



**Lane Cove  
Council**

**Minutes  
Public Forum  
20 April 2026, 7:00 PM**

All minutes are subject to confirmation at a subsequent meeting and may be amended by resolution at that meeting.

**Public Forum 20 April 2026  
MINUTES**

**PRESENT:** Mayor Southwood (Mayor), Councillor Taylor, Councillor Roenfeldt, Councillor Little (remote), Councillor Kennedy (remote), Councillor Flood and Councillor Bennison.

**ALSO PRESENT:** General Manager, Director - Planning and Sustainability, Director - Community and Culture, Director - Open Spaces and Infrastructure, Executive Officer to the GM, Facilities Officer and Minute Taker.

**APOLOGIES**

Councillor Bryla and Councillor Greenwell

**ATTENDANCE BY AUDIO-VISUAL LINK BY COUNCILLORS**

Councillor Little and Councillor Kennedy

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY**

The Mayor gave an acknowledgement of Country.

**DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Nil

**WEBCASTING OF COUNCIL PUBLIC FORUM**

The Mayor advised those present that the Public Forum was being webcast.

**PUBLIC FORUM SEGMENT**

**REGISTERED SPEAKERS**

**Online**

1. Troy Delmege of Lane Cove, regarding item 11.2 – Enhancing Urban Biodiversity through Scalable Habitat Initiates and item 11.4 – Notice of Motion – Development of a Synthetic Turf in Public Spaces Policy,

**In person**

2. Daniel Yin of Northwood, regarding item 15.2 – Planning proposal 46 – 94 Northwood Road, Northwood (Heritage De-listing),
3. Zoe Stojanovic of Lane Cove, regarding item 11.4 – Notice of Motion – Development of a Synthetic Turf in Public Spaces Policy,
4. Michael Stojanovic, representing the Lane Cove Football Club, regarding item 11.4 – Notice of Motion – Development of a Synthetic Turf in Public Spaces Policy,
5. Kevin Garrington of Lane Cove, representing the Lane Cove Football club and member of the LCC Sporting Advisory Committee regarding item 11.4 – Notice of Motion – Development of a Synthetic Turf in Public Spaces Policy,
6. Brendan Hood representing Lane Cove Cricket Club and North Shore Junior Cricket Association, regarding item 11.4 - Notice of Motion – Development of a Synthetic Turf in Public Spaces Policy,
7. Glenn Poynton, President Lane Cove Cats AFL club, committee member of North Shore Swans AFL Youth Alliance, committee member of Lane Cove Cricket Club and others, and

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a member of Lane Cove Council Sporting Club Advisory, regarding item 11.4 - Notice of Motion – Development of a Synthetic Turf in Public Spaces Policy,

8. Margaret Curley of Northwood, regarding item 11.4 - Notice of Motion – Development of a Synthetic Turf in Public Spaces Policy,
9. Rebecca Hearty of Northwood regarding item 15.2 – Planning proposal 46 – 94 Northwood Road, Northwood (Heritage De-listing),
10. David Cook of Northwood regarding item 15.2 – Planning proposal 46 – 94 Northwood Road, Northwood (Heritage De-listing),

Councillor Bennison left the meeting, the time being 07:40 PM

Councillor Bennison returned to the meeting, the time being 07:40 PM

11. Donald McLay of Northwood regarding item 15.2 – Planning proposal 46 – 94 Northwood Road, Northwood (Heritage De-listing),
12. Heather Lesley-Swan of Northwood regarding item 15.2 – Planning proposal 46 – 94 Northwood Road, Northwood (Heritage De-listing),
13. Jane McNamara of Lane Cove West, regarding item 11.4 - Notice of Motion – Development of a Synthetic Turf in Public Spaces Policy,
14. David McGlinchey of Lane Cove, regarding item 11.4 - Notice of Motion – Development of a Synthetic Turf in Public Spaces Policy,
15. Lynne McLoughlin of Lane Cove, regarding item 11.4 - Notice of Motion – Development of a Synthetic Turf in Public Spaces Policy,
16. Don Maloney, President of Lane Cove Public School P&C Association and Lane Cove Fun Run Organiser, regarding Item 14.1 – Community Grants.

## **COMMUNITY FORUM SEGMENT**

Members of the public may address the meeting on any matter/s for three minutes per speaker.

## **REGISTERED SPEAKERS**

### **Online**

Nil

### **In person**

17. Tim Stewart of Northwood, regarding the noise of pickleball at Galuwa Recreation Centre and its impact on residents,
18. Jane McNamara of Lane Cove West, regarding scheduling of women's football games to Sunday nights at Blackman Park.

## **COUNCILLOR INFORMATION SEGMENT**

Clarification was sought on whether questions could be asked on Notices of Motion or if questions were limited to Officer reports. It was confirmed that questions to staff should be related to Officer reports, but that generic questions related to Notices of Motions may be asked of Council officers, but that given Notices of Motion are prepared by Councillors and not staff, staff may not be able to answer all questions.

It was also reaffirmed that the current practice is for Councillors to submit questions to the General Manager by Tuesday 5.00pm (in accordance with the Code of Meeting Practice) and written responses will be prepared and published to the website on Wednesday at 5.00pm.

### Item 11.2 – Notice of Motion – Enhancing Urban Biodiversity through Scalable Habitat Initiatives

*Councillor Bennison asked how are clay pots, asbestos and other contaminants are addressed within development applications?*

When development applications are approved, they include an obligation to remove any waste materials. As long as this obligation is met, the method of removal or where the material ends up are not addressed by DAs.

### Item 11.4 – Notice of Motion – Development of a Synthetic Turf in Public Spaces Policy

*Councillor Roenfeldt asked for details of the process to develop a report for Councillors to consider regarding the initiation of a Council policy.*

The development of a policy position always comes from a Council resolution whether through a Notice of Motion or the adoption of a particular long term strategic policy. In this instance, the NOM seeks for Council to signal a direction regarding synthetic turf and the development of a policy on this matter.

Should Council vote to progress this, then Council officers will proceed to research and investigate the various technical aspects and identify any associated operational issues in order to develop a draft policy consistent with the position that has been adopted. It is usual practice for council officers to engage with relevant advisory committees or other members of the community when formulating the draft policy. The draft policy is then presented to Council to determine whether to proceed to public exhibition. Council officers then consider all submissions on the policy and may recommend changes to the policy. Ultimately a report, including the results of consultation, officer recommendations and the draft policy, is presented to Council for a final decision.

*Councillor Southwood asked about the length of time for community consultation.*

Community consultation is generally four to six weeks, but this is at the discretion of the elected Council. If it is an issue that is likely to generate significant community views then a longer period may be required. To develop a policy from start to finish can take up to twelve months or even longer.

### Item 12.1 – Post exhibition – Draft Planning Agreement for 2-4 Pacific Highway, St Leonards

*Councillor Southwood asked whether the \$10,000/year would be allocated to Wadangari Park?*

It is proposed that the \$10,000 be allocated to maintenance works at Wadangari Park. If the Council see fit, they may amend the resolution to set out what the money is to be used for, to provide transparency for when Council is entering into the planning agreement.

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Item 14.1 - 2026-2027 Community Assistance Grants Program – Funding recommendations

*Councillor Roenfeldt asked if Council staff have received correspondence from the Lane Cove Public School P&C that was referred to during the Public Forum?*

Council officers have spoken to the P&C and explained the process and the recommendation and that the decision would be taken at the Council meeting on Thursday. The information in their grant application was very generic. Had they included the specifics that were raised in the Public Forum this would have made a difference to the consideration of their application, as the recommendation for refusal was based on Council's general approach regarding potential cost shifting, such as funding teaching staff which is a State Government obligation.

Item 15.4 – Adoption - Sustainability Action Plan 2026-2030

*Councillor Bennison asked which actions in the Sustainability Action Plan are intended to be funded by the Sustainability Levy?*

The summary in the Council report identifies the projects that are proposed to be funded by the levy in the next financial year.

Item 16.2 – Public Exhibition – Draft Small Watercraft Storage Policy

*Councillor Southwood asked is the fee, which is higher than other Councils, intended to cover the cost of impounding incorrectly stored and/or registered dinghies and watercraft?*

The fee will be used for the costs of impounding and disposal.

Item 18.1 – Council Snapshot

*Councillor Roenfeldt asked whether the layout of the Aquatic Centre graphs could be made clearer?*

The graphs are taken from the BlueFit management system as images and inserted into the Council report. Council officers will investigate and attempt to improve them.

The Public Forum closed at 8.29pm.

**\*\*\*\*\* END OF PUBLIC FORUM MINUTES \*\*\*\*\***