



# Minutes Briefing Committee Meeting 17 February 2015



**MINUTES OF THE BRIEFING COMMITTEE**  
**TUESDAY 17 FEBRUARY 2015 AT 6.16pm**

<b>PRESENT:</b>	The Lord Mayor (Councillor Nuatali Nelmes) Councillor David Compton Councillor Tim Crakanthorp Councillor Therese Doyle Councillor Michael Osborne Councillor Stephanie Posniak Councillor Allan Robinson Councillor Andrea Rufo Councillor Lisa Tierney	
<b>IN ATTENDANCE:</b>	General Manager Director Corporate Services Director Infrastructure  Director Planning and Regulatory Manger Development and Building Services Manager Council and Legal Services Manager Planning and Regulatory Operations Coordinator Senior Parking Officer	Ken Gouldthorp Glen Cousins Frank Cordingley Peter Chrystal Murray Blackburn-Smith Frank Giordano Andrew Baxter Mike Heather Tracey Connelly
<b>MINUTES:</b>	Meetings Secretary	Kerry Sullivan
<b>WEBCASTING:</b>	Meetings Secretary	Amy Leach

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**Chair, Cr Nelmes 24 March 2015**



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**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

**PROCEEDINGS IN BRIEF**

<b>1</b>	<b><u><a href="#">OPENING OF MEETING</a></u></b>	<b>4</b>
<b>2</b>	<b><u><a href="#">APOLOGIES</a></u></b>	<b>4</b>
<b>3</b>	<b><u><a href="#">BRIEFING SESSIONS</a></u></b>	<b>5</b>
ITEM-1	<u><a href="#">BR 17/02/15 - GREEN CORRIDOR NATIONAL PARKS CAMPAIGN</a></u>	<b>5</b>
ITEM-2	<u><a href="#">BR 17/02/15 - PARK SAFE STAY SAFE SCHOOL SAFETY PROGRAM 2015</a></u>	<b>7</b>

**1 OPENING OF MEETING**

1.1 The meeting was opened at 6.16pm.

**2 APOLOGIES**

**2.1 MOTION**

Moved by Cr Compton, seconded by Cr Posniak

The apologies submitted on behalf of Councillors Dunn, Luke and Waterhouse be received and accepted and leaves of absence granted.

**Carried**

### **3 BRIEFING SESSIONS**

**ITEM-1 BR 17/02/15 - GREEN CORRIDOR NATIONAL PARKS CAMPAIGN**

**REPORT BY: PLANNING AND REGULATORY  
CONTACT: DIRECTOR PLANNING AND REGULATORY / MANAGER  
STRATEGIC PLANNING SERVICES**

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#### **PURPOSE**

Brian Purdue, Coordinator of the Green Corridor Coalition, will give a presentation on the successful 14 year campaign to place the Stockton Bight to Watagans "Green Corridor" in the National Parks Estate.

The presentation will also outline a number of outstanding issues for the corridor within the Newcastle local government area.

#### **BACKGROUND**

The Stockton Bight to the Watagans Green Corridor was identified in the Lower Hunter Regional Strategy in 2006. However, the campaign to formally recognise this corridor commenced well before that time.

The Green Corridor National Parks Campaign has succeeded in linking important ecosystems, with the green corridor now comprising 23,000 hectares of National Parks, with a further 1,500 hectares being pledged.

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

The briefing be received.

**Attachment A:** Green Corridor National Parks Campaign "before and after" maps

**Attachment A is distributed under separate cover.**

Brian Purdue, Coordinator of the Green Corridor Coalition, and Professor Tim Roberts, gave a presentation on the success of a 14 year campaign to place the Stockton Bight to Watagans "Green Corridor" in the National Parks Estate.

The presentation also outlined several outstanding issues for the corridor within the Newcastle local government area.

The following key points were addressed:

- The importance of biodiversity corridors
- Sustainable habitats
- Political and government support
- Lower Hunter Regional Strategy 2006
- Promotional activities
- Campaign milestones
- Stockton Bight to the Watagans Regional Corridor 2015
- Identification of a heavy freight rail bypass

Councillors asked various questions in respect of the presentations.

**MOTION**

Moved by Cr Osborne, seconded by Cr Posniak

The briefing be received and congratulations be extended to the Green Corridor Coalition on the success of its campaign from 2001 to 2015.

**Carried**



**ITEM-2**                    **BR 17/02/15 - PARK SAFE STAY SAFE SCHOOL SAFETY PROGRAM 2015**

**REPORT BY:**            **DIRECTOR PLANNING AND REGULATORY**  
**CONTACT:**            **DIRECTOR PLANNING AND REGULATORY / MANAGER REGULATORY SERVICES**

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### **PURPOSE**

To brief Council on the proposed "Park Safe, Stay Safe" School Safety program.

### **BACKGROUND**

Council's Parking Officers have been actively undertaking school parking patrols since Council assumed the responsibility for on street parking enforcement in July 2002.

Parking Patrols have been undertaken with different approaches over the years. The most recent practice involves all schools in the Local Government Area (LGA) being included in a rotating roster for Parking Officers to visit, primarily for enforcement of the on street parking restrictions, but also to identify those schools with specific community, location or access issues. It is these issues which have generally led to some parents, carers and visitors parking in a manner which may compromise the safety of the students and teachers.

In 2015 Regulatory Services intend to commence a parking project titled "Park Safe Stay Safe".

The school safety program is designed to improve road safety by partnering with schools, principals, parents, students, police and the broader community. The emphasis of the "Park Safe Stay Safe" program is on education and safety.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

The briefing be received.

Andrew Baxter, Manager Regulatory Services briefed Council on the proposed "Part Safe, Stay Safe" school safety program.

Council's Parking Officers have been actively undertaking school parking patrols since Council assumed the responsibility for on street parking enforcement in July 2002.

Parking Patrols have been undertaken with different approaches over the years. The most recent practice involves all schools in the Local Government Area (LGA) being included in a rotating roster for Parking Officers to visit, primarily for enforcement of the on street parking restrictions, but also to identify those schools with specific community,

MINUTES OF THE BRIEFING COMMITTEE MEETING OF THE CITY OF NEWCASTLE  
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location or access issues. It is these issues which have generally led to some parents, carers and visitors parking in a manner which may compromise the safety of the students and teachers.

The school safety program is designed to improve road safety by partnering with schools, principals, parents, students, police and the broader community. The emphasis of the "Park Safe Stay Safe" program is on education and safety.

The following key points were addressed:

- Reasons for the program
- Key themes
  - education
  - consultation
  - engagement
- Focus is on safety and assisting children traveling to and from school
- Areas of concern
- How the program will be delivered and measured

Councillors were given the opportunity to ask questions and raise issues of concern.

**MOTION**

Moved by Cr Osborne, seconded by Cr Compton

The briefing be received and congratulations be extended to Council staff.

**Carried**

**The meeting concluded at 7.05pm.**

**Council Chambers**

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