

MAROUBRA Precinct Committee

GENERAL MEETING Minutes 18 May 2026
Juniors at the Junction, Maroubra 7.00pm

Chairperson:	Stephen O'Shaughnessy
Secretary:	Rachel Deering
Attendance:	35 Residents and Visitors attended the meeting.
1. Opening and welcome:	<p>The Chairperson opened the meeting at 7.04 pm, welcomed all residents and visitors and undertook the acknowledgement of Country. Further, the Chairperson made special mention to welcome the Mayor, Dylan Parker, to the meeting who had unexpectedly attended the meeting and also Councillor Daniel Rosenfeld. Following comments from attendees, the Chairperson also extended special mention to welcome Council's Community Consultation Officers, namely Amanda Maher and Daniel Merrick, to the meeting.</p> <p>Prior to the meeting commencing, the Mayor kindly mentioned to the Committee Executives that he would be very happy to address any queries from attendees especially in relation to the paid parking proposal. The Chairperson noted that Mayor, Dylan Parker's time was limited at the meeting as he had another prior engagement to attend. The Chairperson accepted the unexpected invitation from the Mayor and advised attendees the order of the meeting would be adjusted to accommodate the Mayor's invitation and his available time at the meeting.</p> <p>The Chairperson invited the Mayor, Dylan Parker, to address the meeting.</p>
2. Address by Mayor Dylan Parker (unplanned)	<p>The Mayor, Dylan Parker, commenced by apologising to the Precinct Members for his non-attendance at the Precinct's prior meeting on 13 April 2026. Unfortunately, he had another prior commitment and attended an annual meeting with a local sporting organisation who had international representatives in attendance.</p> <p>The Mayor advised the Randwick Council's budget for next year is currently on display and invited everyone to take the time to review and noted there would be no rates increase.</p> <p>Mention was also made of the Have Your Say for the Management of Shared e-Bikes that has two more days remaining to receive feedback. Council is diligently working on the issues associated with shared e-bikes that are causing significant concern across the entire LGA. Council is reviewing the management of shared e-bikes, looking to introduce "no go" zones and mandatory parking areas for e-bikes. It was noted private operator of e-bikes is problematic and that the NSW Government has recently issued draft regulations. Council is very committed in attempting to address the many concerns of residents across the LGA in respect of e-bikes.</p> <p>The Mayor then provided a general update in respect of paid parking reaffirming that the main drivers of the scheme were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">(a) for visitors to assist in financially contributing to the costs associated with the upkeep of the beaches, and:(b) to ease parking congestion especially at beachside areas to relieve access to the beach pressure for local residents. <p>The initial consultative period is now closed, and Council is currently reviewing all answers to the many surveys undertaken – noting the one message that was very loud and clear to Council from all consultative mediums is that if the paid parking scheme was to be introduced the</p>

MAROUBRA Precinct Committee

	<p>concept of one free parking permit per household is totally unacceptable and insufficient. As such, Council would investigate the impacts of offering two free parking permits per household.</p> <p>The on-line survey was open to anyone in the Sydney area who would like to respond. It was noted approximately 600 responses from people residing outside the local LGA have been received from the on-line survey.</p> <p>Note was made that parking arrangements at individual beaches would be bespoke as all areas have different requirements. The intent is to consult with residents who live directly at beaches with the view to potentially investigate the need for Resident parking zones, free permits time limits, etc. The Council is very committed to consultation with the wider Community that adopts a fairer and sounder methodology that generates openness that aligns with Council's <i>inclusivity of all</i> policy.</p> <p>The Mayor vehemently defended Council's decision to consult with the wider Community very early in the process re the history of prior paid parking proposals in the local Randwick LGA. The decision to liaise with the Community early at the time was unanimously supported by all Councillors and hence adopted.</p> <p>The Mayor advised the next step following detailed review of the feedback would be to put a revised proposal to Council.</p>
<p>3. Paid Parking Proposal Discussion (unplanned)</p>	<p>Following Mayor, Dylan Parker's update robust discussion in regard to the paid parking proposal ensued at the meeting. Many attendees questioned the lack of a sound business case to support the proposal; the lack of available details; the seeming lack of any sound business modelling undertaken; the validity of the published expected revenues; the robustness of the assertions that parking congestion and access to the beaches pressure would be relieved for locals; the survey questions and methodologies undertaken were "<i>framed</i>" to result positively to the proposal; etc. It was expressed that Council not having a detailed business case made it hard for the Community to evaluate the proposal.</p> <p>The Mayor refuted the assertions made and advised that no endorsement from Council has been made yet and that Council staff had looked at different modelling techniques, eg no permits, and information provided was on the basis of staff estimates. The Mayor reiterated Council's decision to consult with the wider Community very early in the process was to ensure Community views were expressed and subsequently considered in formulating any final proposal for consideration.</p> <p>It was expressed and supported by many in attendance that any potential introduction of paid parking in beachside areas would not relieve parking pressures and suggested Council needs to investigate other options. Parking in the local LGA and, especially in the Maroubra beachside area, has been an ever-increasing and on-going issue for many years. Significantly compounding the local parking issues are the increasing number of trailers, boats, caravans, etc routinely parked on roadways. A suggestion was put forward that Council investigate introducing perpendicular parking along Fitzgerald Avenue to increase the number of parking spaces available and limit parking to vehicles only. The Mayor advised the meeting the Council had investigated this option previously and it was deemed Fitzgerald Avenue is not wide enough to accommodate perpendicular parking re safety concerns.</p> <p>One member noted that she had not personally voted as only one member per household could respond to the survey. The worry is that</p>

MAROUBRA Precinct Committee

	<p>this has potentially conflated any resultant data being used by Council and is really concerned about any plan back firing.</p> <p>The following question was put to the Mayor by the Secretary <i>“If paid parking is introduced, will Council provide a permanently free parking permit to every privately registered vehicle assigned to a premises in the local LGA where the owner lives in the premises – irrespective what the number is?”</i> The Secretary elaborated that in her immediate local area one household has four vehicles (Mum, Dad, and two adolescent children who still live at home - each with a vehicle) and another household has three vehicles (single Mum and two adolescent children who again still live at home - each with a vehicle). The Secretary noted the scenario of adolescent children living at home longer is no doubt widespread across the local LGA.</p> <p>A member elaborated that Chris Lonergan, an expert in Survey Methodology and Community Consultation, noted the survey methodology undertaken by Council as not being appropriate and results cannot be deemed as representative of Randwick Council. It had been proven that the survey could be done a number of times by anyone and further noted the whole thing was FRAMED and PRIMED. The Mayor was asked the following question a number of times: <i>“Do you disagree with Chris Lonergan’s assessment that anyone could submit any number of surveys?”</i> The Mayor advised he had heard the ABC radio interview between Chris Lonergan and Craig Reucassel earlier in the day. The Mayor made mention of the consultation material used was provided by experts in their fields. The member then stated that the Mayor had not answered his question with a simple Yes or No answer.</p> <p>The Secretary asked the Mayor <i>“What is the expected timeframe when Council will consider a proposal to proceed?”</i> While the exact timeframe is not known, the Mayor suggested would be later in the year. The Mayor was then specifically asked <i>“If any consideration/decision would be made prior to 29 June 2026?”</i> The Mayor was unable to confirm as exact timeframe currently unknown. The Secretary asked if the Mayor would immediately advise her once the date was known. The Mayor advised the Precinct would be notified once known by routine Council processes.</p> <p>It respect of the paper survey provided by Council it was noted by the Secretary that three surveys had allegedly been completed and returned to Council by the one person residing in a block of units.</p> <p>The Mayor was asked by the Treasurer <i>“Is Council considering any form of compensation to businesses; surf living saving clubs; and Maroubra nippers, etc for those that attend these regularly but live just outside the LGA such as Hillsdale?”</i> The Mayor advised Council is currently working through this with businesses and surf life saving clubs.</p> <p>The Mayor generously stayed at the meeting a little longer than planned answering questions but needed to leave to attend his other function.</p> <p>The Chairperson thanked the Mayor for his very impromptu and unplanned contribution to the meeting.</p> <p>Prior to the Mayor leaving, he was invited by the Executive Committee to attend the next Maroubra Precinct meeting on 29 June 2026. The Mayor accepted the invitation and then left the meeting.</p>
<p>4. Council Update</p>	<p>(a) Update from Councillor Daniel Rosenfeld</p> <p>As the topic of paid parking was currently top of mind in the discussion at the meeting, the Chairperson invited Councillor Daniel Rosenfeld to provide his update at this time.</p>

MAROUBRA Precinct Committee

i. Paid Parking

Councillor Rosenfeld advised that while he was not initially opposed to parking metres as such, he is now firmly against the proposal for parking metres and paid parking. Significant issues of concern are that local businesses are firmly against the proposal and the cost-of-living issues being experienced by all. Councillor Rosenfeld noted that the report for consideration has not come back to Council as yet. Councillor Rosenfeld made mention that his view is that there is overwhelming opposition from people on the ground and also in email feedback to Councillors.

ii. Roundabout Mons Avenue/Cooper Street

It was noted the Design Consultant is still working on it and due to come back to Council by early-July 2026. It is hoped that construction will commence in August 2026.

A new Traffic Engineer has been employed at Council and she commenced late last year.

iii. Display of banners at Easter time.

It was noted that the motion put forward by Councillor Rosenfeld for banners to be displayed in the local area at Easter time and this was carried. If Easter time coincides with Anzac Day, banners representing Anzac Day will also be displayed.

A question from a member enquired if any special Jewish day would be celebrated? Councillor Rosenfeld responded advising that it was not his intention for a special Jewish Day to be celebrated by banners and further noted that many Jewish people in the area join together to celebrate a Channukah event that the Council arranges on a yearly basis.

iv. Dog beach trial in local area

A motion put forward by Councillor Rosenfeld to ask for a report into implementing a dog beach trial in the LGA and this was defeated. Voting was 10/5 against the motion.

v. Chester Avenue between Minneapolis Crescent and Portland Crescent

There has been Community Consultation and traffic counts taken in respect of changing Chester Avenue between Minneapolis Crescent and Portland Crescent to being one way traffic only for safety concerns. Hopefully, in due course it is recommended that one way traffic will be introduced. Transport for NSW needs to approve this.

vi. Heffron Centre car park

Mention was made that parking in the Heffron Centre car park is causing concerns to businesses as the car park is seemingly being used as a commuter car park. It was noted that a previous survey/consultation resulted in 56% of respondents being against "timed parking" in the area and Council resolved not to proceed with timed parking in the car park.

vii. e-Bikes management

Councillor Rosenfeld reaffirmed that Council is diligently working on the issues associated with shared e-bikes that are causing significant concern across the entire LGA.

An attendee asked how would the concept of "no go zones" for e-bikes be monitored if implemented? It was suggested there

MAROUBRA Precinct Committee

	would be a locking mechanism on e-bikes similar to what is on shopping trolleys. This is called Geo fencing.
	<p>Following Councillor Rosenfeld’s update, the Chairperson noted that Council currently has a number of “Have Your Say” surveys or In-person Community Drop-in/Webinar sessions open as followed and encouraged all Members to review them and participate if they have anything to contribute:</p> <p>(a) Upgrade to playgrounds (Les Bridge playground upgrade; Hereward Reserve playground upgrade; and South Maroubra Village Green playground upgrade).</p> <p>(b) Libraries (Randwick City Library’s services, programs and spaces.)</p> <p>(c) Barracks being upgraded (proposed Training Centre Upgrade at Randwick Barracks)</p> <p>(d) Social cohesion (Draft Social Cohesion and Multicultural Plan.)</p> <p>(e) Disability Inclusion (Draft Disability Inclusion Action Plan for 2026-2030.)</p>
5. Apologies	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. John Burgess 2. Michael Cousens 3. Andrew Williams 4. Andrew Zannettides 5. Marquis Abela 6. Sarah Bray 7. Carol Greer 8. Irene Schreck 9. Christine Brennan 10. Anni Haque 11. Christine Barramillis
6. Declaration of interests:	Nil
7. Ratification of previous minutes:	<p>Minutes of the Maroubra Precinct Meeting held 13 April 2026 were received.</p> <p>The Minutes as received were Moved: by Lucia Malkun as true and accurate and Seconded: by Mary Richards.</p> <p>The Minutes were carried.</p>
8. Treasurer’s Report	The Treasurer advised the current bank balance for the Maroubra Precinct Committee is \$5,284.86 and noted there would be out-of-pocket reimbursements totalling \$51.50 paid to the Secretary in due course for printing costs incurred for the 13 April 2026 Precinct Meeting and for Heffron Markets stall on 17 May 2026.
9. Business arising from previous minutes:	<p>i. Resolution 10112025(4) re clearing of “fire break” zone (ie from the rear of Manwaring Avenue all the way to the South Maroubra beach area).</p> <p>Update: The Secretary advised that as at today’s date no update/response has been received from Council re their investigations, etc following the on-site meeting with Council representatives on 7 April 2026. The Committee will continue to liaise with Council and seek a response in due course.</p> <p>ii. Resolution 15042026(1) The Maroubra Precinct Committee expresses its extreme disappointment with the decision by Messrs Brownlee and Clarke to not attend the meeting and to address</p>

MAROUBRA Precinct Committee

community concerns and answer questions as had been previously arranged with Council.

Update: The response received from Council is as follows:

"We understand and share the disappointment that staff were unable to attend on this occasion.

As you know, Council staff have attended Maroubra Precinct meetings on many occasions to provide information and answer questions from local residents across a range of issues. Staff have also attended Precinct meetings in Coogee, Clovelly and the Bays and Beaches precincts to discuss visitor pay parking. These meetings were conducted in a constructive and respectful manner.

In this case, the 13 April meeting was publicly promoted as a rally, and Council was advised that media attendance was anticipated. While Council respects the community's right to organise protests or rallies, these activities are not appropriate within a Precinct meeting setting.

Council has a duty of care to its staff, and it is not appropriate to place staff in a situation where they may be subject to a rally environment or be filmed and broadcast without their consent.

We acknowledge that the rally may have been organised without the knowledge of the Precinct Executive. However, the outcome was a meeting that did not align with the intent of the Precincts Partnership Agreement, which is based on mutual respect for differing perspectives, knowledge and time.

Should the Precinct wish to convene a future Precinct meeting focused on constructive discussion, Council staff would be pleased to attend."

The Committee extended an invitation to Council for Messrs Brownlee and Clarke to attend tonight's meeting – however, the invitation to attend tonight was declined.

- iii. **Resolution 15042026(2)** The Maroubra Precinct Committee does not support the proposal for the introduction of paid parking at designated beach locations or the installation of parking meter devices at those locations and adjoining streets.

Update: The response received from Council is as follows:

"The precinct's resolution is noted and will be included as a submission and considered as part of the evaluation of the community consultation outcomes."

- iv. **Resolution 15042026(3)** The Maroubra Precinct Committee requests Council to provide a copy of the report and the costing modelling that formed the basis for the resolution for the introduction of the Paid Parking Proposal.

Update: The response received from Council is as follows:

"The report from Council's February 2026 Meeting is attached for the information of the Precinct. As this report was originally a confidential report, information that is commercial in confidence has been redacted."

MAROUBRA Precinct Committee

	<p>The Committee extends an invitation to all members if you would like to receive a copy of the report, please send an email request to maroubraprecinct@gmail.com and it will be sent to you in due course.</p> <p>v. Resolution 15042026(4) The Maroubra Precinct Committee requests Council to advise what percent of people from outside the Randwick LGA have responded to the survey.</p> <p>Update: The response received from Council is as follows:</p> <p><i>“The results of the survey are being collated. This information will be made public and reported to Council in the coming months.”</i></p> <p>vi. Resolution 15042026(5) The Maroubra Precinct Committee requests Council to investigate the seeming cause of parking issues for local residents in Hereward Street (near McKeon Street) re marking of lines being very faded with the view to repainting as a matter of urgency and as required.</p> <p>Update: The response received from Council is as follows:</p> <p><i>“I am pleased to let you know that we are able to add this to our list of lower priority line markings. We are currently experiencing a high level of requests for line marking, with safety concerns taking priority. Please allow up to 8 months for this to be reinstated.”</i></p>
<p>10. General Business</p>	<p>(a) Update: attendance by Maroubra Precinct Secretary at meeting with a representative from Marketability - the independent market research consultancy engaged through Catholic Healthcare – re naming proposals for the development and with the view to ensure the development meets the needs and expectations of the local community.</p> <p>The Secretary advised that further to the meeting attended on 16 March 2026 no other meeting has yet been organised by Marketability to provide any updates. As such, the Secretary is now actively liaising directly with Catholic Healthcare for any update and will advise in due course.</p> <p>(b) Location of electric vehicle charging station in front of 17 Hereward Street</p> <p>The Secretary outlined concerns raised by a resident of Hereward Street about non-electric cars being regularly parked in front of the EV charging station located at 17 Hereward Street. Parking space in Hereward St is at a premium at all times and an elderly resident is often obliged to park his car some distance from his home. While the extent of use of the charging station is unknown, if its use is negligible perhaps the EV station could be located elsewhere in Maroubra, where parking is not so challenged, or perhaps relocated a short distance up the hill, to in front of the playground reserve?</p> <p>Resolution 18052026(1) The Maroubra Precinct requests Council to investigate the extent of use of the EV charging station located at 17 Hereward Street and provide information to the Precinct and have its rangers police this location for illegal parking. Moved Rachel Deering: Seconded Zara Tie.</p> <p>(c) Other</p> <p>i Conduct of Precinct Meetings</p> <p>A member requested the Conduct of Precinct Meetings be discussed and in particular: <i>“that members of the Precinct are</i></p>

MAROUBRA Precinct Committee

reminded that all precinct meetings should be conducted in accordance with the guidelines set out in the Precinct Rules and Procedures document (which is on the Randwick City Council website), and according to standard meeting procedure.”

Concern was expressed about the way the last Precinct meeting, held on Monday 13 April 2026, was conducted in that standard meeting procedure was not followed and that some attendees were ineligible to attend. It was suggested that only those within the designated Maroubra precinct area who are residents, tenants or business owners are eligible to attend precinct meetings and attendance by all others is prohibited.

It was further expressed by a member that it is uncommon for Councils to seek direct input via the mechanism of Precincts, and further concern was expressed that if Precinct functioning and conduct of meetings is not in accordance with the stipulated guidelines then the Precinct is at risk of having its voice and feedback from the community not taken seriously and possibly disregarded.

General discussion ensued and overwhelmingly noted the Precinct meeting held on 13 April 2026 was very unusual given the main topic of discussion was very controversial – being Council’s Paid Parking Proposal – and the number of attendees at the meeting – many of whom were very passionate about the main topic.

A Community Consultation Officer present at the meeting made mention that Council’s intention to “ban” people from attending Precinct Meetings is to discourage unwelcomed people or people from one Precinct area influencing the discussions and/or outcomes of another Precinct. However, invited people were permitted to attend meetings and contribute to them but strictly prohibited from voting on any resolution. Note was also made that any resolution put forward must be put to a vote at the meeting and results of the voting recorded in the minutes.

A query was raised in being able to readily distinguish meeting attendees between being “members” or “visitors”. It was acknowledged that all attendees at a meeting are requested to sign in noting all use the same attendance registration sheet and asked for their Name, Street and Suburb, Signature, Email Address and Mobile Number. A suggestion put forward was for an additional column to be added to the existing registration sheet for attendees to note if they are a member or a visitor.

The Chairperson noted that at all times it is the intention of the Executive Committee to run Precinct Meetings as required and welcomes and supports all views/comments from participants.

The Executive Committee will meet separately in due course and discuss issues raised with the view to implement changes to processes, where necessary, and update Members at the next meeting scheduled to be held on 29 June 2026.

ii. Safety Issues re Mahon Pool Traffic Flow

Members present expressed their concerns about the increasing safety issues in and around Mahon Pool car park and in particular to the traffic flow in and out of the car park. There is seemingly an increase in use of the car park by tourists, vans, trailers, etc. adding to the problems. A suggestion put forward to ease the safety issues was to implement one way traffic in the

MAROUBRA Precinct Committee

carpark and to have only one entry in and one exit out of the carpark.

Resolution 18052026(2) The Maroubra Precinct requests Council to investigate the increasing safety issues around Mahon Pool carpark and to investigate the traffic flow in and out of the carpark. **Moved** Frank Charalambous: **Seconded** Bryce Riley. **Vote:** A show of hands vote resulted in 0 Against and hence a **Unanimous** Decision.

iii. Swimming Flags at North End of Maroubra Beach

A member brought to the attention of the Maroubra Precinct that there is an ever-increasing number of people – including many families with young children – swimming in the surf/ocean at the very north end of Maroubra Beach – which is currently unpatrolled by lifeguards. As can be seen on any day – especially on weekend days – where favourable weather conditions prevail, many people take advantage of the north end of Maroubra Beach for swimming.

In the general discussion that ensued, of concern was the comment that one member had personally *“pulled out four people from the water who experienced difficulties”*.

Mention was made that many years ago there were routinely swimming flags and hence a patrolled area at the very north end of Maroubra Beach. The suggestion put forward was that the decision to remove the swimming flags on a permanent basis at the time resulted from a successful lawsuit that adversely affected Council. Further mention was made that the “rips” from time to time that affect north Maroubra Beach are similar to “rips” from time to time that affect south Maroubra Beach. Members were conversant of Council’s limited liability responsibility as not being a simple situation to resolve.

Resolution 18052026(3) In the interest of public safety the Maroubra Precinct requests Council to investigate and reconsider its previous decision to permanently remove the swimming flags at the very north end of Maroubra Beach and reinstate a patrolled swimming zone subject to the lifeguards on duty on any day considering it safe to be able to swim. **Moved** Robert Flemming: **Seconded** Darren Whittaker. **Vote:** A show of hands vote resulted in 2 Against and 10 in Favour and hence a **Majority** Decision.

iv. Safety Concerns re Charging of Lithium Batteries

Increasing safety concerns were raised in relation to people charging lithium batteries and e-bikes especially in units blocks. A suggestion was put forward that increasing issues associated with lithium batteries directly aligned to not using the quality original batteries that were issued/available with items at purchase time but rather using cheaper substitute batteries.

While it was fully acknowledged that charging of lithium batteries especially in unit blocks is not a responsibility of Council, members were keen to know if Council has any experience and/or knowledge in this area that could be of assistance.

MAROUBRA Precinct Committee

	<p>Resolution 18052026(4) In the interest of public safety the Maroubra Precinct requests Council to advise if they have any ideas or suggestions that could assist people in charging lithium batteries and e-bikes more safely especially in unit blocks. Moved Lucia Malkun: Seconded Rachel Deering. Vote: A show of hands vote resulted in 3 Against and 16 in Favour and hence a Majority Decision.</p>
11. Next Meeting:	<p>The next Maroubra Precinct Meeting will be held: Date: Monday, 29 June 2026 Time: 7.00pm Venue: Juniors at the Junction, Corner Anzac Parade and Haig Street Maroubra</p>
12. Meeting closure:	<p>The Chairperson confirmed there was no further business and declared the meeting closed at 9.14pm.</p>