

11th November, 2003

WORKS COMMITTEE MEETING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT A WORKS COMMITTEE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF RANDWICK WILL BE HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, TOWN HALL, 90 AVOCA STREET, RANDWICK, ON TUESDAY, 18TH NOVEMBER, 2003 AT 6:00 P.M.

Committee Members: His Worship, the Mayor, Cr D. Sullivan, Crs Backes, Bastic (Chairperson), Greenwood, Schick, Seng and White (Deputy Chairperson) and Whitehead.

Quorum: Five (5) members.

NOTE: AT THE EXTRAORDINARY MEETING HELD ON 5TH SEPTEMBER, 2000, THE COUNCIL RESOLVED THAT THE WORKS COMMITTEE BE CONSTITUTED AS A COMMITTEE WITH FULL DELEGATION TO DETERMINE MATTERS ON THE AGENDA.

1 Apologies

2 Minutes

CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE WORKS COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY, 14TH OCTOBER, 2003.

3 Addresses to Committee by the Public

4 Mayoral Minutes

5 Works

- 5.1 DIRECTOR ASSET & INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES' REPORT 2
66/2003 - 41 WOOMERA ROAD, LITTLE BAY - ARAUCARIA
HETEROPHYLLA (NORFOLK ISLAND PINE) GROWING
WITHIN THE REAR OF PROPERTY.
- 5.2 DIRECTOR ASSET & INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES' REPORT 10
67/2003 - DUNNINGHAM RESERVE SKATE PARK PETITION.

6 General Business

7 Notice of Rescission Motions

.....
GENERAL MANAGER



Director Asset & Infrastructure Services' Report 66/2003

SUBJECT:	41 WOOMERA ROAD, LITTLE BAY - ARAUCARIA HETEROPHYLLA (NORFOLK ISLAND PINE) GROWING WITHIN THE REAR OF PROPERTY
-----------------	----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

DATE:	5 November, 2003	FILE NO:	P/017660
--------------	------------------	-----------------	----------

REPORT BY: DIRECTOR ASSET & INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES

INTRODUCTION:

The owners of the above property would like Council's decision not to grant consent for the removal of a large Araucaria heterophylla (Norfolk Island pine) growing within the rear of their property reassessed, as they feel there are legitimate and compelling grounds for the removal and replacement of the subject tree.

This is particularly the case since, during recent high winds, a large section of the top of the tree measuring approximately three metres in length simply snapped off and fell to the ground.

ISSUES:

The subject tree is in apparently good health and contributes significantly to the surrounding landscape. The tree is approximately twelve metres tall with a canopy spread of around seven metres.

The tree has previously been inspected by Council staff and there was found to be insufficient reason to allow it to be removed.

Although the tree is growing in a very small back yard there is no evidence of structural damage being caused by its roots. The main complaint in the past was that it had dropped branches and that neighbours complained of fronds dropping into their yard.

The owners of the property are relatively elderly and maintain that they do not have the resources to prune and deadwood the tree on a regular and ongoing basis.

CONCLUSION:

The tree is somewhat of a landmark and if the owners wished to retain it and had the resources to regularly have it inspected and pruned as necessary, it could be kept.

However, they have a genuine fear of persons and/or property being injured or damaged should the tree not be removed. This has obviously been reinforced by the fact that a large section recently snapped off and plummeted to the ground.

Although the tree is not causing any significant structural damage at this stage, it will get considerably larger than it is now.

The fact that the top section of the tree snapped off and that there have been a number of branches dying back over a fairly long period could indicate that the tree may have been struck by lightning but there are no obvious signs that this is the case.

RECOMMENDATION:

That approval be granted to remove the Norfolk Island pine from the rear of 41 Woomera Road, Little Bay, and that it be replaced with a more appropriate tree species.

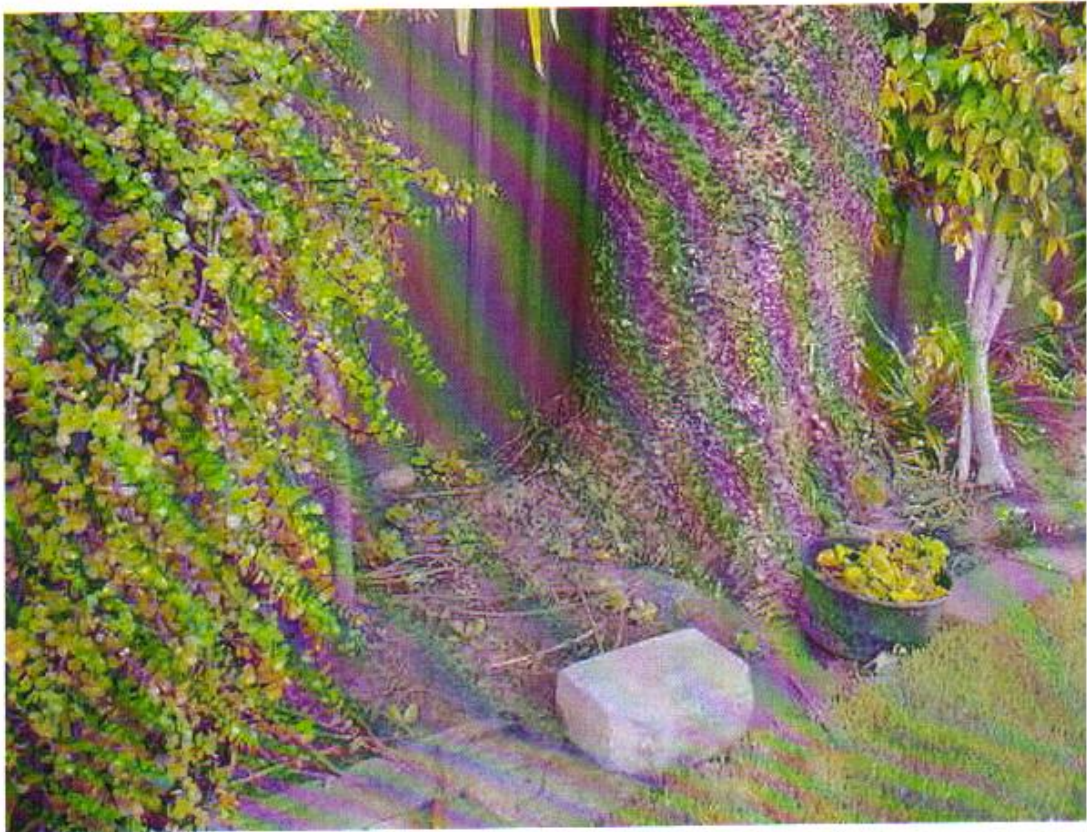
ATTACHMENT/S:

Photos

.....
MICK SAVAGE
DIRECTOR ASSET &
INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES

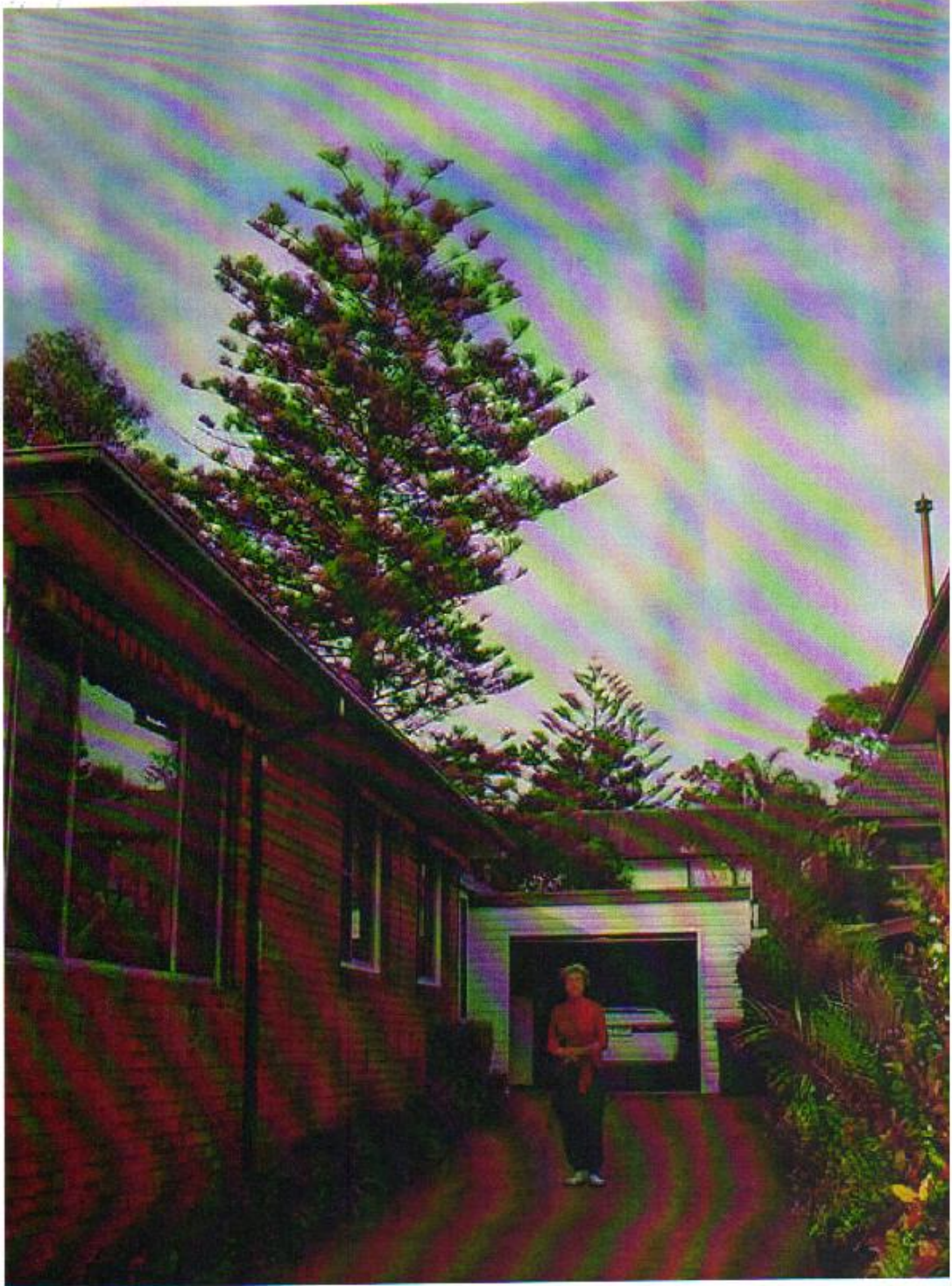
.....
BRYAN BOURKE
TREE MANAGEMENT OFFICER















Director Asset & Infrastructure Services' Report 67/2003

SUBJECT:	DUNNINGHAM RESERVE SKATE PARK PETITION
-----------------	----------------------------------------

DATE:	6 November, 2003	FILE NO:	98/S/2974
--------------	------------------	-----------------	-----------

REPORT BY: DIRECTOR ASSET & INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES

INTRODUCTION:

Council at its meeting held on 29th April, 2003, resolved:

That the petition be referred to the appropriate Committee and/or the Councillor's Bulletin with a report from the relevant officer.

The petition was addressed to Bob Carr, Premier of New South Wales and was submitted on behalf of 101 petitioners by Mrs C E Cherry, a local business owner.

The thrust of the petition is for "a skate board bowl and park" be constructed at the top end of Dunningham Reserve or "south end of Coogee Park" for the benefit of the local children.

Both areas are within the area covered by the Coogee Beach & Foreshore Plan of Management.

ISSUES:

The Coogee Beach & Foreshore Plan of Management was drafted in 1997. The POM does not identify any location within its scope for the development of a skate park. Experience with the design and siting of the skate park at Maroubra Beach reveals that the construction of such a facility can be a contentious community issue and one that would require extensive community and user consultation. Given that a skate park has not been identified as a facility within the limits of the Coogee Beach & Foreshore POM it would be necessary to redraft the POM with a full community consultation programme.

The matter of addressing the construction of a skate park within the context of a plan of management framework is not the only issue. Dunningham Reserve was recently selected as the site for the construction of the Memorial to the Victims of the Bali Bombings. The dedication of the Memorial occurred on 12th October 2003. The question of compatibility of uses of the reserve would need to be seriously considered as apart of the appraisal process.

Lastly, Council needs to be cognisant of the fact that a significant skate park was recently constructed at Maroubra Beach and at significant expense. The facility is certainly recognised by users as one of the best of its kind in Sydney, if not the country. The usage and maintenance costs of that facility are being monitored but it can be reported that expenditure associated with repairs to vandalised items and graffiti removal remain a significant cost burden for Council. Any proposal to construct another such facility within the City (albeit potentially of a smaller scale) would need to take into account the ongoing maintenance requirements that may be associated with it.

CONCLUSION:

The construction of a skate park within the area covered by the Coogee Beach & Foreshore POM would require a significant time frame for it to be achieved given the requirement to revise the existing POM. However, given the contentious nature of the provision such facilities close to residential areas, there would be no guarantee that the outcome of the POM revision would support the inclusion of such a facility at either of the requested locations.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that:

1. Council decline the request by the petitioners to construct a skate park within the Coogee Beach and Foreshore Plan of Management zone;
2. Council advise the Premier of NSW, the Hon Bob Carr and Mrs C E Cherry of its decision.

ATTACHMENT/S:

Nil

.....
MICK SAVAGE
DIRECTOR ASSET &
INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES

.....
JOHN CALVANI
PARKS & RECREATION CO-
ORDINATOR