



**BEECROFT
CHELTENHAM**
CIVIC TRUST INC
the voice of our community

Minutes of 2021 Annual General Meeting

7.30pm – Monday 15 March 2021, at Presbyterian Church Hall, Beecroft

President Ross Walker opened the 56th AGM and welcomed approximately 70 members. He welcomed Dominic Perrottet, State Treasurer and Member for Epping, Hornsby Shire Council Mayor Philip Ruddock, Hornsby Councillors Heyde, Del Gallego and Browne, and Councillor Donna Davis from Parramatta City Council.

Andrew Wilson from Pennant Hills Civic Trust attended as returning officer for committee elections.

Apologies Julian Leeser, Federal Member for Berowra
Bill Tyrrell, Councillor, Epping Ward, Parramatta City Council

Guest Speaker – The Hon Dominic Perrottet, Member for Epping

Mr Perrottet spoke briefly, mentioning various State projects: construction works, health care, employment, stimulus packages, the Premier's good management during Covid and the State working well with Federal government. He personally is looking forward to working closely with Hornsby Council.

Local issues were the benefits of the NorthConnex tunnel to local residents, Anzac services and the refurbishment of the Beecroft memorial, the upgrade to Beecroft Station and, in particular, he thanked Ross Walker and the Trust for their efforts to retain the ramp at the station – a consultation process which achieved a good outcome for the community.

Questions: Ross Walker questioned him about the haulage road in Cheltenham. Mr Perrottet replied he is working with Mayor Ruddock and Metro to achieve a good financial outcome for the community.

Byles Creek funding from the State is still available, cycleway between Pennant Hills and Epping is still in planning stage, some favourable comments re Northconnex, although MS noise is an ongoing issue – Mr Perrottet is aware of concerns – he will follow up a suggestion about filling in expansion cracks in the road.

Guest Speaker – Philip Ruddock AO, Mayor of Hornsby

Mr Ruddock spoke about the financial loss incurred by Hornsby Council during the council amalgamation process – a loss of a \$250m for which no compensation has been received. Despite this the Council is budgeting for a very modest surplus despite the substantial decrease in income.

Council is working together cohesively, to achieve best outcome for the community. They are a consultative council in seeking community views.

Questions – the future of the Beecroft Cheltenham area in regard to commercial and high rise development? Mayor Ruddock agreed that Council is under pressure from the State to develop and considers that Beecroft is more fortunate than many surrounding suburbs – gave examples of Asquith and Mt Colah.

He is personally unhappy at many decisions – blames the SEPP for decisions over which he has no control. In particular 181-183 Beecroft Road childcare centre application, and prolific seniors living developments.

The moratorium on the seniors housing SEPP ends on 1 July 2021.

Byles Creek – an audience member suggested the track is made safer to attract visitors to the area.

Congratulations from a guest on street tree planting done recently.

Emma Heyde – Councillor Ward C Hornsby Council

Emma discussed how development in Beecroft has taken a toll, asked residents to shop locally- council must take a role to protect local businesses.

Vince Del Gallego – Councillor Ward C Hornsby Council

Urged people to keep protesting against inappropriate development, e.g. South Dural, height limits at Cherrybrook Station, the Mirvac development on the old IBM site.

Robert Browne – Councillor Ward B Hornsby Council

181-183 Beecroft Road Cheltenham – suggested perhaps Council could take a look at this development again if another objection were to be lodged.

Donna Davis – Councillor – Epping Ward Parramatta City Council

Spoke on various local projects including Roselea Football Club, nesting boxes in local bushland, carpark improvements at the north Carlingford shops.

2019 AGM Minutes

A motion to accept the 2019 AGM minutes was moved by Michael McAuley and seconded by Brian Shirley. Motion carried. There was no business arising from the Minutes.

2019/2020 Reports

President's Report presented by Ross Walker – motion to accept Trish Brown seconded Glynn Rogers.

Treasurer – Nina Mital, online from Delhi – report was shown on screen - the Treasurer's Report for 2019/2020 – audited by Ray Barham - motion to accept Michael McAuley seconded by Brian Shirley.

History Group – by Rod Best, presented by Ross Walker – motion to accept Carolyn Watt seconded Trish Brown.

Development Report – presented by Ross Walker – motion to accept Stuart Brown seconded by Michael McAuley.

Bushland Report – presented by Ross Walker – motion to accept Michael Book seconded Trish Brown.

Election of committee members for 2021

The 2019/2020 committee stood down and Andrew Wilson from Pennant Hills District Civic Trust, as returning officer, called for nominations off the floor. Ten nominations were received:

Nina Mital, Rod Best, Julie Zetler, Brian Shirley, Glynn Rogers, Michael McAuley, Bill Rankine, Michael Book, Janet Hayes, and Ross Walker

Auditor appointment for 2021

Motion to accept John McAuley as auditor was carried.

Ross Walker thanked Brian Shirley for all the technical work this evening, and Julie Zetler's vote of thanks to Ross Walker for his time as President of the Trust received a standing ovation from guests.

Meeting closed 9.30pm.