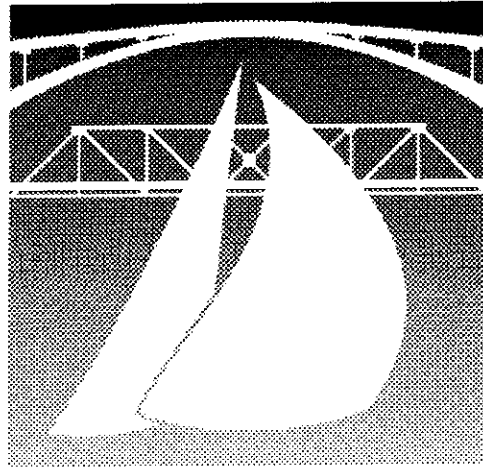


DRUMMOYNE
C O U N C I L



**BARNWELL PARK
GOLF COURSE**

PLAN OF MANAGEMENT

ADOPTED BY COUNCIL
18 JUNE 1996

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- Appendix 1: Barnwell Park comments sheet
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REFERENCE

29th March 1996



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1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

The Local Government Act, 1993, requires Councils to produce plans of management for all areas of community land (ie Council owned land) by July 1996. Although there is no legal requirement, plans of management are also being prepared for areas of Crown land under Council's control. Barnwell Park Golf Course is a mixture of Crown land and community land.

The plan of management is an important document which provides clear guidelines for the short and long term management of all land owned by Council or under Council control and also provides for consistency in how all parks are managed.

Community consultation has shown that residents of the Drummoyne Council area value highly the provision of parks, sporting fields, foreshore walks, and the close proximity to water. Indeed these were often seen as major benefits of living in the area. The plan of management for Barnwell Park is prepared with this in mind. The document sets clear objectives for the improvement and management of this significant area of open space taking into consideration the needs of park users and residents.

The plan of management provides a basis for determining priorities in work programming and budgeting. An annual review will assess implementation and performance of the plan, and a review after 5 years will allow policy and planning issues to be updated.

1.2 Council's Open Space Planning Policies

The Open Space Planning Policies adopted by Council in December 1994 which are relevant to this plan of management are as follows:

- *To provide a wide range of quality open space, recreation and leisure experiences in order to meet the needs of a diverse community.*
- *To undertake an increased tree planting and landscaping program throughout the municipality, involving the community wherever possible.*
- *To ensure that when planning and developing all open space sites, consideration is given to providing access for people with special needs, especially people with disabilities.*



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- *To foster the linkage of open space areas throughout the municipality and surrounding areas, via walkways, cycle routes and directional signage.*
- *To provide new amenity blocks that are creative in design, sympathetic to surroundings, accessible, and close to picnic and play facilities.*
- *To ensure that community consultation is a key component of open space planning.*

While the above policies set broad directions for the development and management of open space in the Drummoyne Council area, plans of management for specific parks, such as Barnwell Park, detail planning issues, management objectives, action priorities and performance measures.

The plan of management for Barnwell Park does not attempt to address design issues associated with particular fairways and tees - this will be done as part of a **master plan** and landscape proposal for the course which will be prepared over the next twelve months. However, comments made in submissions in relation to individual holes have been listed in Appendix 2. These will be considered when the master plan is being prepared.

1.3 Principles of Crown Land Management

This plan also takes into account the principles of Crown Land management as set out in the Crowns Lands Act, 1989, as the majority of the area subject to the plan of management is Crown Land.

The principles of Crown Land management are:

- *To observe environmental protection principles in relation to the management and administration of Crown Land;*
- *To conserve, wherever possible, the natural resources of Crown land (including water, soil, flora, fauna and scenic quality);*
- *To encourage public use and enjoyment of appropriate Crown Land;*
- *To encourage multiple use of Crown Land, where appropriate;*
- *To use and manage Crown Land in such a way that both the land and its resources are sustained in perpetuity, where appropriate.*
- *To deal with Crown Land in the best interests of the State consistent with the above principles.*





1.4 Community Consultation

The views of residents and park users are critical to the preparation of plans of management for open space. Public consultation ensures that major issues are identified and appropriate strategies put in place so that parks are developed to a high standard to the satisfaction of park users and residents.

Moreover, where residents have the opportunity to contribute to the planning process there is generally greater acceptance of the strategies proposed in the plan of management.

In September 1992, a parks user survey was undertaken of 142 households throughout the municipality to gauge residents' usage of parks, their perceptions of the positive and negative features of parks, and matters warranting improvement. The survey findings as well as information obtained in focus group interviews with residents during 1994 were taken into account in the preparation of plans of management for parks in the Drummoyne Council area including Barnwell Park.

In relation to Barnwell Park, in November 1995 residents living in close proximity to the park were "letterboxed" (see Appendix 1) and a notice was placed in the Mayoral column of the District News inviting people to comment on current issues and how the course might be improved. Comments sheets were also placed in the golf club giving members the opportunity to have input into the plan. Subsequently, 14 submissions were received

The major planning issues identified in the community consultation process are outlined in section 2 of the plan.

1.5 Description of Barnwell Park

Barnwell Park was named in 1942 in recognition of Alderman W. T. Barnwell's late father who made a donation to the Council of a portion of the area for the purpose of a park for the enjoyment of local residents. Barnwell Park was previously known as Sunnyside Reserve and also Queens Road Reserve. In the late 1930s some of the area was used as a tip to dump ash from incinerated garbage from other Councils.

Barnwell Park was used for baseball, cricket and soccer from the 1940s onwards. However ground conditions were poor, always subject to being levelled, filled and reclaimed. In 1952 Council first considered the potential of the site as a golf course but it was not until 1963 that work commenced on the construction of a 9-hole golf course, which was completed in November 1964. The construction of the second nine holes was completed in 1974, much of this



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was on reclaimed land. The total area of Barnwell Park including Crown land and Council land is approximately 16.4 hectares.

2. PLANNING ISSUES

2.1 Fencing

There were a number of residents who called for the high wire mesh fences to be continued along Lyons Road West and William Street to prevent damage to cars, property and individuals from misguided golf balls. Six out of the thirteen submissions raised this as a major issue. This was contrary to a submission received by Council in late 1993 signed by 9 residents in which the petitioners wanted no extension of the wire mesh fence.

This issue will be addressed in detail when the master plan is being prepared for the course (refer to page 14).

2.2 Landscaping

Trees, shrubs and ground covers are functional and attractive components of parks and reserves in the Drummoyne Council area. They are natural elements in a man made environment, acting as a habitat for wildlife and creating shady areas. In the submissions on Barnwell Park, residents and players made numerous suggestions as to landscaping improvements. Some of these were specific to particular parts of the golf course and will be considered in a landscape plan for the course, however some of the general comments included:

- Planting of trees to protect cars.
- Continue garden beds around banks, canal and bays and around trees.
- Protect new trees with plant guards.
- Consider lower height trees and branches not extending into the fairways.
- All fairways need to be fertilised to provide well grassed playing surfaces.
- Top dress bare patches.
- Plant shrubs between green and canal.
- Update identification signs on all trees.





There were a number of positive comments from players on improvements to Barnwell Park in recent years such as, "Course has improved tremendously - keep up the good work" and "Congratulations to ground staff on a job well done".

Recent plantings in Barnwell Park Golf Course have been undertaken by Council in association with Greening Sydney 2000 as part of the Parramatta River Foreshore Improvement Program (PRFIR), launched by the State Government in March 1995. One of the objectives is "to improve the visual quality and recreational use of the Parramatta River foreshore for the Sydney Olympics 2000 and beyond". Opportunities to further enhance the landscape appeal of Barnwell Park through cooperative efforts with organisations such as Greening Sydney 2000 will be pursued over the next few years.

2.3 Facilities

There were a few comments made in relation to course facilities. These included the need to clean up graffiti on the clubhouse, improve the pro shop (facility and signage), more seating at the tees, repair and better maintenance of the toilets near the pro shop.

2.4 Road Safety

Concerns were raised over the potential for traffic accidents with stray golf balls hitting cars in William Street and Lyons Road. Some residents felt this would be resolved to a large degree by the extension of mesh fencing (refer 2.1). One submission expressed concerns over pedestrian safety, noting that "some of the golfers barge across (Lyons Road West) stopping the traffic suddenly causing accidents" It was suggested that a proper pedestrian crossing be installed in this area.

It should be noted that Council has measured pedestrian movements in this area which showed that these movements were below the warrant (as per RTA guidelines) for a pedestrian crossing. The road has been narrowed with the installation of a pedestrian refuge to slow traffic and improve safety for people crossing the road.

Council is investigating other traffic calming devices for Lyons Road West, such as a further roundabout at Bayview Road or Regatta Road. However, any initiatives in this regard will happen in the longer term.





2.5 General

There were a few one-off comments made in submissions, as follows:

- better security required to prevent vandalism.
- ensure no chemicals are released into the canal.
- early morning golfers wake residents.

2.6 Maintenance

The implementation of effective and efficient management practices is important so that parks and park infrastructure are maintained in a safe condition for the enjoyment of park users. In this way the number of complaints and the potential for claims against Council are minimised.

3. PLAN OF MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES

The following section addresses the major planning issues raised in this report. A number of objectives and action strategies are proposed and appropriate performance information is provided.

Obviously, the implementation of key aspects of the plan of management hinge on finance being available, either from government funding, revenue raising or from Council's budget allocation.

Codes used to define priorities in the following matrix:

ST	(SHORT TERM)	-	ACTION COMPLETED WITHIN 2 YEARS
MT	(MEDIUM TERM)	-	ACTION COMPLETED WITHIN 2-4 YEARS
O	(ONGOING)	-	ACTION IS CARRIED OUT ON A REGULAR BASIS FOR THE LIFE OF THIS PLAN OF MANAGEMENT.
C	(COMMENCED)	-	ACTION HAS COMMENCED



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ISSUE: RECREATIONAL USAGE

Objective	Rationale	Action	Comments	Priority	Performance Information
To minimise real and perceived adverse impacts on neighbouring properties caused by the use of Barnwell Park and changes to course facilities.	To preserve the amenity of the surrounding neighbourhood.	Identify potential impacts arising from any proposed changes to the course or course facilities (such as measures to reduce golf ball damage to property and cars).		ST	List of potential impacts completed.
		Determine means of mitigating adverse impacts and implement appropriate measures. Ensure that residents are informed of any proposed developments eg. major landscape initiatives, fencing, and that public input is facilitated.	For example: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • location and design of facilities 	ST/MT O	Implementation of mitigation measures. Residents are informed of proposed developments.



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ISSUE: LANDSCAPING

Objective	Rationale	Action	Comments	Priority	Performance Information
<p>To improve the visual and aesthetic qualities of Barnwell Park through appropriate landscaping</p> <p>To progressively upgrade the playing surface of the fairways and tees</p>	<p>To enhance the appeal of the golf course for golfers and residents.</p> <p>To provide more shade.</p> <p>To provide landscape variety throughout the park.</p>	<p>Prepare a Master Plan for the course, which would include details of landscape proposals, and invite comments from residents and golfers.</p> <p>Undertake landscape initiatives as per landscape plan</p>	<p>Master Plan would set out details of proposed changes to fairways, tees, facilities etc over the coming years.</p> <p>Improvements to foreshore parks (which include Barnwell Park) is a central objective of the Parramatta River Foreshore Improvement Programme in the lead up to the Sydney Olympics</p>	<p>MT</p> <p>O</p> <p>MT/O</p>	<p>Master Plan completed.</p> <p>Planting program implemented.</p> <p>View corridors established to satisfaction of adjoining residents and course users.</p> <p>Resident participation in planting programs.</p> <p>Program implemented. Positive feedback from residents.</p>





ISSUE: SIGNAGE

Objective	Rationale	Action	Comments	Priority	Performance Information
To provide signage that is clear and informative.		Identify signage which needs upgrading. Identify areas where additional signage is required.	Signage may be directional or interpretative eg. historical; flora and fauna.	ST	Areas requiring signage identified and listed.
		Replace existing signage and install new signage as required, consistent with Council's predominant style.		MT	New signage installed. Positive feedback from park users.



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ISSUE: FACILITIES

Objective	Rationale	Action	Comments	Priority	Performance Information
To provide a range of facilities which meet the needs of park users.	To improve/maintain the amenity of the park for park users.	Update inventory of existing facilities in Barnwell Park.	Facilities may include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • toilets • seating • lights • bubblers • fencing • parking 	ST	Inventory complete.
To provide facilities which are well sited, functional and visually attractive.		Determine whether current facilities meet user needs via user surveys and site observations. Include details in master plan for the course.	In progress	ST	Study complete.
		Upgrade or build new facilities as required and within budget constraints.		MT	Facilities which meet user needs are upgraded or installed.
		Consult with residents and golfers on proposals for any significant works.		O	Community satisfied with consultation process and outcomes.



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ISSUE: FACILITIES/ACCESS

Objective	Rationale	Action	Comments	Priority	Performance Information
To provide facilities which meet the needs of users with a disability, as deemed appropriate.	So that people with disabilities can enjoy the opportunities the golf course affords.	Consult with the Drummoynne Access Committee on user needs, at times when facility improvements or park developments are planned, and at all stages during their development.		O	Increased usage of the course by people with a disability.





ISSUE: MAINTENANCE

Objective	Rationale	Action	Comments	Priority	Performance Information
To implement effective and efficient management practices so that Barnwell Park is maintained to a high and safe standard.	So that users enjoy a course which is well maintained and aesthetically pleasing. So that risks to park users and potential for claims against Council are minimised	Review current maintenance strategy for parks and facilities. Prepare comprehensive maintenance programs for all components requiring maintenance work. Carry out regular maintenance inspections. Undertake maintenance on a regular cycle and complete emergency repairs as required.	Maintenance programs relate to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • structures and equipment • plants/garden beds • ground surfaces • pathways • other facilities 	C/O O O O	Review complete. Maintenance program complete. Regular inspections carried out. Maintenance implemented to agreed schedule and within budget.





ISSUE: SAFETY

Objective	Rationale	Action	Comments	Priority	Performance Information
To provide safety for nearby residents and motorists and to reduce damage to property caused by misguided golf balls.		<p>To develop strategies as part of a Master Plan for the course (not restricted to fencing) to manage problem.</p> <p>To consult with residents/golfers as part of the process in preparing the Master Plan.</p> <p>To implement appropriate strategies to reduce golf ball damage and improve safety.</p>	<p>For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • reorientation of tees • shortening of holes • landscape • mounding • fencing 	<p>ST/MT</p> <p>ST</p> <p>ST</p>	<p>Master Plan completed.</p> <p>Residents/golfers consulted..</p> <p>Reduced golf ball damage / increased safety.</p>



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Appendix 1.

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BARNWELL PARK GOLF COURSE PLAN OF MANAGEMENT

COMMENTS SHEET

Dear players/residents

Drummoyne Council will be preparing a draft plan of management for the Barnwell Park Golf course over the coming months and invites comments from golfers and residents as to improvements which need to be carried out.

The plan of management is an important document which provides clear guidelines for the short and long term development and management of all land owned by Council or under Council control.

Comments from residents and players will assist Council prepare a draft plan of management for the golf course. This will be placed on public exhibition allowing further comment prior to Council's adoption of the plan.

Please use the back of this sheet for comments. These may relate, for example, to the following:

- * misguided golf balls (which land outside the course)
- * open canals
- * uneven fairways
- * facilities (not including the Golf Club, which is excluded from the plan of management as it is located on private land).
- * signage
- * landscaping etc

Please send the comments sheet to the address below or, alternatively, leave it with the golf professional, Eric Royds. The deadline for comments is **Wednesday 13 December 1995**.

Community Services Department
Drummoyne Council
PO Box 117
Drummoyne 2047
Enquiries: Marjorie Ferguson - 719 0361

Russell J Lloyd
General Manager



Appendix 2.

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APPENDIX 2

COMMENTS RELATING TO TEES, FAIRWAYS AND GREENS

Mend pathway to 1st tee (1)

Update identification signs on all tees (1)

Level off tee areas (2)

16th hole - woodchips do not stop balls from going into the bay (1)

15th hole - extend sleepers, hole should slope back from canal (2)

7th and 18th tees - elevate and level, 18th tee more trees at rear (1)

Redesign 6th hole - extend & remove left hand bunker (1)

Fix path along 6th green (as was done to the 10th) (1)

Put in ponds 12, 14 & 15th holes (1)

Put in a small pond approaching 15th green as there is a natural depression which always collects rain (1)

Fertilise all fairways (1)

Bunker in front of 13th green (2)

Bunker in front of 3rd green (1)

Bunker on bay side of 16th green (save balls going into water) (1)

Bunker between tee and green of 14th (1)

Par 4 & 5 needs 150m marker required at that distance from green (1)

No more bunkers (1)

Place sign at the end of each hole indicating position of next tee (esp 9th hole) (1)

Note: () indicates number of comments relating to this aspect shown in brackets.



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REFERENCE

Draft Sportsgrounds Plan of Management - North Sydney Council. January 1995.





