

# THE DARLING POINT SOCIETY INC

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[www.darlingpointsociety.com.au](http://www.darlingpointsociety.com.au)

Mr Tom O'Hanlon  
Director Infrastructure & Sustainability  
Woollahra Municipal Council  
By email

Dear Mr O'Hanlon

Thank you for your reply to my letter of 4 August 2021 to Mr Craig Swift McNair and details provided with regard to the CMS and the HIS.

## 1.Yarranabbe Park Plaza

With regards to the Yarranabbe Park Plaza you write that swimming was never mentioned in the Plan of Management (POM). I would like to bring to your attention the following references in the 2012 document:

-POM P. 43

Figure 5.1

- Swimming baths (8)
- Swimming pontoon (9)
- Bathers pavilion (10)
- Interpretive signage
- Stairs to access bay
- Stairs to access bay (15) near the point.

P. 57

Culture and Heritage

- Reflecting the sites heritage
- Interpretation of the history of Yarranabbe Park would be of interest to visitors
- Develop opportunities for interpretation of the history of Yarranabbe park

I have personally heard several statements from Clr Cavanagh and several other councillors about children and dogs swimming there.

## 2.New concept design

You attached to your letter a totally different concept design from the original one, and mention that this new concept was adopted and emailed to the Society in 2017 and 2018 . Please note that this was not received and the second set of stairs for launching of boats was never heard of or discussed.

The Steering Committee may have approved the changes, but the Society was not made aware nor given the opportunity to comment.

The DPS has argued since before 2012 about the safety of opening the heritage listed seawall to make stairs into the harbour which at that particular point 6 metres from the end is rather deep, and subject to high tides, ferry and boat washes. In addition, sharks have been sighted in the middle of the Bay and shark warning signs have been erected at the CYCA.

Our point is that it is a dangerous spot for people to venture out into the water unless of course a netted area is available for safety. More shallow and sheltered steps would be more appropriate for access into the water.

### **3.Suggestions**

Has consideration been given to making an opening for small boats and kayaks close to the Sayonara slipway where the wall is already open, and space is available?

In relation to the Youth Recreation Facility, we feel that it is a worthwhile project, we simply object to the chosen location which is seen as destruction of a green space which is in short supply at a time when people need more than ever to have quiet green spaces for the sake of mental health. We feel that the YRF is a worthwhile project, but it should be located in a different area within the municipality.

Has an indoor sports complex been considered for the young people of Woollahra such as are available in many other suburbs, i.e. Menai, where all sports are catered for including ball games and martial arts. Whether indoor or outdoor Trumper park would be highly suitable and of easy access especially as there is already a sports facility there.

It has been noted the HIS will take 4 weeks to complete and we look forward to its release.

### **4. Aboriginal history**

As part of or in addition to the HIS is council planning to highlight Aboriginal history in Rushcutters Bay as it is a valuable feature of our Bay.

Kind regards

Charlotte Feldman  
Chair  
Darling Point Society