

Meeting at the University of Sydney 14th December

We were invited to a meeting with the Deputy Vice Chancellor (Education) Professor Derrick Armstrong and the Director of Campus Infrastructure and Services, Mr Colin Rockliff on Monday 14 December to present our FOCR Petition and to discuss the review situation following the Council's acceptance of the deferral. Kevin Phillips and Robyn Stutchbury attended. Shaun Bailey returned from New York that very day, but was stricken with a viral infection which he thought better to keep to himself.

The meeting was very cordial and positive. At all times the mood was open, honest and friendly and the outcome reassuring and encouraging. It was agreed that we maintain an avenue of communication between FOCR and the university through Professor Armstrong and particularly Colin Rockliff.

Professor Armstrong made it clear that Campus Infrastructure Services will be managing the entire project going forward and not Sydney University Sport or the Sydney University Boat Club. Colin Rockliff, who started with the university in January around the time of the Callan Park fiasco, made it very clear that he had become involved in the boatshed situation only about four or five months ago.

The reaction of the community towards the Cunninghams Reach Development Application has been embarrassing for the university and it does not want another embarrassment such as the failed Callan Park proposal.

A new architect is to be appointed to replace Mr Terry O'Hanlan, who has stepped down on the basis that a more sensitive design is required to address the concerns of the community and environmental considerations. The general understanding was that the new architect's concepts would be for multiple sites and the architect's views would be used to guide the University's decision on which site as well as what building will be selected. We asked to be kept informed as this process unfolded.

The new architect is expected to be appointed early in the New Year however the complete concept, site selection, negotiations, design and engineering processes will be very lengthy so that it could be as much as two years before the review is completed and a new development application prepared.

Other options were discussed and Kevin asked what sites had been considered and inspected and why there hadn't been any feedback on why the sites were rejected. Colin Rockliff seemed unaware of this situation.

We handed over our latest leaflet (attached) to Professor Armstrong and Mr Rockliff, assuring them that FOCR will not give up until we are assured that there will be **NO BUILDING ON CUNNINGHAMS REACH**. Of course this was not agreed to but we did leave the meeting feeling well satisfied and hopeful.



No building on **CUNNINGHAMS REACH**

*Cunninghams Reach is **not** an alternative to
the original boatshed site at Linley Point*

Cunninghams Reach is not an option
saveourpark.org.au

FOCRs

- are not against rowing
- support rowers and their contribution to Australian sport
- believe public land must be enjoyed by all people

When the university confirms it will **not** build on
Cunninghams Reach, the job of **FOCR** is done.

FOCR's achievements to date –

- good attendance at very heated Council site meeting
- letter box dropped widely
- briefed local media and obtained wide local press coverage
- briefed metropolitan media
- attended every recent Council meeting to address the university's development application
- held a well attended community meeting to discuss the development
- orchestrated excellent objection letters to Council
- established a website with details of the proposed development www.saveourpark.org.au
- delivered the petition signed by 1240 people to Council, the State member for Lane Cove and now, to the University of Sydney

FOCR's one focus – NO BUILDING ON CUNNINGHAMS REACH