# MINUTES OF MEETING (NO 121) OF THE NORTHERN SYDNEY REGIONAL ORGANISATION OF

# COUNCILS HELD AT

# **NORTH SYDNEY COUNCIL**

#### **200 MILLER STREET, NORTH SYDNEY**

#### 8<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2007.

#### The meeting commenced at 6.00 pm

Clr Genia McCaffery, Mayor, North Sydney Council, extended a welcome to **NSROC Delegates** 

# **QUORUM**

The Chairman referred to Article 13.i) of the Constitution that provides:

A quorum at a meeting of the Organisation shall consist of a number being half of the number of Councils plus one.

Member Councils of NSROC include:

Hornsby Hunter's Hill Ku-ring-gai

Lane Cove North Sydney Ryde Willoughby

Councils represented on the evening included:

Hornsby Hunter's Hill Ku-ring-gai

Lane Cove North Sydney Ryde Willoughby

Accordingly, a quorum was present.

#### **ATTENDANCE**

Hornsby Council Clr N Berman Hornsby Council Clr F Findlay Clr R Browne Hornsby Council

Mr Robert Ball General Manager, Hornsby Council

Clr S Hoopmann Hunter's Hill Council Clr R Sheerin Hunter's Hill Council

Mr B Smith General Manager, Hunter's Hill Council

Clr N Ebbeck Ku-ring-gai Council Clr E Malicki Ku-rina-aai Council Clr M Lane Ku-ring-gai Council Ms J Bevan Ku-ring-gai Council Mr S Head Ku-ring-gai Council Clr I Longbottom Lane Cove Council Clr R Tudge Lane Cove Council

Mr P Brown General Manager, Lane Cove Council

Clr G McCaffery North Sydney Council Clr N Ritten North Sydney Council

Ms P Holloway General Manager, North Sydney Council

Clr I Petch Ryde Council Clr E Wilde OAM Ryde Council Mr S Cappelli Ryde Council

Willoughby Council (Chair) Clr P Reilly

Clr T Fogarty Willoughby Council Willoughby Council Mr N Tobin Ms J Whitfield Willoughby Council Macquarie University Mr S Pringle Mr D Johnson **NSROC** Executive Director Ms L Ridley **NSROC Executive Assistant** 

#### **APOLOGIES**

Clr G O'Donnell Ryde Council

Mr M Whittaker General Manager, Ryde Council General Manager, Ku-ring-gai Council Mr J McKee Mr J Owen General Manager, Willoughby Council 686/07 **RESOLVED:** Moved: Clr N Ebbeck Seconded: Clr T Fogarty **CARRIED**That the Apologies be received.

#### 2. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

687/07 RESOLVED: Moved: CIr I Petch Seconded: CIr N Ritten CARRIED

The Minutes of Meeting No. 120 16th August 2007 copy of which was circulated to all parties and member Councils, were confirmed as an accurate record of the proceedings of the meetings.

# **ACTIONS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETING**

Dominic provided a brief update.

688/07 **<u>RESOLVED</u>**: Moved: Clr I Petch Seconded: Clr E Wilde **CARRIED**That the Actions arising from the Previous Meeting be received and noted.

# 3. TREASURERS REPORT -

3.1 Budget Review as at 28th September 2007.

689/07 **RESOLVED**: Moved: Clr E Wilde Seconded: Clr N Ritten CARRIED That the Report be received and noted.

#### 4. INNER-NORTH STRATEGY SUB-REGIONAL STRATEGY AND PLANNING REFORM

General discussion covered:

- Planning reforms; Proposed compulsory use of Panels; Exempt & complying Development Applications
- Infrastructure Levies
- Loss/reduction in Section 94 funds
- Consultation by government after changes announced
- Need to seek Federal funding for infrastructure Lobby both levels of government
- LGSA needs lists from Councils of projects that won't proceed due to the loss of Section 94 monies.
- Proposed Sydney Metro ROC meeting with Department of Planning (Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> November) to be replaced with a LGSA meeting to formulate a strategy to combat proposed changes.

North Regional Sub-Strategy

 Hornsby/Ku-ring-gai may ask that NSROC lodge a submission in response to the North Sub-Regional

690/07 **RESOLVED**: Moved: Clr G McCaffery Seconded: Clr I Longbottom **CARRIED** 

- 1. That the Report be received and noted
- 2. That delegated power is given to the President and Executive Director to develop a strategy/campaign, in conjunction with the other Sydney Metropolitan ROCs, to halt the erosion of Council's planning powers.

### 5. NSROC REGIONAL SoE 2007

Dominic Johnson provided a brief overview of the Regional SoE 2007;

# The Process so Far

- Third Regional State of Environment Report
- Process is becoming increasingly streamlined
- Data capture is still difficult
- Major gaps in atmosphere, species monitoring, soil erosion, climate change impacts and environment related health.
- Positive news in terms of water use, water quality, recycling and water, community and climate change initiatives.

- Worrying news regarding volunteers hours
- Will likely do a supplementary next year and review process when integrated reporting introduced.

# The Major Issues

- 51,000 new households planned for the region
- No new significant infrastructure commitments
- Section 94 changes means sustainable development more difficult to achieve
- Climate Change
- Lack of Money for Monitoring
- Need a national emissions and sustainable energy framework
- Water pricing, infrastructure, recycling, quality

# **Next Steps**

- Final Edits are being made
- Electronic copies will be released early next week
- 2 hard copies will be provided to each council a short time later
- Copies will be sent to the Department of Local Government by end of November
- It will also be electronically available on the NSROC website
- Total cost will be \$1,100 per council

691/07 **RESOLVED**: Moved: Clr F Findlay

Seconded: Clr N Ebbeck

**CARRIED** 

- 1. That the NSROC Regional SOE 2007 be adopted 'in principle'.
- 2. That the environment and planning staff in the NSROC councils be commended for their efforts in producing another high quality regional report.

#### 6. NSROC SPORTSFIELDS

Discussions with Ms Julie Whitfield, Chair NSROC Sportsfield Group, Willoughby Council

- The NSROC Sportsfield Group prepared this submission in response to the NSW
   Parliament Inquiry into Sportsground Management in NSW and its 15 recommendations.
- The NSROC Councils have significant concerns about the capacity of their Councils to provide necessary open space recreational infrastructure without greater funding and, it will be increasingly difficult for NSROC Councils to maintain infrastructure and provide services to meet community demands.
- Current demand for outdoor sporting facilities in most parts of the NSROC region exceeds supply during the peak playing periods such as Saturdays. Women's sports are particularly disadvantaged by the historical patterns of use of existing facilities predominately by male sporting clubs. Some of the schools in the area have no or limited sporting fields and rely on public facilities.
- Outdoor sporting facilities within the NSROC region tend to be multi-purpose and cater for more than one sport. They contribute to the network of open space, provide relief from the urban environment and cater for passive recreational opportunities.
- The increasing population is expected to exacerbate current supply problems by increasing the overall numbers in the population wishing to access sporting facilities. The reliance on public sporting facilities by schools is also expected to increase as school populations grow.
- There is limited opportunity for future development of new outdoor sporting facilities within the NSROC region. This is due to existing urban development, prohibitive costs of purchasing new sites, topography, adjacent bushland and natural areas. Ongoing requirements for sports ground rectification, upgrading and maintenance, as well as water restrictions; put other pressures on the ability of sports fields to carry additional utilisation.
- The NSROC Councils are working to develop a region-wide response to shortages of sports fields, recognising that sporting clubs do not differentiate between LGA boundaries. Such an approach would assist in the redevelopment of existing facilities or the development of new facilities to take into account regional issues such as

emerging demand, resource constraints, environmental sustainability, community concerns; transport and supply efficiencies.

692/07 **RESOLVED**: Moved: Clr G McCaffery Seconded: Clr I Longbottom **CARRIED** 

- 1. Delegates moved a vote of thanks to Ms Whitfield for her presentation
- 2. That the NSROC Response to the NSW Government Inquiry into Sportsground Management be adopted.
- 3. That the sportsground management staff in the NSROC councils be commended for their efforts in producing another high quality regional report.
- 4. That NSROC approach the Premier seeking the release of the facilities at Small's Road, the old Ryde High School to enable councils to provide more sporting facilities.

# 7. REVIEW OF TENDERING AND CONTRACTING MATERIALS FOR THE NSROC SUPPLY MANAGEMENT GROUP

693/07 **RESOLVED**: Moved: Clr I Petch Seconded: Clr G McCaffery **CARRIED**That the Report be received and noted.

#### 8. REVIEW TODAY

694/07 **RESOLVED**: Moved: Clr G McCaffery Seconded: Clr N Ebbeck **CARRIED**That the Report be received and noted.

### 9. GENERAL BUSINESS

Nil

#### 10. HOST COUNCIL

695/07 Delegates expressed appreciation to North Sydney Council for their generous hospitality in hosting the 121st Ordinary Meeting of NSROC.

The meeting concluded 8.00 pm

The next meeting No. 122
and ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
Will be held on
THURSDAY 14TH FEBRUARY 2008
AT KU-RING-GAI COUNCIL
COMMENCING AT 6.00 PM