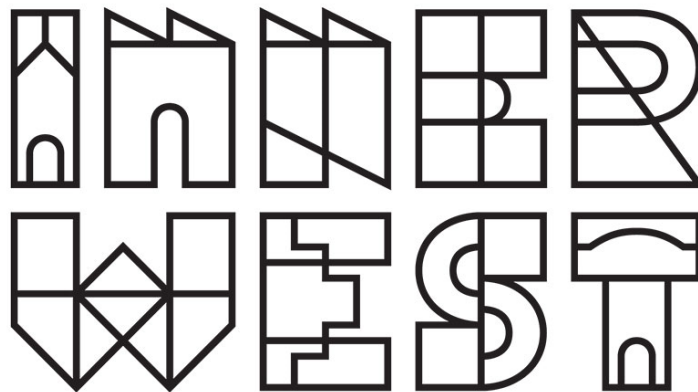


SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA 1

Distributed on 9 November 2021



COUNCIL MEETING

TUESDAY 9 NOVEMBER 2021

6.30pm

Location: Remote Meeting

**MEETING AGENDA – PRECIS
SUPPLEMENTARY ITEMS**

The following reports appear as late items as information required for the preparation of the reports was not available at the time of distribution of the Business Paper.

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Item No: C1121(1) Item 8
Subject: MAYORAL MINUTE: CONDOLENCES AND TRIBUTE TO THE LIFE OF MAX STAHL
From: The Mayor, Councillor Rochelle Porteous

Item 8

MOTION:

THAT Council:

- 1. Celebrates and pays tribute to the life of Max Stahl and the role he has played in the path to independence for Timor Leste;**
- 2. Send its sincere condolences to the family of Max Stahl; and**
- 3. Organises an exhibition and event to celebrate and pay tribute to the work of Max Stahl in consultation with the NSW Australian Timor Leste Friendship Network, Tekee Media and the Inner West Friends of Maliana.**

Background

Max Stahl was an award-winning film-maker, who died aged 66 on the 28th October in Brisbane with his wife and 3 of his four children by his side. The 28th October thirty years ago was also the day that Sebastião Gomes was shot in the back by Indonesian Militia and whose death and tribute march culminated in the Santa Cruz Massacre.

The journalist Max Stahl was there in 1991 and filmed the massacre as it happened with not much thought for his own safety as bullets were fired all around him. The release of this footage to world media helped speed up the path to independence, the massacre and documentation of it was a watershed moment in the brutal history of Indonesian occupation.

Known as Christopher Wenner in his early years, Max was a trained actor, whose claim to fame in that past role was as a presenter for the BBC's children's show Blue Peter. He quickly decided life behind the camera was much more interesting, and that he offer more to the world in the capacity of film-maker. In the 1990's he changed his name to Max Stahl, his second name and his mother's maiden name. He worked as a war correspondent covering the Lebanon civil war in 1985, before travelling to East Timor in the guise of a tourist with Kirsty Gusmao Sword through Yorkshire Television. In Max's own words he describes the events:

Words from Max

Message for 12 November 2020 from Max Stahl

The nights leading up to the morning of November 12 1991 have never left me. On the 8th of November I was in a tunnel under a dried up stream bed talking to Commander David Alex Daitula and his eight Falintil fighters. Within 10 kilometres on all sides, he said, were 3,000 Indonesian soldiers. A group of 30 were about 500 meters away. When a messenger, a boy, arrived with mail, sent the day before, requesting my presence in Dili.

I left that night with Maun Bulak - Brother Nutcase - who guided me over the river, through the rice fields, and took my video tapes, before I left him to continue alone walking on the main road to Baucau, trusting in Brother Bulak whose madness was wiser in Timor than all the Indonesian officers educated in American military schools.

The next night, I spent in the Baucau army police base explaining how I had missed the bus, whilst Maun Bulak delivered my tapes to the home of José Ramos-Horta's brother Arsenio,

whose wife Edit Macarenhas worked the Resistance communications under the noses of the Indonesian military who believed Arsenio was in their pocket.

On the morning of the 12 November the kids in Edit and Arsenio's house dug up a Portuguese flag and another revolutionary banner, the flag of the BNU bank, buried in a tin box in the garden, and spread it out for my camera before I left for the Motael church.

There Fr Ricardo, later Bishop Ricardo, said a mass I have watched on my video tape so often since that I feel I know every young face who came for communion, some who died that day, some who survived being shot an hour later, or lived to tell the world how they were poisoned at the military hospital.

What I remember most and about all of these Timorese people who cooperated silently, across the country without a word exchanged between them that day, was the modesty, the decency, young and veterans of 16 years of suffering and slaughter, those recognised today as great heroes like David Alex, fighting and surviving against incredible odds, those like Aviano Faria, who stood up suddenly like a ghost in the morgue shocking the Indonesian soldiers when he saw the consequences of the medication they were giving to the wounded who screamed too much; like Amali, barely 16 years old, who lined up for holy communion, and an hour later refused to run, facing down instead the Indonesian guns whilst he supported another young man he hardly knew who was bathed in blood after being shot and stabbed 5 times, an image today immortalised in a statue outside the Motael church in Dili.

The message that these people gave my camera was not brutal, despite all the brutality they had lived through, or even heroic, despite their willingness to give their lives. It was a message of dignity. Dignity which may never be recognised, dignity in the face of brutality, of anger of the madness all around. Their dignity might have been like so many others a passing moment in the death of yet one more human being, helpless against the abuse and cruelty of ignorance and power.

But by a miracle that day it was not. That message of dignity I filmed, and put on TV around the world transformed the prospects of not just of those who came out peacefully to protest on the 12 of November, not just of those in the resistance that made them who they were, not just of the guerrilla fighters whose struggle defied all military logic, but even of many other peoples across the world who had lost hope.

We still don't know precisely how many people died on the morning of the 12 of November when the Indonesian soldiers opened fire on a peaceful, unarmed protestors outside the Santa Cruz cemetery. Was it the 68 named in the Santa Cruz committee with surnames and photographs attached, or 270 named with first names at the time, or how many of the disappeared reappeared, how many of the wounded may have survived and for how long? Some died of physical injuries, some of psychological injuries much later. But the message that day of decency and dignity stood in such sharp contrast with the Indonesian lies and callous talk of enemies, that five years later the Nobel committee in Norway gave two great sons of Timor the Nobel Peace Prize, and eight years later the world intervened, finally, after so many years of shamefully ignoring mass murder in Timor to ensure a referendum was held, and then again after hundreds of thousands put their lives on the line one last time in September 1999, returned to see the result was enforced.

Sometimes dignity can change the world. For this insight I thank those people who resisted quietly, without bluster, in what seemed like a hopeless cause, and showed that sometimes faith really can move mountains and values shared across generations, from mountains to cities, from a small island abandoned and forgotten around the world, can conquer arrogance and murder, against all the odds.

This was a message that liberated a nation, and rekindled hope in a world of despair.

I thank them to this day and I thank you all, Timorese, and friends of Timor who today bear witness to the sacrifice they made. Let us all carry on the struggle for dignity against all odds, for which those young people died on the 12 November 1991.....**Max Stahl, 12/11/2020.**

There is much can be said of Max Stahl, his courage to stay when many fled in 1999 to film horrors unbearable to witness, but through his lens he did help the change to course of history. The highlighted words of Max sum up his own attitude to life and commitment to the Timorese people, who he never forgot in the years between 1991 and 1999, (those years he filmed wars in Chechnia, Georgia, South America etc) and he went back in 2003 to live permanently in Timor and spent the next years establishing the archive CAMSTL - Max Stahl Audiovisual Centre - to gather the images, faces, voices in film of Max's own archive and as a place where Max has taught the Timorese in CAMSTL to tell stories of the present times as well as encouraging them to tell the stories of their parents and grandparents during Indonesian Occupation. Max's legacy is CAMSTL. He is regarded as one of the National Hero's of the East Timorese as so well expressed by the words of council of Ministers in The Timorese Parliament:

His professionalism and extreme courage gave a fundamental boost to the diplomatic front of the Timorese Resistance, putting Timor-Leste on the front pages of the world media, after several years in which the Timorese situation had remained hidden from world public opinion.

Max Stahl interviewed several Timorese resistance leaders, such as Commander David Alex Daitula and Commander Nino Konis Santana.

He also created the Max Stahl Audiovisual Centre in Timor-Leste (CAMSTL), in order to preserve and disseminate the audiovisual collection documenting the resistance period, the events during and after the referendum and the first years of independence up to the present day. In 2013, this collection was recognised by UNESCO by being inscribed in the Memory of the World Register, a programme created with the aim of protecting and promoting the world's documentary heritage through conservation and access to documents.

When Leichhardt Council began its Friendship, community to community relationship in 2001 with Maliana in Timor in Leste the delegation filmed the first meetings with the local community and the beginnings of the Maliana Library and Community Centre. A copy of the film footage was lodged at the Max Stahl Timor-Leste Audiovisual Centre. The Friendship relationships continues to this day. The community in Maliana like all communities in Timor Leste will honour and remember Max Stahl.

In 2000, he received the Rory Peck Award, an award that honours independent video journalists. He has received many other awards in recognition of his work in conflict zones, such as the Balkan and El Salvador wars.

In 2009, he was awarded with the Order of Timor-Leste Insignia and in 2019 he received the Necklace of the Order of Timor-Leste, the highest national decoration.

Also in 2019, he was awarded with the Timorese nationality by the National Parliament, in an act that "represents the People of Timor-Leste's tribute to the humanistic spirit, selflessness and extraordinary courage of Max Stahl" and that "expresses gratitude and recognition of the exceptional deeds performed by an exceptional man".

The Spokesperson of the Government, Minister Fidelis Magalhães, who grew up in Maliana, presented, on behalf of the Government and all the Timorese People, his most heartfelt condolences to the family and friends of the dear Max Stahl and stated that "the Timorese People will be forever grateful for his contribution to national self-determination" and that "his courage and the legacy of his work will last forever in the memory of all of us".

ATTACHMENTS

Nil.

Item No: C1121(1) Item 9
Subject: MAYORAL MINUTE: INNER WEST LIGHT RAIL CLOSED FOR UP TO 18 MONTHS
From: The Mayor, Councillor Rochelle Porteous

Item 9

MOTION:

THAT Council:

1. Writes to the NSW Minister for Transport requesting an urgent meeting to seek ways to work together to minimise the disruption that will be caused to our community by the closure of the Inner West Light Rail for up to 18 months;
2. Calls on the Minister for Transport to do everything possible to safely get the Inner West Light Rail back up and running as soon as possible;
3. Notes with concern that the type of carriage purchased for the Inner West Light Rail line by the NSW Government is incompatible with the CBD and south-east light rail meaning they are not inter-operable;
4. Confirms the Inner West Council’s opposition to the privatising of public transport;
5. Calls for a standardised, publicly owned and run network of trams for Sydney. The Sydney trams system needs to be fully integrated, safe, reliable and accessible;
6. Calls on the Minister to ensure that the same level of accessibility as on the light rail is provided with all replacement buses which should be 100% accessible with low floors;
7. Notes that light rail users have been severely inconvenienced by this decommissioning of the light rail service and that therefore the replacement buses must be provided free of charge to users; and
8. Immediately investigate opportunities to bring forward planned in-corridor Greenway works, and the City West Cycle line between the Greenway and the Anzac Bridge.

Background

On Friday 5 November, Transport Minister Rob Stokes announced the heavily patronised Inner West light rail service will be decommissioned for up to 18 months, after cracking was identified in all 12 carriages.

This is crushing news for the Inner West. The light rail is a critical public transport route.

Everyone uses the Inner West Light rail – commuters, locals travelling across the inner west, schoolkids. It is far more popular than anyone ever predicted and it has been over-subscribed from day one.

The Inner West is paying the price of poor decisions made by the Coalition Government which have been more focused on privatising the route than delivering a safe, integrated and reliable light rail service.

The Inner West Council opposes the privatising of public transport. The NSW Government did it with our buses – which meant fewer stops and less frequent services. Then they gave Transdev the right to operate the Dulwich Hill light rail line until 2034.

It is also extremely concerning that Council's transport experts told the NSW Government the technology was already dated when introduced and was incompatible with the CBD and south-east light rail. This means they are not inter-operable.

Our residents – commuters and school children who would normally be on light rail travelling up to 80 kilometres per hour within its own right of way. They will now be forced to travel on buses which will not only be contending with increased post-COVID lockdown traffic but will see their trips further compounded by WestConnex and Metro West construction.

Our community will be severely inconvenienced by this decommissioning of the light rail service and therefore the replacement buses must be provided free of charge to users.

The replacement buses provided also need to have the same level of accessibility as is provided with light rail meaning buses will need to be low-floored and 100% accessible.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil.

Item No: C1121(1) Item 10
 Subject: MAYORAL MINUTE: OPPOSITION TO THE WESTERN HARBOUR TUNNEL AND ASSISTANCE TO RESIDENTS
 From: The Mayor, Councillor Rochelle Porteous

MOTION:

THAT Council:

1. Opposes the Western Harbour Tunnel;
2. Writes to the Minister for Transport seeking a meeting to discuss the urgent need for a comprehensive health study on the documented impacts of WestConnex and the predicted impacts of the Western Harbour Tunnel, including the health impacts resulting from the cumulative impact of Western Harbour Tunnel with other major construction projects;
3. Urgently seek an update on the planned compulsory acquisition of the Balmain Tigers site in Rozelle by Transport for NSW;
4. Bring a report back to the first February 2022 Council meeting providing a project proposal and costings for a comprehensive assessment on the cumulative impacts on the Inner West from the multiple infrastructure projects planned and underway – particularly in the Rozelle, Lilyfield and Balmain areas and in White Bay and Glebe Island;
5. Notes the concerns of many residents that their homes and businesses will be damaged through the tunneling and works that the Western Harbour Tunnel proposes to undertake;
6. Writes to the CEO of Sat-Scan Pty Ltd requesting written confirmation that the ground movement data be provided which would apply to properties affected by the Western Harbour Tunnel as well as those affected by WestConnex within the Inner West Council area. While the general ground movement data will be provided at no cost to council, that Council also seeks costings from Sat-Scan on providing individual data to impacted local residents and brings this information in a report to the first council meeting in February 2022; and
7. Notes that an online Inner West Council Public meeting on the Western Harbour Tunnel will be held this Thursday 11 November at 6pm on Zoom.

Background

The Western Harbour Tunnel is a project that brings no benefits and significant negative impacts to the Inner West.

A health study and a report on the cumulative impacts of numerous infrastructure projects are both urgently needed.

The Inner West is a unique, historic part of inner-Sydney that for future generations deserves to be protected from multiple major infrastructure projects. The Western Harbour Tunnel will impact highly valued heritage conservation areas. We saw the damage from WestConnex

tunnelling on many local homes. It is expected, despite assurances, that we will see many more local homes and buildings damaged particularly from shallow tunnelling .

In August 2020 satellite imaging company Sat-Scan Pty Ltd wrote to Council offering to make its ground movement data available at no charge to Inner West property owners above WestConnex tunnel corridors. Council resolved to accept the offer at its 8 September 2020 meeting. In 2020 and the first half of 2021 Council's technical staff worked with the company to develop the means for making the data available.

Later in 2021 the company stated that it would make the data available via a software platform it was developing for another project. Sat-Scan has recently stated that development of this software platform has been delayed due to the Covid-19 lockdowns, and it is anticipated the data will be made available in early 2022.

It is clear that the Sat-Scan data should extend beyond WestConnex to properties and include the Western Harbour Tunnel (WHT) alignment.as well.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil.

Item No: C1121(1) Item 11
Subject: MAYORAL MINUTE:CALLAN PARK AND THE GREATER SYDNEY PARKLANDS TRUST BILL- FUNDING A SMH ADVERTISEMENT
From: The Mayor, Councillor Rochelle Porteous

Item 11

MOTION:

THAT:

1. Council fund a full page advertisement in the Sydney Morning Herald when it is confirmed that the Greater Sydney Parklands Trust Bill is going to be introduced to Parliament. The advertisement should call for all MPs to reject the Greater Sydney Parklands Trust Bill and to protect Callan Park from development and commercialisation by voting that there be no changes to the Callan Park (Special Provisions) Act 2002; and
2. The wording of the advertisement to be in line with the resolutions passed by council on Callan Park and the Greater Sydney Parkland Trust Exposure Bill and council's submission. Funding for this ad has been identified and will come from the Communications budget.

Background

It was communicated to Councillors that the Minister for Planning was planning to bring the Greater Sydney Parklands Trust Bill to NSW Parliament in mid November in a bid to push the Bill through quickly before Parliament goes into recess until February.

Council opposes changes to the Callan Park (Special Provisions) Act 2002 and opposes the Greater Sydney Parklands Trust Bill. It is critical that council actively advocates against this Bill proceeding.

The cost of this ad is approximately \$10,000 and these funds have been identified in the Communications budget.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil.