Business Paper

Shire Infrastructure and Public Domain Committee

Monday, 10 February 2020
6:30pm

Council Chambers,
Level 2, Administration Building,
4-20 Eton Street, Sutherland
ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

2. APOLOGIES

3. DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

4. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS

5. PRESENTATIONS

6. REPORTS FROM OFFICERS
   INF001-20 Open Space Naming Proposal for Bobby Brown Memorial Lookout (pg 3)

7. QUESTIONS

8. CONSIDERATION OF BUSINESS IN CLOSED SESSION

9. CONFIDENTIAL REPORTS FROM OFFICERS
OPEN SPACE NAMING PROPOSAL FOR BOBBY BROWN MEMORIAL LOOKOUT

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- At its meeting of 18 November 2019, Council resolved by Notice of Motion (MOT033-19) to receive a report on the proposed naming of the lookout at Wanda Beach located at 2R-24R Mitchell Road, Cronulla, in honour of Cronulla surfing legend, Robert (Bobby) Brown.

REPORT RECOMMENDATION

THAT:

The proposal to name the lookout at Wanda Beach via Access Track No. 8 as “Bobby Brown Memorial Lookout” be endorsed in-principle, and that community consultation proceeds in accordance with Council’s Naming of Public Open Space & Facilities Policy.
**PURPOSE**
To respond to Notice of Motion (MOT033-19) that Council receive a report on the proposed naming of the lookout (known as a “surf check platform”) at Wanda Beach located at 2R-24R Mitchell Road, Cronulla, in honour of Cronulla Surfing legend, Robert “Bobby” Brown.

**BACKGROUND**
- On 23 June 2019, Council received representations from Surfing Sutherland Shire on behalf of 11 surfing clubs in the Sutherland Shire, Surfing NSW, the Surfrider Foundation Cronulla, Southside Malibu Club Cronulla and the Cronulla Chamber of Commerce, seeking Council’s support for the naming of the surf check platform at Wanda Beach after Bobby Brown.
- Robert “Bobby” Brown, a local Wanda resident, was a renowned surfer who won the Sydney Branch Surfboarding Riding title whilst a member of Wanda Surf Life Saving Club.
- Bobby Brown passed away in 1967 at the age of 21.

**DISCUSSION**
The names we give to places convey their significance through a sense of history, identity, and connection between people and a place. Council recognises the importance of this connection, and has developed a policy to ensure that consistent, consultative, and transparent practices are in place for the selection of place names.

While place names require formal approval by the Geographical Names Board (GNB), names of public facilities do not. Public facilities are defined as any Council-owned or managed facilities such as buildings, boardwalks, gardens, ovals, etc. The naming of public facilities provides Council with the opportunity to recognise prominent citizens, and enrich the culture and heritage of the Shire.

The late Robert “Bobby” Brown began surfing as a member of the Wanda Surf Life Saving Club, Cronulla in 1957. Surfing Sutherland Shire describes him as:

“A highly skilled proponent of surfing throughout the 1960s. He placed fourth in the first World Titles at Manly in 1964 having previously won the New South Wales Open Title. As a member of Wanda Surf Club in 1963 he won the Sydney Branch Surfboard Riding title.”

The Coastwatch website describes Mr Brown as follows:

“Bobby Brown was a surfing enigma of the 1960’s, remembered for his natural talent and style. Bobby began surfing at Wanda Beach, Cronulla in 1957 and was ranked with the best surfers in the sixties. Alongside Midget Farrelly, Nat Young, Bob McTavish, Peter Drouyn and Kevin Brennan Bobby left a lasting impression on the Australian surfing scene.”
In consideration of his connection to Wanda Beach, it is fitting that the lookout facility at Wanda Beach be named the “Bobby Brown Memorial Lookout.”

The lookout is a raised circular timber viewing deck located on the foredune. It is generally called a “surf check platform” and offers panoramic views up and down the beach. The viewing deck was constructed in 2008 as part of the implementation of the Bate Bay Coastline Management Plan. The lookout includes a surfboard shaped seat in the centre of the platform which is an existing memorial seat that was constructed under Council’s superseded Memorial Seating Policy. The family associated with the memorial seat has been contacted and have raised no objection to the naming proposal. Attached as Appendix A is an aerial map and photo of the Wanda lookout.

RESOURCING STRATEGY IMPLICATIONS

Naming of public open space and facilities is an administrative process not specifically nominated in Delivery Program or 2019/20 Operational Plan. Implementation of any actions or decision from this report is the responsibility of the Asset Services Unit utilising existing resources.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The naming proposal has been generated from the community in the form of representations from Surfing Sutherland Shire on behalf of eleven surfing clubs in the Sutherland Shire, Surfing NSW, the Surfrider Foundation Cronulla, Southside Malibu Club Cronulla and the Cronulla Chamber of Commerce.

All naming proposals that receive in-principle support from Council are put forward to the broader community for consultation. In accordance with the “Naming of Public Open Space & Facilities Policy,” the proposal will be on public exhibition for a four (4) week period. The community will be notified of the proposal through an advertisement in the St George & Sutherland Shire Leader, through temporary signage installed at the lookout, on Council’s website and social media platforms, and through the online survey forum “Join the Conversation.”

In accordance with Council Policy, the Aboriginal Advisory Committee will also be consulted on the proposed facility name. At the end of the advertising period, Council staff will prepare a report summarising the results of the community consultation for consideration by Council.

Attached as Appendix B is the process for naming a Public Facility indicating the current stage of the naming proposal.

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<tr>
<th>Community Strategic Plan Strategy</th>
<th>Delivery Program (2017-2021) Deliverables</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>Outcome 1 – A community informed and engaged in its future</td>
<td>1B - Develop and implement an Engagement Strategy and Plan</td>
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<td>1L - Advocate and maintain dialogue across all levels of government and with key stakeholders around issues impacting our community</td>
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POLICY AND LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS

Council adopted the “Naming of Public Open Space & Facilities Policy” at its meeting held 18 June 2018 (Minute No. 281). The new Policy has been closely aligned to the Policy published by the GNB in May 2017.

In consideration of this proposal to name the lookout at Wanda Beach the “Bobby Brown Memorial Lookout” the name is consistent with Principle 4.1.4 of the Naming of Public Open Space & Facilities Policy, which states that:

"Names that recognise acts of bravery, community service, and exceptional accomplishment are encouraged for commemorative names."

The approach taken in the recommendation of this report is also consistent with the recent resolution of Council under INF052-18 that the name “Arthur Gietzelt Memorial Lookout” be adopted for the new shelter at Woolooware Bay Stage 6 Shared Pathway.

CONCLUSION

The proposal to name the platform at Wanda Beach, the “Bobby Brown Memorial Lookout” was initiated by the surfing community, and is consistent with guidelines set out by the GNB and Council’s recently adopted “Naming of Public Open Space & Facilities Policy.” It is recommended that the name be supported in-principle, and that community consultation be undertaken on the proposal. Naming of the lookout will provide Council with the opportunity to recognise the achievements of the late Mr Brown, while also demonstrating its responsiveness to the community.

RESPONSIBLE OFFICER

The officer responsible for the preparation of this Report is the Acting Team Leader Open Space, Sarah Northup, who can be contacted on 9710 0877.

File Number: 2018/315215
APPENDIX B: Naming of Public Facilities Procedure

(1) Initial Proposal
- The community, Councillors, or staff may submit names to Council for consideration.
- Proposals for the naming of public facilities are accompanied by supporting documentation that can be authenticated.
- The request is recorded by staff in the register.

(2) Report to Shire Infrastructure Committee
- If the proposal has merit, Council staff prepare a report for consideration by the Shire Infrastructure Committee.

(3) In-Principle Support by Council
- Council considers recommendations made by the Shire Infrastructure Committee.
- If the proposal is supported, Council endorses the name "in principle" and undertakes community consultation.

(4) Council Community Consultation
- The naming proposal is advertised in local print media, online via Council’s website, and through installation of temporary on-site signage.
- The proposal is open for public comment for a four (4) week period.

(5) Report on Community Consultation
- Council staff prepare a report summarising the result of community consultation for consideration by the Shire Infrastructure Committee.

(6) Council Decision
- Council considers the results of community consultation and recommendation of the Infrastructure Committee.
- If the proposal is supported, Council adopts the name for the public facility.

(7) Action by Council Staff
- Council staff carry out any actions arising from the decision, such as the installation of on-site signage, update of the website, etc.

(8) GNB Notified
- Council staff notify GNB to ensure that the facility name, position and origin are recorded in the Spatial Services’ Database.