

Glebe Lands Development

MAJOR TALKS ON EDGECLIFF PLAN

The overall plan and character of the development of the Glebe lands at Edgecliff, will be discussed between Woollahra Council's Steering Committee, George Clarke of Urban Systems Corporation and representatives of the Glebe Administration Board.

However, no decision is to be taken by this steering committee which will bind the council in any way, unless the matter has been reported to the council and a decision made by it.

[The Glebe Board, in a letter to the council, said Mr. Clarke's commission included the whole of the Edgecliff Glebe, excluding only the already completed Goodwin Village. It added that the government departments involved were pressing hard for completion of these works, but the construction would be hamstrung unless a further development consent and building approval for the remainder of the B2 project was granted.]

George Clarke had been commissioned by the Glebe Administration Board to undertake an independent and comprehensive review of the overall plan for the Edgecliff Glebe and revise it for submission to the council.

Reason for this was that

the council late last year rejected the overall plan for a number of reasons, which included placement and massing of buildings, lack of community facilities and considerations of open space provision.

The council had also decided that representatives on the Glebe Steering Committee (Ald. G. J. J. O'Neill, D. L. Parker and T. O'L. Reynolds) meet Archdeacon C. A. Goodwin and other members of the board.

At the council's meeting last week, the matter was the subject of a Mayoral Minute, in which the Mayor, Ald. J. W. O'Brien, said Mr. Clarke had indicated he would soon be in a position to discuss his proposals with the council's representatives.

He recommended that the chairman and members of the council's Glebe Steering Committee be authorised to confer with Clarke and with representatives of the board, on condition that no decision be taken which would bind the council in any way, unless and until the matter had been reported to the council and a decision made by it.

Too important

Ald. D. L. Parker, however, said he felt that the matter of the Glebe lands was too important to be dealt with by three people, no matter who they were.

He said, although he moved the Mayor's recommendation, he did it with regret.

"It is my understanding that George Clarke is likely to put some proposals soon to the council in connection with the overall plan for the Glebe, and I must say that I cannot agree with the committee,

who have no authority whatever to treat with Mr. Clarke, or his firm, or the Glebe.

"I think the question of the Glebe should be put at all times to the Committee-of-the-Whole, and only then could the Glebe steering members be instructed to do or say certain things in connection with the Glebe.

"The Glebe Steering Committee was set up in 1969 by the Minister for Local Government, Mr. Morton, and this council was asked to supply two representatives, Ald. Teece —and Ald. Clayton, who is no longer with us."

Ald. Parker said that Ald. Teece had asked to be relieved of the responsibility as he was connected with the firm of architects associated with the Glebe.

Ald. Parker also expressed his dissatisfaction with the steering committee, of which he was a member.

Long meeting

The Glebe Steering Committee, he said, had only met once in the last 12 months. It was a long meeting and a great deal had been resolved at that time.

"Mr. Clarke either has or will have some plan to put before the council. I don't think any committee should consider this matter. I hope it will be referred to the Committee-of-the-Whole as soon as possible. I am opposed to the steering committee conferring with Mr. Clarke about the Glebe.

"The committee has no vice-chairman and there is one sad deficiency in that it doesn't have Ald. Burfitt-Williams, the former Mayor of this council who, apart from myself, is the only person who could provide any thread to its continuity.

"I think if the committee is to confer with Mr. Clarke, he should be on it."

He then commented on the arrangements about committee meetings.

"If the Glebe Steering Committee is to conduct itself in this way, I don't want to be a part of it."

"The Glebe is 29 acres of very important land, and it should be considered by the council and not the committee.

"I would be prepared to move the recommendation on the strict understanding that the Glebe Steering Committee is not to treat with Mr. Clarke, but to treat with the Glebe Board and other authorities on instructions from the council, and on no other terms."

Ald. G. J. J. O'Neill, in seconding the recommendation, said that as was set out in it, the committee should be able to meet Mr. Clarke if necessary and discuss matters.

Submission

"If it is the case that we will have a submission from Mr. Clarke to the council, then I agree with Ald. Parker that it should be brought to the Committee-of-the-Whole."

Ald. O'Neill said that the committee allowed for three people to speak on matters that were no more than restatements of what the council had said in the past, yet provided an opportunity for satisfactory understanding.



Ald. D. L. Parker

"It doesn't mean that any new ground has been broken.

"I agree that it would be a good thing if Ald. Burfitt-Williams were on the committee and I could also see why Ald. White should be on that committee, but it is constituted the way it is.

"We haven't a vice-chairman, and I think it would be a good thing if we could get one."

Ald. T. J. White said the only question that was unresolved was the unsatisfactory aspect of the meetings as stated by Ald. Parker.

"There is no proper organisation as to how this committee assembles and no agenda. It is rather like Rafferty's rules.

"You, Mr. Mayor, have put forward what a vital function this is. It gives me no pleasure to hear Ald. Parker say what he said, but I think you, Mr. Mayor, will have to take a serious view of the committee and see it functions as it should.

"It is probably one of the most vital committees this council has at the moment."

Ald. J. O'Grady then suggested that two further aldermen be added to the committee, Ald. Burfitt-Williams and Ald. White.

In this way, he said, a vice-chairman could then be elected.

Ald. Burfitt-Williams said he wanted to decline this.

The steering committee was set up by the Minister, comprised three different bodies and he thought it could negotiate things.

Ald. Parker again pointed out that the work really lay with the council itself to see what Mr. Clarke had on paper. He said he already had it on paper and thought he should get a quick answer on this.

When put to the vote, the motion (the Mayor's recommendation) was carried and Ald. Parker asked that his name be withdrawn from the committee.

GAS LIGHTS AT "THE ROCKS"

A gas lamp will be installed on the steps leading to the top of the stone wall on the eastern side of Argyle Place, Millers Point, in "The Rocks" area.

Sydney City Council has decided to accept "with appreciation" an offer by the Australian Gas Light Company to donate and install the lamp.

The council also decided to fix an appropriately worded plaque, recording the donation on the lamp pole.

In a letter to the council the Gas Company secretary, Mr. H. F. Benning, said his organisation had been asked by the Rocks Argyle annual celebration committee to assist it by placing another commemorative gas lamp in Argyle Place.

"I have agreed, subject to your council's approval, to erect a lamp similar in all respects to the three already in the park on the eastern side of the steps leading to the top of the stone wall on the southern side of Argyle Place," he said.

"The site proposed has been selected to make the surroundings as photogenic as possible."

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DESSERTS: Chocolate Cake and Cream, 50c; Lemon Mousse, 75c; Cheese Cake, 60c; Chocolate Bavarian Cake, 60c; Creme Caramel, 60c.

LUNCH, 12 noon - 3 p.m.

Dinner, 6 p.m. - 10 p.m.

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ALTERS MARCH

of the street in Martin George and Pitt Streets, for pedestrian use, changes to the form of march this year.

pected to be either private cars or taxis.

To protect the surface of the pedestrian plaza, it was suggested that heavy duty polythene could be laid from Pitt Street through to George Street, in case any of the vehicles dripped oil.

However, the council asked the Controller of Parks to take whatever action was appropriate to safeguard the surface.

Television and other news vehicles usually stationed in the pedestrian area would be quite well located outside it, it was decided.

The Anzac Day March Organising Committee also asked for permission to erect a ramp in Elizabeth Street, to allow marchers to maintain their formation of 12 abreast entering Hyde Park.

This would be provided, over the footpath, by the Department of Works.

The Commemoration Service would be held as usual at the Anzac War Memorial in Hyde Park South at the end of the march.

COLOURED ROPES FOR YACHTSMEN

Colour coded ropes have been introduced in Britain to make sailing easier for novice yachtsmen.

The new ropes, a polyester cordage in braid-over braid construction, displayed at the recent British Boat Show in London, have a clearly visible coloured mark yam to make a particular rope instantly visible.

They are being manufactured by British Ropes Ltd., of Doncaster, (British Information Service.)

LETTERS to the EDITOR

Sir, Recently for the first time I was charged 18 cents to travel by Government bus from Double Bay to Rose Bay.

The fare used to be 12 cents — a rise of 50 per cent.

Yet the fare from Rose Bay to West Circular Quay is 30 cents, while only 25 cents by ferry, a much nicer and quicker way to travel.

If the bus fare for this short distance is really 18 cents, can one wonder that people will not patronise a service, subsidised by the people, run ostensibly for the benefit of the public?

Please excuse my laughter!

L. Ferris-Scott,
1 Faraday Avenue,
Rose Bay.

ACTION ON AUCTIONS

Every effort is being made to ensure that the auction sales being conducted in the Kings Cross area are conducted in accordance with the provisions of the law, the Chief Secretary, Mr. E. A. Willis, said.

In a letter to Mr. L. J. F. Barraclough, Mr. Willis said that prosecutions had been and were being instituted for breaches of the Factories, Shops and Industries Act for breaches of the trading hours under the Act.

He was replying to a question concerning auction sales in the Kings Cross area which Mr. Barraclough had asked in the Legislative Assembly.

• The British television documentary, "The Life and Times of Lord Mountbatten" has been sold to more than 70 countries.

HUGE WORKS PROGRAM TO KEEP OUR BEACHES CLEAN

(Continued from Page 2)

"When these works are completed and the cliff faces are brought back — where this may not be possible at North Head because of the Water Board construction — they will landscape it.

"Marine biologists are certain it will be as good as it was in the past.

Finances

"Today you have seen some very good work by the Water Board — the results of good planning."

Mr. Beale pointed out that the effluent that goes into San Francisco Harbour would not be as good as what goes into the sea at Bondi.

He told the press that that day they had been informed of the oceanographic work that was going on.

With three years to try and study marine life, this might mean ocean outfalls running out to sea and the outfalls would be better again. The Environment Control Committee would also inspect industries, but these things would be done over a period of years.

Chairman of the committee Mr. Mason said there had been a dramatic improvement in two years, and it had been operative for two years.

"We will want to see that continued, and my committee will be giving the Minister their support to see that the finances are made available for these sort of works.

"Our committee will be pushing as hard as it can for the good name of this great city. We want to see Australia lead in environment."

He said that estimates for the deep submarine discharge were about \$35 to \$40 million.

At North Head, although they were all concerned at the time, it was obvious that the efforts that were made have all paid off.

He mentioned, too, that

the committee would keep its eye on dumping over the Heads, especially in relation to the naval work.

Mr. Barraclough commented that there would be 54,000 loads of soil removed at the Woollahra station.

Here, he said, there was noise pollution and the pollution of trees, and he was going to inspect the site that afternoon.

In stressing the fact that the State environment was a State matter, he said that members of the committee were most amused by the remarks of the Leader of the Opposition, Mr. Gough Whitlam, who accompanied them on the tour of the Parramatta River.

"Mr. Whitlam said, 'I used to row up here when it was clean'. He was speaking on matters which are purely State matters, and we are dealing with it.

"We are taking actions against people and companies, who will realise we have a Minister who will make N.S.W. if not the best State, the cleanest," he added.

PLEA TO LOP TREE VETOED

No action will be taken by Woollahra Council to lop a Ficus Hillii tree opposite a property in New South Head Road, Rose Bay.

One of the residents in the flats had asked the council to consider lopping the top of the tree.

The resident had said she got considerable enjoyment from her harbour view and the tree at present had reduced this view considerably.

The council adopted the recommendation of its Trees and Gardens Committee that no action be taken to lop the tree.

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