the frictions and communication issues between the School and the resident-neighbours. This relationship ought to have been happening for years, DC feels. It will be very beneficial for it to continue.

AG says that the CCC was born of the fact that the School did not have a mechanism to communicate with the community. The community would not be well-informed/consistently-informed about the School's actions and this would cause distress amongst the resident-neighbours.

JM agrees with DC and RR that having the Council present has been very important. Especially in instances where they are looking through official documentation, etc., --- they need the Council to be supporting the community members in the processes of interpretation and feedback.

JM says that she is concerned about the matter of impact. It is important to have a clear idea of what impact the CCC is having, particularly on the ongoing traffic issues.

It could be good to meet/ to provide feedback to similar organisations (between schools, for example).  
If the CCC does not remain active as it is currently, then there should be some similar forum for providing feedback and sharing information.

EK notes that he is a relatively new member of the CCC. He has heard that before the operation of this CCC, there was

<p>a lot more conflict in the communication between the community and the School.</p> <p>WS says that when he started, there was criticism that the School was not involving neighbors enough in their decision-making and other processes. This forum is important for clarifying information and minimising misinformation (which tends to spread rapidly). This CCC provides the opportunity for ongoing dialogue, and the avenue is important for both parties (School and community). It would be good to continue with this, even if it is at less frequent intervals.</p> <p>RR thanked the group for sharing their thoughts. Ultimately, she says that this is a decision for the School to make.</p> <p>DC asks what will happen with the OTMP without the operation of this group.</p> <p>RR says that it will be reviewed by Council directly.</p> <p>RR suggests that the group discuss the OTMP status now. She notes that it is very important and helpful to have the Council involved in the community discussions about the OTMP, for the reasons JM has laid out.</p> <p>AG says they have moved the OTMP traffic survey to Week 2 of Term 2 (the first week of May) when the School musical is showing. The School's 'Magnolia Fair' is also on the 4<sup>th</sup> of May. This event involves the School community and the broader community, so parking issues will be easy to observe.</p> <p>The 'term break' survey will be done on a non-Easter weekend between Term 1 and Term 2 time.</p> <p>WS agrees that these survey timings should provide good snapshots.</p> <p>RR asks WS when he feels it would be best for the CCC briefing to have a discussion when the preliminary data is available from the surveys.</p> <p>WS says that the proposed Charing Cross street pedestrian zone upgrade works will be incorporated into the briefing</p>	
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	<p>package for the traffic engineer, in order that the engineer can assess whether this will have any bearing on the traffic at the School.</p> <p>Aside from this, the briefing will be the same, the areas that are marked off will be the same, the observations will be the same.</p> <p>Discussion with the CCC would be most beneficial when the assessment observations are in.</p> <p>WS asks NZ if he has followed up at the Council about surveying. The community to ascertain their interest in doing a resident parking survey.</p> <p>NZ says that ideally the works happening on Macpherson will not be happening during the survey period, as this would skew results. He will discuss this more with AG offline to ensure there is no clash.</p> <p>NZ says that they are looking into planning a resident parking scheme, and this will involve a 12-18-month process of assessment and development.</p> <p>DC asks when the Ausgrid electrical wires are supposed to be coming down as part of the streetscape upgrade at Charring Cross.</p> <p>JM says it was supposed to happen last week, so it should be done quickly.</p> <p>NZ says that the contractors have been engaged and the works are approved. They are doing compound establishment around Victoria Park at the moment and will be starting works soon.</p> <p>AG says that one of the primary issues, which is a common challenge for schools in the area, is for traffic is that staff are coming from further and further away over time, meaning that they are tending to drive and to need parking.</p> <p>NZ says that this is a similar case at the Council., among the Council employees.</p>	<p>NZ and AG to discuss the timing of the work on Macpherson Street to ensure that it is not coinciding with the OTMP traffic survey data collection.</p>
7	<b>Next meeting: TBD</b>	

	<p>WS suggests that the group meets when the survey information is available. This would mean that the group would meet in July/August.</p> <p>Report to be sent to the CCC as soon as it is available.</p> <p>The School will advise the group as to the date of the CCC meeting, which will be 2 weeks before the deadline for the report.</p> <p>AG notes that the CCC OTMP Review Document (which WS will write) will be updated in June/July.</p>	<p>WS to oversee the delivery of the traffic survey report to the CCC as soon as it is available.</p> <p>The meeting date will be set based on this.</p>
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