

Minutes of Ordinary Council Meeting held remotely and livestreamed on Council's website on 14 September 2021

Meeting commenced at 6.32pm

Present:

Rochelle Porteous	Mayor
Pauline Lockie	Deputy Mayor
Darcy Byrne	Councillor
Marghanita Da Cruz	Councillor
Mark Drury	Councillor
Colin Hesse	Councillor
Sam Iskandar	Councillor(6:46pm)
Tom Kiat	Councillor (6:33pm)
Victor Macri	Councillor
Lucille McKenna OAM	Councillor
Julie Passas	Councillor
Vittoria Raciti	Councillor
John Stamolis	Councillor
Louise Steer	Councillor
Anna York	Councillor
Peter Gainsford	General Manager
Graeme Palmer	Acting Director Planning
Cathy Edwards-Davis	Director Infrastructure
Caroline McLeod	Acting Director Community
Peter Livanes	Acting Director Corporate
Katherine Paixao	Acting Manager Governance
Carmelina Giannini	Acting Governance Coordinator

APOLOGIES: Nil

Councillor Kiat entered the Meeting at 6:33 pm.

DISCLOSURES OF INTERESTS:

Councillor Lockie declared a non-significant, non-pecuniary interest in Item 9 Notice of Motion: Outdoor dining and Live performance and Item 24 Mayoral Minute: Move Citizenship Ceremonies online to address backlog as both items mention City of Sydney and she works there.

Motion: (Hesse/Steer)

THAT Council note the disclosure of interest.

Motion Carried

For Motion: Crs Byrne, Da Cruz, Drury, Hesse, Kiat, Lockie, Macri, McKenna OAM, Passas, Porteous, Raciti, Stamolis, Steer and York

Against Motion: Nil

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**Motion: (Hesse/Steer)**

THAT the Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on Tuesday, 24 August 2021, Extraordinary Council Meeting held on 5.30pm Tuesday, 24 August 2021, Extraordinary Council Meeting held on 6.00pm Tuesday, 24 August 2021 be confirmed as a correct record.

Motion Carried

For Motion: Crs Byrne, Da Cruz, Drury, Hesse, Kiat, Lockie, Macri, McKenna OAM, Passas, Porteous, Raciti, Stamolis, Steer and York

Against Motion: Nil

PUBLIC FORUM

The registered speakers were asked to address the meeting. The list of speakers is available on the last page of these minutes.

Councillor Iskandar entered the Meeting at 6:46 pm.

C0921(2) Item 1 Condolence Motion: Vale Barbara Halnan**Motion: (Da Cruz/Passas)**

THAT Council writes to Barbara's family, friends and colleagues at Articulate offering our condolences on her passing.

Motion Carried

For Motion: Crs Byrne, Da Cruz, Drury, Hesse, Iskandar, Kiat, Lockie, Macri, McKenna OAM, Passas, Porteous, Raciti, Stamolis, Steer and York

Against Motion: Nil

C0921(2) Item 20 Mayoral Minute: Thank you to "Papa Joe" a local hero**Motion: (Porteous)****THAT:**

- 1. The Mayor and Councillors of Inner West Council write to Jo Panetta thanking him for his 57 years of service to the Balmain community and asking him to accept the title of "Local Balmain Hero";**
- 2. A plaque acknowledging Joe's many years of service and his title of "Local Balmain Hero" be manufactured and presented to Jo; and**
- 3. A story about Joe be included in the next Council newsletter.**

Motion Carried

For Motion: Crs Byrne, Da Cruz, Drury, Hesse, Iskandar, Kiat, Lockie, Macri, McKenna OAM, Passas, Porteous, Raciti, Stamolis, Steer and York

Against Motion: Nil

C0921(2) Item 21 Mayoral Minute: Welcoming refugees from Afghanistan**Motion: (Porteous)****THAT Council:**

- 1. Notes Inner West Council and the three former councils of Leichhardt, Ashfield and Marrickville have a long history of welcoming and providing refuge and safe haven for people from other countries who are fleeing violence and political persecution;**
- 2. Notes Council is deeply concerned about the Afghanistan refugee crisis and notes that tens of thousands of Afghani people are now seeking refuge from oppression by the Taliban;**
- 3. Recognises the rich social, cultural and economic contributions of humanitarian migrants from Afghanistan;**
- 4. Recognises the historical contribution of Afghan migrants to Australia;**
- 5. Acknowledges the particular persecution, marginalisation and disadvantage now facing Afghans who worked with Australian forces over the past twenty years;**
- 6. Commits to working with the Afghan diaspora in the Inner West to provide appropriate social and community support;**
- 7. Calls on the Australian Government to urgently:**
 - a) Grant permanent protection visas to Afghan refugees who are on temporary visas already here;**
 - b) Enable family reunification by granting financially accessible partner/family type visas;**
 - c) Establish a resettlement quota for Afghans most at risk from the current unrest in Afghanistan and assist with their emergency evacuation; and**
 - d) Increase the intake of Afghan refugees from 3,000 to 20,000 people on top of our existing humanitarian intake.**
- 8. Use its communication channels, including social media and e-newsletters to promote charities doing work to support Afghan refugees.**

Motion Carried**For Motion:**

Crs Byrne, Da Cruz, Drury, Hesse, Iskandar, Kiat, Lockie, Macri, McKenna OAM, Passas, Porteous, Raciti, Stamolis, Steer and York

Against Motion:

Nil

C0921(2) Item 22 Mayoral Minute: Library Click and Collect Services**Motion: (Porteous)****THAT Council:**

- 1. Notes Council’s commitment to library services and the important role it plays on the wellbeing of the Inner West Community;**
- 2. Notes the exemption under Public Health (COVID-19 Additional Restrictions for Delta Outbreak) Order (No 2) 2021 under the Public Health Act 2010 (NSW) that libraries can be open to the public to provide a “click and collect” service for the community;**
- 3. Officers work to open the click and collect service, ensuring the safety of the community and staff, as soon as possible;**
- 4. The offering of the “click and collect” service be widely promoted to the community; and**
- 5. Recommence the click and collect service and the library home delivery service by Monday 20 September 2021.**

Motion Carried**For Motion:**

Crs Byrne, Da Cruz, Drury, Hesse, Iskandar, Kiat, Lockie, Macri, McKenna OAM, Passas, Porteous, Raciti, Stamolis, Steer and York

Against Motion:

Nil

C0921(2) Item 23 Mayoral Minute: Access to aquatics facilities and community sport**Motion: (Porteous)****THAT Council:**

- 1. Notes Council’s commitment to aquatics services and community sports and the important role it plays in the wellbeing of the Inner West community;**
- 2. Notes the current Public Health Order prevents attendance at aquatics facilities;**
- 3. Writes to NSW Premier Gladys Berejiklian, and Mr Brad Hazzard, NSW Minister for Health and Medical Research requesting that given the pending summer season that guidance on the Public Health Order in relation to public access to aquatic centres be provided;**
- 4. Consult with Inner West sporting associations about what assistance and support they will need to recommence community sport once it is safe to do so; and**
- 5. Receive a report from Council officers on the process and precautions for reopening outdoor pools, Leichhardt Park Aquatic Centre, Fanny Durack Aquatic Centre and Ashfield Aquatic Centre in a COVID-safe way, noting that Ashfield Aquatic Centre is currently being used as COVID testing centre.**

Motion Carried

For Motion: Crs Byrne, Da Cruz, Drury, Hesse, Iskandar, Kiat, Lockie, Macri, McKenna OAM, Passas, Porteous, Raciti, Stamolis, Steer and York

Against Motion: Nil

C0921(2) Item 24 Mayoral Minute: Move Citizenship Ceremonies online to address backlog

Motion: (Porteous)

THAT Council:

1. Immediately initiates virtual online Citizenship Ceremonies to address the backlog; and
2. Seeks advice whether citizenship applicants can receive citizenship online or wait to opt to receive it in person or if a second ceremony can be held in person later.

Motion Carried

For Motion: Crs Byrne, Da Cruz, Drury, Hesse, Iskandar, Kiat, Lockie, Macri, McKenna OAM, Passas, Porteous, Raciti, Stamolis, Steer and York

Against Motion: Nil

Councillor Passas left the Meeting at 8:32 pm.

C0921(2) Item 2 Local Government NSW Board Election and Annual Conference 2021

Motion: (Hesse/Lockie)

THAT Council:

1. Nominate Councillors Porteous, Steer, Lockie, Hesse, McKenna OAM, Byrne, Drury, York and Da Cruz as the voting delegates for LGNSW Board Election; and
2. Nominate Councillors Porteous, Steer, Lockie, Hesse, McKenna OAM, Byrne, Drury, York and Da Cruz to attend and be the voting delegates for the 2021 Local Government NSW Online Annual Conference (29 November 2021).

Motion Carried

For Motion: Crs Byrne, Da Cruz, Drury, Hesse, Iskandar, Kiat, Lockie, Macri, McKenna OAM, Porteous, Raciti, Stamolis, Steer and York

Against Motion: Nil

Absent: Cr Passas

Councillor Passas returned to the Meeting at 8:40 pm.

C0921(2) Item 3 Community Support in the Covid Pandemic**Motion (Byrne/Kiat)****THAT Council:**

- 1. Provides financial assistance totalling \$250 000 to the ten local organisations tabled in the report as the most effective way to provide direct assistance to vulnerable people during the crisis;**
- 2. Fund this assistance through the following saving accrued through lockdown:**
 - \$90 000 library closures;**
 - \$120 000 from the closure of aquatic centres;**
 - \$20 000 from reduced cleaning costs at community centres; and**
 - The remaining funds to be identified in the next quarterly budget review.**
- 3. Maintain funding for Living arts Edge events, Leichhardt Espresso Chorus, the Yabun festival and New Year's Eve safety measures;**
- 4. Urgently consult with Leichhardt Espresso Chorus about options for a virtual or COVID-safe Carols on Norton event in 2021 with the outcomes to be reported to the next available Ordinary Council meeting;**
- 5. Receive a briefing on the current COVID-19 restrictions and how these impact on the delivery of events, cultural activations and local activations; and**
- 6. Note the important contribution of Deadly Connections to the Inner West and continue discussions with Deadly Connections regarding finding suitable permanent accommodation within the LGA.**
- 7. Receive a full report on all organisations that have requested funding from Council.**

Motion Carried

For Motion: Crs Byrne, Da Cruz, Drury, Hesse, Iskandar, Kiat, Lockie, Macri, McKenna OAM, Passas, Porteous, Raciti, Stamolis, Steer and York

Against Motion: Nil

Amendment (Macri)

THAT Council receive a report on what Council is doing with sporting clubs.

The Mayor ruled this amendment out of order as it did not relate to the subject matter.

ADJOURNMENT

8.54pm - The Mayor, Clr Porteous adjourned the meeting for a short recess.

9.01pm– The Mayor, Clr Porteous resumed the meeting.

Councillor Iskandar left the Meeting at 9:15 pm.

C0921(2) Item 4 Notice of Motion: The Livable House - Review of Council Planning Instruments for Mobility Access and Disability Needs

Motion: (Steer/Hesse)

THAT Council:

- 1. Review Council’s planning instruments including the Local Environment Plan and Development Control Plan to ascertain what changes are needed to ensure that residents with mobility access or disability needs are able to modify their homes as needed to enable them to remain in their homes. The review should refer to the most current available standards including Australian Standard AS 4299-1995 Adaptable Housing, Australian Standard AS 1428.1 and other relevant standards and government policies aimed at enabling people to modify their homes for their needs;**
- 2. Include their recommendations in the current review of the Local Environment Plan and Development Control Plan and report to Councillors when the review is completed; and**
- 3. Write to the NSW Premier Gladys Berejiklian and NSW Building Minister Kevin Andrews to request that NSW adopts the new mandatory minimum accessibility standards contained in the National Construction Code 2022 to ensure that NSW residents have the same rights in relation to accessible housing as they have in a majority of Australian States.**

Motion Carried

For Motion: Crs Byrne, Da Cruz, Drury, Hesse, Kiat, Lockie, Macri, McKenna
OAM, Passas, Porteous, Raciti, Stamolis, Steer and York

Against Motion: Nil

Absent: Cr Iskandar

C0921(2) Item 5 Notice of Motion: Summer Hill ATM

Motion: (Kiat/Steer)

THAT:

- 1. The Summer Hill Community have been impacted by the Commonwealth Bank’s decision to remove the Automatic Teller Machine (ATM) from the shopping village;**
- 2. Council Officers liaise with the Chamber of Commerce and Summer Hill businesses to identify potential businesses that may consider installing an ATM;**
- 3. Council Officers and the Chamber of Commerce approach other financial institutions advising there is an opportunity for an ATM at the Summer Hill Village; and**
- 4. Council write to the Commonwealth bank and express our disappointment in pulling out of Summer Hill and Haberfield.**

Motion Carried

For Motion: Crs Byrne, Da Cruz, Drury, Hesse, Kiat, Lockie, Macri, McKenna
OAM, Passas, Porteous, Raciti, Stamolis, Steer and York

Against Motion: Nil

Absent: Cr Iskandar

Councillor Iskandar returned to the Meeting at 9:35 pm.

Councillor Passas left the Meeting at 9:35 pm.

C0921(2) Item 6 Notice of Motion: Sydney Wildlife Rescue

Motion: (Da Cruz/Byrne)

THAT Council refer callers to and promote Sydney Wildlife Rescue on website and next newsletter.

Motion Carried

For Motion: Crs Byrne, Da Cruz, Drury, Hesse, Iskandar, Kiat, Lockie, Macri, McKenna OAM, Porteous, Raciti, Stamolis, Steer and York

Against Motion: Nil

Absent: Cr Passas

Councillor Passas returned to the Meeting at 9:36 pm.

C0921(2) Item 7 Notice of Motion: Rates Review

Motion: (Passas/McKenna OAM)

THAT:

- 1. Council reviews the Rate Harmonisation Policy as a matter of urgency; and**
- 2. A briefing be sought and a report be brought back to Council on the implementation of the rates and Domestic Waste fee harmonisation and also the impact on payments given that many bank branches and Council service Centre have been closed during the lockdown.**

Motion Carried

For Motion: Crs Da Cruz, Hesse, Kiat, Lockie, Macri, Passas, Porteous, Raciti, Stamolis and Steer

Against Motion: Crs Byrne, Drury, Iskandar, McKenna OAM and York

Amendment (Da Cruz/Hesse)

THAT a briefing be sought and a report be brought back to Council on the implementation of the rates and Domestic Waste fee harmonisation and also the impact on payments given that many bank branches and Council service Centre have been closed during the lockdown.

Motion Carried

For Motion: Crs Da Cruz, Hesse, Kiat, Lockie, Macri, Porteous, Stamolis and Steer

Against Motion: Crs Byrne, Drury, Iskandar, McKenna OAM, Passas, Raciti and York

As the Amendment was carried, it was incorporated into the primary motion.

Foreshadowed Motion (Byrne)

THAT Council give in principle support the harmonisation of rates over 4 years instead of 8 and that this proposal be tabled for consideration by the newly elected Council in preparation of the 2022/23 Budget.

This foreshadowed motion lapsed.

Councillor Passas left the Meeting at 10:16 pm.

C0921(2) Item 8 Notice of Motion: Simpson Park Upgrade

Motion: (Macri/Hesse)

THAT Council

- 1. Allocate funding in the 22/23 budget for the upgrade to the lighting at Simpson Park on the grounds that the current lighting is failing, as it is at the end of its useful life. Noting it is an important community safety issue; and**
- 2. Investigate the condition of the public toilet in the park with a view to upgrade the facility in the future but seeing what measures can be taken now to improve its current state until an upgrade can be done. A report to come back to Council with options on the best way forward.**

Motion Carried

For Motion: Crs Byrne, Da Cruz, Drury, Hesse, Iskandar, Kiat, Lockie, Macri, McKenna OAM, Porteous, Raciti, Stamolis, Steer and York

Against Motion: Nil

Absent: Cr Passas

Councillor Passas returned to the Meeting at 10:19 pm.

C0921(2) Item 9 Notice of Motion: Outdoor dining and Live performance

Motion: (Byrne/Da Cruz)

THAT:

- 1. Council urgently prepare a COVID-recovery outdoor dining and live performance policy to allow and encourage safe use of public spaces by local restaurants, cafes, bars and licensed premises, when health orders allow, with the objective of facilitating the safe reopening of local hospitality businesses;**
- 2. The draft policy include consideration of the following temporary uses of public spaces in the opening-up phase following lockdown, noting that existing disability access to footpaths must be maintained:**
 - a) Use of parking spaces in front of premises for outdoor dining and live performance;**
 - b) Temporary closure of main streets and / or adjoining side streets by Council to create space for safe outdoor dining and live performance with the required barriers and application process to be undertaken by Council. The cost effectiveness of purchasing rather than hiring barriers as well as extended rather than temporary closures should be assessed;**

- c) Expediting new or temporary applications by businesses for footpath dining;
 - d) Council undertaking the approval process for outdoor dining and live performance in newly identified areas so that individual applications from businesses aren't required;
 - e) Use of Council car parks for outdoor dining and live performance;
 - f) Use of Councils parks nearby to main streets for outdoor dining and live performance; and
 - g) Provisions already enacted by the City of Sydney in response to the 2020 lockdown for outdoor dining and live performance that can be implemented in the Inner West.
3. The draft policy include options for how funding from festivals and events that have not proceeded due to the lockdown can be redirected to a small grants program to allow hospitality businesses to hire local musicians and performers to provide entertainment at outdoor dining locations; and
4. The draft policy is to include localised options for all Inner West main streets in recognition that a variety of approaches may be needed in different suburbs and the whole of the Inner West hospitality and live performance sectors will need new outdoor options to operate.

Motion Carried

For Motion: Crs Byrne, Da Cruz, Drury, Hesse, Iskandar, Kiat, Lockie, Macri, McKenna OAM, Passas, Porteous, Raciti, Stamolis, Steer and York

Against Motion: Nil

Procedural Motion - Suspension of Standing Orders

Motion: (Porteous/Hesse)

THAT Council bring forward Item 14 to be dealt with at this time.

Motion Carried

For Motion: Crs Byrne, Da Cruz, Drury, Hesse, Iskandar, Kiat, Lockie, Macri, McKenna OAM, Passas, Porteous, Raciti, Stamolis, Steer and York

Against Motion: Nil

C0921(2) Item 14 Local Traffic Committee Meeting - August 2021

Motion: (Macri/Hesse)

THAT the Minutes of the Local Traffic Committee meeting held on 16 August 2021 be received and the recommendations be adopted.

Motion Carried

For Motion: Crs Byrne, Da Cruz, Drury, Hesse, Iskandar, Kiat, Lockie, Macri, McKenna OAM, Passas, Porteous, Raciti, Stamolis, Steer and York

Against Motion: Nil

C0921(2) Item 10 Notice of Motion: COVID Financial assistance for renters

Clr Byrne withdrew this motion.

Procedural Motion - Extension of time

Motion: (Porteous/Da Cruz)

THAT Council extend the meeting by 15 minutes.

Motion Carried

For Motion: Crs Byrne, Da Cruz, Hesse, Iskandar, Kiat, Lockie, Macri, McKenna OAM, Passas, Porteous, Raciti, Stamolis, Steer and York

Against Motion: Cr Drury

C0921(2) Item 11 Notice of Motion: Opposing Rate increases to pay for de-amalgamation

Motion: (Byrne/Drury)

THAT Council:

- 1. Notes the Morrison Low cost-benefit assessment of a potential de-amalgamation of the Inner West Council into its former councils of Ashfield, Leichhardt and Marrickville; and**
- 2. Opposes any rate increase to pay for the de-amalgamation of Inner West Council and again requests a written guarantee from the Local Government Minister that the NSW Government will fund the full costs of de-amalgamation including the specific quantum of the funding commitment.**

Motion Lost

For Motion: Crs Byrne, Drury, Iskandar, McKenna OAM, Passas, Raciti and York

Against Motion: Crs Da Cruz, Hesse, Kiat, Lockie, Macri, Porteous, Stamolis and Steer

Foreshadowed Motion (Hesse/Stamolis)

THAT Council:

- 1. Notes the correspondence received from the Office of Local Government on the 9th of September 2021, that on receipt of a request by Inner West Council to de-amalgamate funding would be “made under section 218CC” of the NSW Local Government Act; and**
- 2. In particular notes Clause (6) “The Minister is, by making grants under section 620 or using money otherwise appropriated by Parliament for the purpose, to ensure that the cost of any de-amalgamation of the new area resulting from a business case submitted under this section is fully funded.**

Motion Carried

For Motion: Crs Da Cruz, Hesse, Kiat, Lockie, Macri, Porteous, Stamolis and Steer

Against Motion: Crs Byrne, Drury, Iskandar, McKenna OAM, Passas, Raciti and York

Councillor McKenna OAM retired from the Meeting at 11:14 pm.

Procedural Motion (Porteous/Lockie)

THAT items 15, 16, 17, 18 and 19 be deferred to the Ordinary Council meeting to be held on Tuesday, 28 September 2021 at 6.30pm.

Motion Carried

For Motion: Crs Byrne, Da Cruz, Drury, Hesse, Iskandar, Kiat, Lockie, Macri, Passas, Porteous, Raciti, Stamolis, Steer and York

Against Motion: Ni

Absent: Cr McKenna OAM

Procedural Motion (Porteous/Hesse)

THAT item 12 be deferred to the Ordinary Council meeting to be held on Tuesday, 28 September 2021 at 6.30pm.

Motion Carried

For Motion: Crs Byrne, Da Cruz, Drury, Hesse, Iskandar, Kiat, Lockie, Macri, Passas, Porteous, Raciti, Stamolis, Steer and York

Against Motion: Ni

Absent: Cr McKenna OAM

Meeting closed at 11.14pm.

PUBLIC SPEAKERS:

Item #	Speaker	Suburb
Item 1:	Margaret Roberts	Leichhardt
Item 3:	Carly Stanley	Dulwich Hill
	Justin Clarke	Ashfield
	Liz Yeo	Newtown
	Michelle Leonard	Petersham
Item 6:	Sandra Guy	Paddington
Item 7:	Graeme McKaay	Haberfield
	Sharon Laura	Haberfield
Item 9:	Pasan Wijesena	Newtown
	Andrew Fineran	Dulwich Hill
Item 14:	Jack Breen	Tempe
	Patrick William	Tempe
	Sam Taleb	Tempe
	Mark Ludbrooke	Tempe
Item 21:	Tamkin Hakim	Marrickville

Unconfirmed minutes of the Ordinary Council meeting held on 14 September 2021.