

Tuggeranong Community Council Inc
Draft Minutes General Meeting – 6th May 2014

Present:

See attendance record of 6th May 2014.

Acting President Glenys Patulny opened the Meeting just after 7.30pm.

Welcomes:

All MLAs and guest speakers from Tuggeranong Festival and Mugga Lane Solar Park.

Apologies:

Eric Traise, Jeff Chapman, Alison Ryan, Gai Brodtmann, Lynn Bott.

President's Report:

Vice President Glenys Patulny presented the attached report.

At the end of the President's Report, Daryl Johnston moved a motion about Rusty Woodward.

Motion:

“That this meeting of the TCC officially pays tribute to Rusty Woodward for her dedicated service to the Canberra community through the TCC and Council on Ageing, 55 Plus Club, the Southern Cross Club and the ACT Lumbar Support Group; and

That this meeting of the TCC also extends its deepest sympathies to Rusty's family and many friends.”

Moved: *Darryl Johnston*

Seconded: *Albert Orszaczky*

Confirmation of Minutes of April Meeting:

The draft Minutes were presented of the previous meeting, as circulated and on website. There were a few typos and spelling errors highlighted. Greg Hunt (rather than Fred Hunt) and Darryl Johnston's name does have a 't' in it. Accepted with relevant amendments.

Moved: *Beverley Flint*

Seconded: *Bill Heins*

Business Arising from the Minutes:

Nil.

Treasurer's Report (Max Flint):

- The Treasurer delivered his report as attached. Minimal activity, yet to receive invoice from Southern Cross Club for rental of room last month. Currently account balances total \$26,153.
- Talked about a draft TCC Master Plan for 2014-16, copies available to take away. Will be subject to a Motion at June meeting, for endorsement of this plan. Now called a 'master' plan rather than a 'strategic plan' is meant to be a broad, stable plan rather than a detailed activity program.
- Talked about TCC, Governance, sub committees and responsibilities, when and how we have meetings, objectives of TCC – taken from constitution. Includes a list of important entities, community residents, MLAs, etc. The committees represent the perennial issues the TCC deals with, namely Environment, Transport, Planning and Health.
- The Master Plan establishes the 5 most important issues for the TCC to focus on:
 1. Maintenance and growth of Federal and ACT Government employment in Tuggeranong.
 2. Continued pressure on the ACT Government and Federal MPs to provide adequate funding for program works to improve the health of Lake Tuggeranong and other waterways.
 3. Establishment of a comprehensive CIT campus to be built in Tuggeranong.
 4. Commercial and Residential infilling in and around the Tuggeranong Town Centre.
 5. The economic impact on Tuggeranong of the Capital Metro / Light Rail project.

- The Master Plan sets out tools and techniques to engage these issues with key stakeholders. Establishes criteria by which sub groups may seek assistance from the TCC to pursue local projects. Publication – Once approved will be on website. Will include TCC activity plans, specific activities, policies, positions taken by TCC – will be ready next month.

Moved: *Max Flint*

Seconded: *Darryl Johnston*

Environment Committee:

Glenys Patulny reported as follows:

- The ‘Fix the Stink’ Lake Tuggeranong forum was held by the Tuggeranong Lake Carers (TLC) community group on Tuesday 29th April and was very successful with 41 attendees, including government representatives. The attendees broke into 3 groups to brainstorm concrete actions that could be done to improve the quality of the lake. This was later condensed into a communiqué.
- Some attendees offered to assist with ongoing activities and sub-groups to remove litter, report infrastructure issues, provide media assistance, etc. Tuggeranong College has been approached to get more involved, very keen, perhaps to be involved in propagation of plants, etc.
- The petition currently has over 1,000 signatures, will continue over coming weeks. Local political support is being sought. Petitions have been left at local businesses. A stall was held at the Hyperdome in front of Woolworths, which gathered 500 signatures with signers providing positive support. The intention is for the petition to be presented to the ACT Government before this year’s budget.
- Tuggeranong Art’s Centre is making a submission to get an artist to do art projects based on the lake.

Q. - Have KFC and McDonald’s been approached to have petitions at their shops?

A. – Yes, but they advised they were not allowed to have petitions.

Health and Community Committee:

Beverly Flint reported as follows:

- The Tuggeranong Baptist Church offers a free lunch every Thursday for low-income residents during winter, so any residents with severe financial struggles can seek assistance. The church also has an Op-shop with clothing priced very cheap or in some cases for free.
- Over last two weeks has door-knocked the East Greenway area in relation to the poor condition of the lake and heard first hand a number of complaints about the smell of the lake from people that live right on it. In some cases, residents cannot even open their windows it is that bad. People from out of town have been observed fishing in the lake despite it being closed and that signage of the closure is inadequate – more signs needed about the health risks.
- East Greenway – 2nd footpath started being built last week. Unfortunately, the ACT roads budget could not repaint the white safety lines on the lake paths. Tony Gill, Director of Roads ACT has been asked to re-look at this and the signage. Some issues around lighting remain in Tuggeranong Park, very dark in some place. Still need to decide on a place to locate a postal box in the area.

Transport Committee:

Russ Morison reported as follows:

- South East Tuggeranong ‘Park & Ride’ has finally been commissioned. Concerns remain with signage, which are being addressed. TAMS will run a marketing campaign on Saturday 21st June to promote it, including staff handing out promotional material, a sausage sizzle and car-boot sale at Lanyon shops.
- King Swim – haven’t started, has been approved, expected to open in September.
- Started petition to have Theodore Oval re-irrigated for local sporting teams and schools.
- Transport – put submission to ACT Government, one of some 2,000 submissions, will advise of outcome.

Also, Wayne King advised:

- Proposal to save the park at the corner of Heagney and Deamer Crescents in Chisholm had been tabled in Parliament.

Police Report:

Sgt Jo Cameron reported:

- 37 Burglaries (down 19 on last month), 65 Property Damage (down 13), 24 Assaults (down 12), 11 reports of Stolen Motor Vehicles (down 4), 16 reports of Number Plate Thefts (down 2), 37 Reports of Thefts from Motor Vehicles (down 16 but up 20 on last year), 119 Thefts (down 23), 36 Arrests, in all 1,432 Incidents recorded.
- Decrease largely attributed to apprehension of a number of individuals who were responsible for multiple offences. Information from public really helps.
- ACT Policing now has a strong online presence with a Facebook page (ACT Policing), which can be visited without having to be a Facebook member. Also have a Twitter account (@actpolicing) that instantaneously puts out media releases, powerful way to communicate with the community. One specific instance helped the reunion of a young boy with his family very quickly.

Q. - Can you please provide an update on vandalism attack at the Muslim centre at Monash?

A. - There have been a number of incidents, is still subject of an ongoing police investigation; is in a hard-to-see place so community assistance is valued.

Update from Local Members:

Nicole Lawder:

- Nature Conservation Bill – 30 different organisations attended a roundtable discussion held on 14th April, provided lots of input into that draft bill. Waiting for the Environment Commissioner to report back to Minister Corbell, he will report back to Assembly.
- ABC flats in the city – ACT Government redevelopment housing of area, will potentially lead to the loss of some public housing affecting 200 people. Calling on government to make public their plans. Not been enough engagement on options for affected people.
- Many local issues: potholes, footpaths, neighbourhood parks and playgrounds – a lot of time spent on these issues on behalf of residents.
- Was personally unable to attend the ‘Fix the Stink’ Lake forum, but 2 staff attended on Nicole’s behalf and reported back.
- Coppers Log site at Hume – Moved a motion in the Assembly asking for the process to be referred to Auditor General for an enquiry. Government did not support this motion but agreed that Simon Corbell will seek further information from Environment Protection Agency, report due back later this week.
- Capital Metro Rail – From last meeting was asked the population of Gungahlin – 12%, about 46,000 people out of 383,000.

Q. - Given the Prime Minister is talking about the potential of a debt tax and we have a Commission of Audit report talking about substantial cuts to the public service, do you think it is an appropriate time for ACT members of the Legislative Assembly to talk about a substantial pay rise?

A.- A very good question. Pay rises are determined by an independent agency – the Remuneration Tribunal. The Assembly don’t get to vote. Previous 6% pay increase but was offset by changes to other allowances. Thought it was fascinating timing in a day when reports of doom and gloom for Canberra but politicians get a pay rise.

Q. - So you will be declining?

A. - Not sure if I can decline but I certainly give a lot of my money to charity and that is what I will continue to do.

Andrew Wall:

- Local issues – King Swim swim school at Calwell is finally underway. Delay due to issue with unreasonable late fees. Anticipate finishing in September; envisage employing around 70 people – great for Tuggeranong. Figures of around 1,000 people a week, swim class lessons, aqua aerobics, etc.
- Portfolio issues – ACT Jail - \$54m additional spending announced. The prison full when opened in 2008. One solution is appointing a 5th judge to reduce people on remand, which makes up 1/3 of inmates. Prison was built a lot smaller than originally intended, cost \$20m more than it was supposed to.
- Planning and Development Project Facilitation Bill – Government introduced last month, expedites changes to the Territory Plan and the Development Approval of significant projects. In essence means Government is able to change the Territory Plan and also put the Development Application in and have them assessed together. Reduces community consultation period by half. Removes rights to object the decision in the ACT Civil Administration Tribunal. Substantial feedback received from Community Councils, heritage groups, all was negative. Ultimately means Planning Minister becomes judge, jury and executioner for all planning decisions in the ACT. Believe this Bill should not proceed. Copy of alternate reports derived from the committee hearing passed to Glenys for TCC members to look at. The committee report includes a summary of key comments and some recommendations.

Q. - Same question about ACT politicians getting a pay rise at the same time a debt levy and Commission of Audit report are announcing cuts.

A. - Politicians getting paid is generally an unpopular choice, being a politician requires a substantial commitment of time away from families. Whenever there is a change to pays it is not going to be a popular decision and that is the reason why there is an independent Remuneration Tribunal. When you take into account other changes to allowances it's about a 2% increase, there was also a pay-freeze last year, taking into account CPI we are actually worse off.

Brendan Smyth:

- Disposal of expired baby car seats – cannot be recycled in ACT, must be taken to landfill. Recommend cutting the restraints before disposal, so they cannot be used again – the ACT Government website will be updated to provide this advice.
- Chisholm Park – Draft variation received today. If the government's Planning and Priorities Bill went forward, they could actually put forward the draft variation and the proposal to put the houses on it on the same day, which is a concern. Every Community Council has now written to the Government saying don't do it. 21 out of 21 submissions said don't do it.
- Bullying in the ESA (Emergency Services Agency) – reports of this in the Ambulance Service. A work safety notice has been issued to the department to improve the safety of our Ambulance officers. Minister Corbell was asked if there was an inquiry into bullying, sexist and misogynist behaviour in the Fire and Rescue service. Minister Corbell admitted there was, but refused to say what the outcome was. So there have been some officers accused of bad behaviour but they do not know what their fate is even though the Government has had the report for six or seven months.
- Moved a motion on establishing a 'bulk-billing' medical clinic in Lanyon. The Government has declined to answer whether they will let it go ahead. The proponent has racked up \$250,000 worth of fees that they owe the Government that they have to pay before they can start building a bulk-billing clinic.
- The Planning Bill is of particular concern, they can just take areas and sell them for profit to try and balance the budget.

Q. - Same question about ACT politicians getting a pay rise at the same time a debt levy and Commission of Audit report are announcing cuts.

A. - Two things – first and foremost, the last 4 budget papers said the greatest risk to the economy of the ACT is a contraction in Federal spending. Most recently 14,457 job cuts to the public service. Concerns about revenue and spending at a Federal level.

Regarding pay rises – the job requires a lot of time away from family, there is no good time to give politicians a pay rise. Last week I did 110 hours of work, if you think I am overpaid, you tell me what you think a fair wage is. I'm here every month, and have been here just about every month for the past 20 years. I had better wages, more staff and less responsibility as a Federal backbencher. Now I have two staff and multiple portfolio responsibilities.

Guest Speaker:

- Michael Lindfield – Tuggeranong Festival

- Has resigned as President of the Festival Committee after 20 years' service and become a self-funded retiree.
- 'Footsteps To Follow' project – was part of the Festival last year – Canberra's Centenary celebrations, identified 25 people and entities, selected by an independent panel, inductees were done in one of the final events of the festival. Made a commitment to have 200 plaques by 2113, process will be undertaken by the Guardians and Gardeners, who will fund the cost of the plaques themselves, be in tune with the development of the town park.
- Guardians and Gardeners of Tuggeranong Park formed last year to pick up rubbish, keep an eye on the place, keep tidy, etc. Are producing a book of the lake and surround. Still in development, doing typesetting, on acid free paper, will be limited edition available later in the year.
- Festival – no longer President after 20 years, found a replacement - Stewart 'Stu' Thompson of Infinite Lights and Sounds. Stu unable to be here tonight, a local, he is a 24 year old who grew up in the area, loves outdoor performance, sound and stage lighting, involved in Scouts, operates own company bridging into sound recording. Developed great contacts in Sydney to leverage off, as well as new principal partner providing \$25,000 in-kind support. Shifting Festival to new demographic, but not at exclusion of existing markets. Sponsors night next week, new structure, leverage another set of bands. Committee – 4 new members elected, two were sponsors, a total of nine on committee and 80 members. Stewart is currently touring, will attend next meeting.

Coffee Break: for 10 minutes.

Guest Speaker:

- Zhenfa Group – Mugga Lane Solar Park

Morris and Qiao gave a PowerPoint presentation on Mugga Lane Solar Park – available on TCC website. Zhenfa is Chinese company, started in Australia in 2010, doing solar installations across NSW and ACT.

- In 2012 became part of Zhenfa Group – China's largest construction company for solar PV power plants. Now make solar PV power plants for Australia.
- Mugga Lane Solar Park, named by a local who worked on the initial design of the solar park.
- In China, Zhenfa Group is also a large property developer, asset manager and solar PV provider, commissioned 1.6GW power plants.
- 2011 – First came to Canberra.
- 2012 – Participated in the solar auction in Canberra.
- 2013 – Announced as successful proponent from the solar auction for 13MW. In October contacted several local gardening groups interested in community garden development. Development approval lodged in November.
- 2014 – Commenced reconnection study, minor changes to original proposal, development application re-submitted, direct sales of land hope to be completed in July, construction due to start Aug /Sept.
- 2015 – Hope to commission Solar Park in March. Hope to commence community garden in June.
- Key Details – Invested \$750k thus far, 20 staff in Sydney, opening an office in Canberra soon – about 10 jobs, as well as 50 jobs during construction, strong focus on using local / regional contractors.

- Key Stakeholders – Tuggeranong residents, previous tenants, Tuggeranong Respite Centre, many others.
- 25-year tenure on property, creek running through property will be left undisturbed.
- Some solar arrays will be stationary, others will track the sun, there will be space provided for community to purchase solar arrays and have them stationed at the solar park.
- Wish to engage community, especially for the proposed community garden.

Q. - Where will water for the proposed community garden come from?

A. - Water supplied by pipeline – normal ACT water.

Q. - Concerns of quality of water in the creek and concern of leaching into water from the nearby tip, old Copper's log plant.

A. - Water supply does not come from the tip, have allowed for sufficient offset from tip to minimise contamination.

Q. - Monaro Highway is a major entrance into Canberra – a lot of rules around appearance, what are you going to do to 'screen it off' from the road so it looks less industrial?

A. - A 'rural character fence' that complies with ACT standards will be installed on the edge near the highway to preserve the character of the area.

Q. - The solar arrays all pointing north, are we all going to get glare / blinded when driving south down the Monaro Highway?

A. - No, solar panels don't reflect much light, are dark and absorb 97% of light, similar reflectivity of water.

Q. - Is it a 'colorbond' fence, not very rural looking?

A. - That fence is on the opposite side, acts as a firebreak.

Q. - This site is a wildlife corridor, with no animal crossings across the Monaro Highway. What allowances are you making for all wildlife?

A. - Animals entering the property would be a safety hazard, hope to keep wildlife away from site, fences are 4m high.

Q. - Is there anything you could do to your plan to allow wildlife to use that corridor? Maybe not passing through area, but encourage them to take other areas?

A. - No.

Q. - Where are the horses going?

A. - Going to the west, adjoining Wanniasa Hills nature reserve, not ideal but better than not having a horse area, sharing with 2,000 kangaroos.

Q. - Royalla solar farm, how does this one compare?

A. - 2/3rds the size of Royalla.

Q. - How long will it take to establish the Solar Park?

A. - Hope to make it available by March 2014.

Q. - What is the viability of the technology, is it unlimited or will it have to be replaced with advanced technology in the future?

A. - Designed to have a life of 25yrs, technology improves all the time, the site is suitable for tech upgrades.

Q. - A big drawback with solar is the peaks of generation are during the day, and peak electricity usage is at night. Is your company doing anything to offset or overcome this?

A. - Will be installing two commercial-sized batteries, storing power for night time use, working with ANU to develop larger scale storage, more stable for network.

Q. - After this is up and running, will our power bills get cheaper?

A. - No, but when was the last time your power bills ever got cheaper?

Q. - At the end of the 25yrs, does the lease include decommissioning the site at the end of the lease?

A. - Yes.

General Business:

- Proposal for development of west bank, we have heard a broad overview of the pros and cons and infill. Can we have a show of hands to indicate which option preferred. Pros - 5, Cons - 9, infill - 1. This helps with priorities for the future, gives us an indication of what areas to research further.
- Capital Metro light rail – some concerns about expense, subsidising north, might never get here, but also that it is a vision for the future. Who is against? – 12; who is for? – 9.
- Sub-committees – if interested, please join.
- Graffiti wall – suggested it be built down near the Skate Park, meeting with relevant authorities tomorrow early days still – what would be involved, where put it, who pays, who manages, will be reporting back.

- With the Erindale bus upgrade, a ‘graffiti artist’ has been approached to do a mural on the Woolworths wall being a mural of the history of the area, would cost \$15k. Mural walls have been placed in prominent areas around places like Bondi (in Sydney) – look very good, could be something the TCC considers doing around the lake / Tuggeranong Park, could approach young artists from local colleges.

Q. - Is it a graffiti wall or a mural wall?

A. - A mural wall, something that is attractive. There are graffiti walls that people can scribble on but this is not what is being proposed.

Q. - Could the TCC consider providing some funds for residents to clean graffiti off their fences, because ‘Fix My Street’ does not clean private property?

A. - Happy to consider a proposal, but could be a very large job beyond the means of the TCC.

Other Business:

Nil.

The next General Meeting will be **Tuesday, 3rd June 2014**. Meeting closed 9:30pm.

Attachments below:

Presidents Report

Treasurers Report

TCC PRESIDENT'S REPORT - 6 MAY 2014 GENERAL MEETING

Welcome everybody. A lot has happened since last meeting, our President is still unwell and we wish him good wishes in his recovery.

I would like to acknowledge Rusty Woodward who recently dies and who was a active member of the Tuggeranong Community and a driving force behind the establishment of the Senior Citizens Club.

I would also like to acknowledge the work of Lyn Bott, our minute secretary who due to other commitments has had to stand down. The role of the minute secretary is an important one – so is there anyone who would like to take the position.

Tom Cheesman volunteered to take the minutes. Tom has been helping the Tuggeranong Lake Carers group (TLC).

The TCC funded the TLC to make a new banner, which was displayed to members.

It has been a busy month, we supported the successful TLC Forum; and the TCC committee has been busy preparing a TCC Master Plan and a companion activity plan 2014 - 2016. Copies of the Master Plan are available here tonight. Among other things criteria for possible funding for activities by special interest community groups within Tuggeranong community. Have also looked at our Sub committee structure – Environment, Health and Community, Planning, Development and Transport, and ask if anyone is interested in assisting, please sign up at the register at the back of the room.

Looked at membership procedures, they will be ready for people to sign up again next month.

Based on feedback from past TCC meetings and surveys as well by review of current issues the committee has identified the 5 most pressing issues for the coming year, namely:

1. Continue the efforts to ensure Federal and Act government employment continues in Tuggeranong.
2. Continued pressure on the ACT Government to improve the health of the lake.
3. Continue work to ensure a proper CIT campus is built in Tuggeranong.
4. Work with the community to develop a position about the future of Tuggeranong.
5. Look at developing a position paper on Light rail.

1 & 4 is relevant in light of the recent comments by Zed Seselja comments and media publicity on possible developments of the West bank or Murrumbidgee River.

- Pros – It would in the future increase population of Tuggeranong and make the Hyperdome more the centre of Tuggeranong and sustain more houses in the area.
- Cons – Environmental concerns re the river, need for a major bridge, the ranges on the western side in some of the valleys are steep so there is not much flat land in the area before you hit steep slopes, if people have to drive to Tuggeranong they make just keep on driving past.
- Infill - What about more infill, more people close to the shops, reduce reliance on cars.

Max and I attended the combined community council meeting and there we talked about the Planning and Development Amendment Bill – This bill would bypass the traditional path of applications go before the assembly and might cut down on some of the paperwork. A big concern re environmental and heritage concerns are looked after and want to ensure the community retains the ability to be involved consulted on any impacts Today I received a response – draft report 54 pages, have not had a chance to look at yet.

There is a proposed ACT forum about overall future development of Canberra. What happens is we get lots of community town centre plans – wondering if there is scope for a combined community council that we have an open forum about total developments.

Correspondence:

- Letter from Barry re Art / graffiti wall being installed in Tuggeranong Park, being looked at, meeting tomorrow ACT Govt, will report back.

- Emails about an update on the lake.
- Email from doctor at Conder about waiving late fees, a similar issue to the Calwell swim centre, similar issue that the committee needs to have a look at.
- Email from Russ today about Park and Ride, haven't had a chance to look at yet.

General Business: Will look at a few other things to discuss. Minute Secretary – Tom is prepared to do the position beyond tonight. Will be doing a few other things in general business.

TUGGERANONG COMMUNITY COUNCIL (TCC)		
TREASURER'S REPORT		
GENERAL MEETING		
	6/05/14	S Cross Club
ACCOUNTS FOR PERIOD ENDING		
	April 2014	
	Date	Balance
Operating Account		
Start of Period	1/04/14	7,930.83
End of Period	30/04/14	7,876.45
Net Change for Period		-54.38
Investment Account		
Start of Period	1/04/14	18,203.92
End of Period	30/04/14	18,273.50
Net change for Period		69.58
Petty Cash		
Start of Period	0/01/00	3.60
End of Period	30/04/14	3.60
Net change for Period		0.00
Total Accounts		
Start of Period	1/04/14	26,138.35
End of Period	30/04/14	26,153.55
Net change for Period		15.20
INCOME FOR PERIOD		
	Date	Sum
Total Income (excluding transfers)		8.58
EXPENDITURES FOR Period		
	Date	Sum
Optus	17/04/14	62.96
Committee expenses	18/04/14	96.84
Total Expenses (excluding transfers)		159.80
NOTES:		
1. Committee expenses are those incurred by Committee Members, while performing Committee duties.		