



GREATER  
SYDNEY  
PARKLANDS

# Meeting summary

## Fernhill Estate community trustee board

### Meeting 3, 2024

Tuesday, 20 August 2024

Time: 6:00-7:30pm

Venue: Quest Penrith Conference Room, 83 Lord Sheffield Cct, Penrith

**CTB members:** Nicholas Leech, Poonam Naik, Peter Harvey, Robert Bennett (acting Chair)

**GSP staff:** Joshua French, Chief Executive; Ben Tax, Director Property Services; Jenny Gleeson, Community Engagement Manager

**GSP Trust Board:** Michael Rose, Chair

**Secretariat:** Sophie Drysdale

**Apologies:** Cindy Laws, Mayor Todd Carney (observer for Penrith City Council), Shari Driver (Chair)

**Observer:** Carlie Ryan, Head of City Strategy, Penrith City Council

Topic	Summary
<p><b>Welcome and opening</b> Robert Bennett, acting Chair, Fernhill Estate CTB</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The meeting was opened by the acting Chair who gave an Acknowledgment of Country.</li> <li>No conflicts of interest were declared.</li> </ul>
<p><b>GSP Financial Sustainability</b> Michael Rose, GSP Trust Chair</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>An overview of the financial arrangements for Greater Sydney Parklands (GSP), and specifically Fernhill Estate, was provided. The focus of the GSPT Board and GSP is to ensure the parks are funded, conserved, maintained and activated for the benefit of the public.</li> <li>The GSPT Board Chair outlined the upcoming review of the <i>Greater Sydney Parklands Act 2022</i>, required 2 years from the commencement of the Act. This may include an opportunity for the CTB and other stakeholders to provide feedback.</li> <li>Options for the future of Fernhill Estate were discussed, with the GSPT Chair outlining the GSPT Board has agreed to explore ways to activate and promote the site, through identifying the key audiences and establishing partnership opportunities and proposals to activate the Estate over time. The aim is to test various ideas and activities to build on when additional funding is available.</li> <li>The CTB raised the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>noted that the Western Sydney Airport will bring tourism opportunities for Fernhill Estate.</li> <li>whether there is an opportunity to work with Penrith City Council to assist in attaining grants, and to explore the potential for private grants/sponsorship.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>



Topic	Summary
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- the need to consider public open space regarding the housing crisis, with an opportunity to promote and fund Fernhill Estate.</li> <li>- the importance of using data from events including the self-guided tours to understand the various audiences for Fernhill Estate.</li> <li>- the need to engage the local community to increase awareness of and promote Fernhill Estate, and the importance of developing a marketing and social media content strategy.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Fernhill Estate look ahead - GSPT Board feedback on CTB workshop regarding small scale events and activations, and next steps</b> Ben Tax, Director Property Services, GSP</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• GSP provided a recap of the March 2024 workshop that suggested a range of programs and events to activate the Estate. GSP advised that the CTB's activation suggestions were shared with the GSPT board in May 2024. Activating the Estate was discussed by the GSPT Board in July 2024. The GSPT Board thanked the CTB for their contribution.</li> <li>• The GSPT Board will further discuss funding options to progress some of the activation ideas from the workshop at its September meeting. GSP will actively pursue further low-key activations of the Estate.</li> <li>• GSP gave an overview of the strategic context for the Estate, including an overview of the FY25 budget position. GSP shared that it is anticipated a market sounding analysis will be undertaken in the next 12 months to explore leasing opportunities on the Estate.</li> <li>• GSP advised that a pilot program of guided tours is proposed to be held once a month from September to November 2024 at Fernhill Estate. The CTB was excited about the guided tours commencing September 2024. GSP offered to arrange a tour for CTB members.</li> <li>• The CTB noted the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- that there is a network of local sites and areas of interest, such as colonial houses and gardens, surrounding Fernhill Estate which could be brought together to explore joint promotional opportunities and events, e.g. guided tour with several stops.</li> <li>- Friends of Fernhill and Mulgoa Valley (FFMV) could assist in promoting events and partnering with GSP to deliver events. Planning for a FFMV event at Fernhill Estate in October 2024 was noted.</li> <li>- 200 Years of Winbourne Open Day on 25 August 2024 was noted.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>Action: GSP to confirm CTB interest and availability to attend a guided tour.</b></p>
<p><b>CTB member reappointment/recruitment process</b> Jenny Gleeson, GSP</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• GSP provided an overview on the next steps for the CTB recruitment and reappointment process, noting that the current member term expires on 31 December 2024, and that GSP will issue a letter to CTB members to seek expressions of interest in reappointment for a second term.</li> </ul> <p><b>Action: CTB members to advise whether they would like to nominate for a second term.</b></p>
<p><b>Next steps and close</b> Robert Bennett, Acting Chair, Fernhill Estate CTB</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Meeting 4 to be held online on Tuesday 5 November.</li> <li>• The CTB requested further information regarding a previous information request about prior development consents issued for Fernhill Estate that are relevant to holding functions and events.</li> </ul> <p><b>Action: GSP to follow up on response to above query.</b></p>

