

Tuggeranong Community Council Meeting Minutes – 3 May 2016

Welcomes:

Meeting Opened 7:30pm and President, Glenys Patulny welcomed the attendees - refer Attendance Record of 3 May.

Apologies:

Tom Lindenmayer, Chris Cahill, Russ Morison, Michael Knight, Brendan Smyth MLA.

President's Report:

Glenys delivered the following Report:

“It has been a busy month attending various activities on behalf of the TCC. They include the following events:

- The official opening of the King Swim centre at Calwell on 13 April, where a plaque acknowledging the leadership and work of Eric Traise and the local community in ensuring that the Centre went ahead, was unveiled. Thank you Wayne (and others) for all the work you put into helping organise this event.
- City and Gateway Urban Renewal Strategy discussion group.
- ACTewAGL reference group - talking about the ACTewAGL Distribution Asset Management System (talk about forecasting work to inform future planning) and Electric Vehicle Project, including trialling of battery storage.
- Environment and Planning Forum.
- Combined Community Councils Meeting (with Wayne).
- Website working party, where Max, Tom and I met with Lance Williamson of Gaffer Designs to talk over design considerations. I would like to thank Max for all the work he did in analysing other similar websites and coming up with proposals we could consider.

On Thursday this week, (5th May), the Draft ACT and Region Catchment Strategy will be launched from 12.30pm to 2pm at the Tuggeranong Arts Centre. While it does not look at, or report on the specific projects to improve water quality at Lake Tuggeranong, it talks about what we need to do to plan for the future in an overall integrated way. It is being launched in Tuggeranong (which I think is quite significant) and it would be good for as many Tuggeranong residents who are interested in what is happening about water in the future (particularly here in Tuggeranong) to have their say. So please come along - notice to be sent to all members.

I am pleased to announce that, following the successful talk by Lake Tuggeranong Students last meeting, we have decided to create a Youth Sub-committee. Annalise Betts, the student who spoke at the meeting, has said she is happy to be its Convenor. She is already trying to gather interest from other students and is looking to have an initial meeting in the next (few) months to come up with some proposals regarding the issues she and the other students brought up at our last meeting. I am hoping to have students from other colleges in the Tuggeranong areas also come and talk to us and hopefully some of them might like to also join this Committee. We are still working on responses from our survey and planning to spread the word about Community Councils among schools and colleges in the area.

The Executive is also looking at establishing some annual awards.

- For residents/business people/groups, who reside or work in Tuggeranong and have contributed significantly to the Tuggeranong region and or the ACT community
- Tuggeranong School Community Awards for a student from each of the high schools and colleges in Tuggeranong.

Meanwhile I have had an email from Canberra and Regional Futures at the University of Canberra talking about recruiting participants for a set of focus groups regarding the sustainable future of the Tuggeranong district. They are particularly looking for residents of Kambah (Mon 23 May) at the Arts Centre, Banks (Tuesday 24 May) and Oxley (Wednesday 25 May) for their views. I will organise for this letter to be sent out to our members in case anyone is interested.

The next meeting of the Tuggeranong Community Council will be held at 7.30pm on Tuesday, 7th June. We will definitely be hearing about what is happening with the Murray-Darling Basin Project and the implications for water quality programs here in Tuggeranong. We will also be hearing about the National Broadband Network (NBN), and the latest news about South Quay, who were unable to attend tonight's meeting due to late developments. It will be a busy night."

Moved: Frank Vrins Seconded: Damien Haas

Police Report:

Sergeant Chris Meagher, OIC Tuggeranong Station commenced by introducing his colleague, Karen Drake. He provided a brief Report, including details of Crime Statistics during the previous month. He advised that the number of criminal offences for all categories across the ACT have generally decreased, including in Tuggeranong. Slight increase reported in stolen motor vehicles across the ACT, with some burnt out vehicles located in the area around Point Hutt and Kambah Pool Road.

Sergeant Meagher mentioned that graffiti was a prevalent and frustrating problem around Tuggeranong and was being targeted and regularly monitored in various vulnerable locations. He requested that the public assist police by looking out for any such incidents and reporting them through Neighbourhood Watch and Crime Stoppers. The issue was briefly discussed with some personal experiences and incidents related by attendees.

Police are also engaged in Yellow Ribbon National Road Safety Campaign, with a focus on mobile phone activity, which has become a major concern. Such abuse appears to be quite widespread among younger drivers and is currently under close scrutiny.

MLA Reports:

Nicole Lawder MLA

Ms Lawder provided a brief update on her activities, including the following:

- Discussions in the Assembly regarding the proposed new Tuggeranong suburb of Thompson – concerns expressed by the Conservation Council regarding the development and the disregard of correct implementation of the Master Plan.
- Feedback regarding the ongoing smell issue around the Mugga Lane Tip – ambient weather conditions appear to be the main contributor and are being monitored.
- Opposition to proposed Manuka Oval redevelopment.
- Water Quality Report eagerly awaited and expected shortly.

Query raised regarding the opportunity for young people to purchase a home in new developments such as Thompson at reasonable cost and to avail of the Government's First Home Owner's Grant. Nicole provided a suitable response based on the importance of engaging in a proper and acceptable planning process.

Unfortunately, no other MLAs were available to attend the meeting this month.

Guest Speakers:

- Luke Coniston - Council on the Ageing (COTA)

Glenys introduced Mr Luke Coniston, who is the Housing Options Advisor at COTA ACT based in Hughes. He provided a PowerPoint presentation about his organisation and the various free services provided for seniors and other related issues. The following information was highlighted:

- COTA has 8 State/Territory branches, with their head office also in Canberra.
- Services available for the aged community (50+ years old) as well as their carers.
- Serve as a Lobby Group to Government on behalf of seniors.
- Provide relevant information and advice, including transport/mobility issues, Seniors Card eligibility and Directory. Various brochures were provided for the benefit of interested members.
- Housing Options Advisory Service – access to social/community housing for people with age related issues or disabilities.
- Assist with access to carer facilities in the home.
- Retirement Village and Aged Care facilities – new Bill introduced in ACT Assembly.
- Recent Forums held with key representatives and individuals with encouraging results towards achieving more informed decisions and overall transparency.
- Tuggeranong has the two newest Aged Care facilities – aware of strong local market.
- Housing shortage situation, particularly public housing, due to necessary relocation of tenants following demolition of various buildings on Northbourne Avenue and nearby.
- Difficult to identify suitable properties with 'Mr Fluffy' affected residents downsizing, others relocating from temporary rental arrangements to rebuild their lives elsewhere.
- Challenging period ahead for many aged residents needing to move over next 4/5 years.
- Older people being advised to stay put for as long as possible or assistance provided with integration where required.
- Retirement Villages review conducted with encouragement to perhaps consider providing rental arrangements as a more affordable option.

Questions:

Several concerns were raised by attendees mainly relating to eligibility for access to retirement facilities and affordability of costs involved. Luke provided relevant advice regarding current home care assistance services and assessment arrangements. He also stressed the importance for all those in their late 70s / early 80s to fully investigate and carefully consider all options available, as well as seeking advice from COTA if required.

Reference was made to the difficulty in covering increased rates payments in older established suburbs, as well as other expenses for medication, heating/cooling, etc. It was pointed out that, despite limited income after retirement, it was clearly cheaper for all concerned for seniors to stay in their own home for longer if possible. Mention was made of

the facility available for reverse mortgages and Luke suggested considerable care before entering into such arrangements. Relevant information material is available for reference in this regard.

Concerns were also raised about the likely problems involved with travel/mobility when moving from a retirement facility to a nursing home. ACT Government provide a flexible bus pickup service, which was still being developed. It would be suitable for trips to medical appointments, or perhaps the use of a flexible taxi scheme with access to carer arrangements. The basic problem is insufficient staff being available unless family carers are able to assist.

- **Meegan Fitzharris (ACT Government)**, the Minister responsible for the new Transport Canberra and City Services Directorate, incorporating the current TAMS portfolio.

The Minister provided a PowerPoint presentation outlining the aspects and responsibilities of the new agency announced by the ACT Government late last year for "integrating our transport network" from 1 July. The following details were highlighted:

- Vision – one ticket / one fare / one network.
- Integrate buses and light rail as a transport system that is convenient, efficient, reliable and affordable.
- Canberra is rapidly growing with population to increase to 400,000 by end of this year and an estimated 500,000 over next 20 years.
- Congestion is worsening and is likely to cost \$700 million by 2031.
- More transport options and more modes needed other than car use – different choices.
- ACTION buses to become part of Transport Canberra – improve bus network so more people use it, with seamless transition from one mode to another.
- Light Rail to free up one million dollars extra for buses – vital to add transport capacity to our city and reduce current congestion on our roads - convenient, efficient, reliable way to travel.
- 1st Stage to be completed in 2018 with operation to commence in early 2019 – to attract investment and generate development and economic activity along the route.
- Procurement method negotiated involves no payments being made until system is fully operational.
- Stage 2 now being considered following public consultation – possibly to Russell and beyond with announcement expected before Election date.
- Active Travel and Innovation – more cycling and more walking options with links to main public transport nodes and related access facilities.
- Innovative options include:
 - Uber and Ride Share
 - Car Sharing
 - Electric bus / car trial
 - New ticketing system options – critical to success
 - Autonomous vehicles
 - Flexible bus service for elderly/ disabled people – also Communities@Work fleet.
- Transport Canberra and City Services Directorate – to integrate city services (TAMS) with public transport into the future, including Roads ACT area. Safety of community a major priority, particularly for people with mobility issues.
- Managing Our City's Priorities:
 - Affordability of project: for every \$100 of budget expenditure during 20 years term of contract - \$34 on Health and Hospitals, \$25 on Schools and Education, \$10 on Roads & Footpaths, \$1 on Light Rail.
- Next Steps – Further announcements in June budget on public transport issues and more prior to October Election. Link to online survey at www.transport.act.gov.au.

Questions:

Several queries and comments were raised by members, including the following:

- Concerns re transport facilities in East Greenway – no internal service and car use is essential. **Detailed response to be provided to various related issues.**
- Where does Tuggeranong fit into Stage 2 (or later)? **Priorities yet to be determined.**
- Concern about condition of bus shelters in extreme weather conditions – what about shelters for light rail stops? **Improved facility to be provided to ensure patronage.**
- Changes to bus network/timetables required to suit needs of different areas of Canberra – opinions of public to be sought.
Survey being conducted to consider various options/suggestions by public.
- Direct routes to be introduced to Northside and beyond.
Options to be examined with cost factor being a major consideration.
- Are there adequate number of drivers available to service proposed increased facilities?
Not expected to present a problem with several related enquiries received.
- Has contract been signed yet for Stage 1 of Light Rail and when will it be signed?
Expected to be signed later this month.

Contributions or enquiries are encouraged via the Transport Survey mentioned earlier or by direct email to the Minister. The Minister also made reference to problems with graffiti and mentioned the appointment of a Graffiti Coordinator to work on prevention and clean up arrangements.

General Business:

- Minutes from the April 2016 Meeting

Glenys advised that some minor amendments were made to the document previously distributed to members, as highlighted (in red) on the screen for information.

Moved: Mark O'Neill Seconded: Karl Maftoum

- **Matters arising from the Minutes** Nil

- **Treasurer's Report**

Max Flint presented his Report showing bank balance of \$28,602.39, with routine expenditure totalling \$1,846.15 during the past month. Financial statement for April is attached below.

Expected expenditures for the remainder of this financial year are:

- routine expenses: plus
- update and revision of the TCC website and Facebook;
- purchase of laptop and software;
- survey of Tuggeranong residents (using Monkey Survey);
- grants to community groups;
- updated promotional material; and
- miscellaneous items.

Our expenditure for FY 2015-16 is estimated to be about \$17,500, being about \$11,000 in routine expenses plus projected \$6,500 in purchases.

As previously mentioned, the Chief Minister recently advised all Community Councils of changes to the Deed of Grant and administration requirements for 2016-17, including the provision of full details on all activities to engage the Community (in addition to monthly TCC meetings) – nature of activity, timing, how engaged, attendees, summary of outcomes.

In addition, the Committee has to “*submit a proposal to utilise any unspent funds accumulated from past years.*” This initiative by the Chief Minister would appear to be aimed at recovering funds accumulated by the seven Community Councils in Canberra.

Note that not all accumulated funds would be returned to the Government because:

- In the case of our TCC, Members have to pay an annual membership fee. Accumulated fees belong to the Members and would not be claimable by the Government. These would be deducted from bank statement balances to determine what may need to be returned to the Government;
 - > Funds belonging to the TCC Members have now been calculated from our detailed records to be **\$8,399**.
- A grant of about \$12,000 would be expected for FY2016-17 (normally not paid until after six months into the new FY).
- Given that current total funds stand at \$28,600, our planned expenditures for the remainder of FY2015-16 and for FY2016-17, and taking into account Members’ funds, about \$7,400 may have to be returned to the Government at the end of FY2015-16.

Moved: Frank Vrins Seconded: Bill Heins

Some members queried and opposed the requirement to return funds to the Government saying these funds could be used for future projects. Max also proposed a formal Motion for the proposed expenditure of up to \$2,000 for the purchase of a new laptop and related software. Seconded by Ross McConnell and carried unanimously.

- Correspondence Nil to report.

- Sub-Committee Reports

Health, Community and Education: – Beverley Flint

Beverley passed on a list of queries to the Minister on behalf of the residents of East Greenway regarding their ongoing concerns about lack of infrastructure in the suburb. She provided a report about her recent activities on behalf of the Council, which included the following:

- Attended the recent Retirement, Lifestyle & Travel Expo last weekend and engaged with some stallholders who may be suitable future guest speakers.
- Need to follow up with Roads ACT regarding unmarked open sumps along Drakeford Drive that may present safety risks to motorists.
- Vast contrast in standard of food courts and supermarket outlets in Belconnen and other large Northside shopping centres compared to facilities and choices available at the Hyperdome and Erindale. Could local MLAs perhaps investigate on our behalf?
- Attending workshop with Glenys later this week on water issues, as mentioned in the President’s Report. We propose to provide some input into the future of the Lake, which has foul odours due to the ongoing blue-green algae problems. We hope to achieve a clean lake for the future years and we seek the assistance and support of members in any way possible.

- Continuing to lobby for upgrade of the shared pedestrian/cycle paths around the Lake through discussions with Canberra Times journalists. The narrow paths have presented a safety risk for the general public for several years and action by our local Government is long overdue.

Any Other Business:

Vice President, Wayne King informed members about developments at Canberra Airport with international flights commencing later this year. Also, a new website link established to enable people moving residence to determine the level of aircraft noise at their proposed new location.

Next meeting to be held on **7 June**, with guest speakers as mentioned earlier in the President's Report. Meeting closed at 9.35pm.

TUGGERANONG COMMUNITY COUNCIL (TCC) TREASURER'S REPORT GENERAL MEETING			3/05/16	SC Club
ACCOUNTS FOR PERIOD ENDING			April 2016	
		Date	Balance	
Operating Account				
	Start of Period	1/04/16	13,425.43	
	Income		-	
	Expenses-Paid		- 1,846.15	
	Cheques not yet presented		498.75	
	Cheques paid from last month		- 500.00	
	Transfers TO Investment Acct		-	
	Transfers FROM Investment Acct		-	
	Transfers TO Petty Cash		-	
	Transfers FROM Petty Cash		-	
	End of Period	30/04/16	11,578.03	
	Net Change for Period		- 1,847.40	
Investment Account				
	Start of Period	1/04/16	16,850.86	
	In		9.40	
	Out		-	
	End of Period	30/04/16	16,860.26	
	Net change for Period		9.40	
Petty Cash				
	Start of Period	1/04/16	159.10	
	In		5.00	
	Out		-	
	End of Period	30/04/16	164.10	
	Net change for Period		5.00	
Total Accounts				
	Start of Period	1/04/16	30,435.39	
	End of Period	30/04/16	28,602.39	
	Net change for Period		- 1,833.00	
Income for Period (Op Acc)			Date	Sum
Total Income (excluding transfers)				-
Expenses-Paid for Period			Date	Sum
	Optus (mobile)	5/04/16	43.98	
	ACT Government (Insurance)	18/04/16	1,303.42	
	S Cross Club	21/04/16	250.00	
	W. King (expenses)	27/04/16	48.75	
	A. Orszaczky (Minutes)	29/04/16	200.00	
Total Expenses-Paid (excl transfers)				1,846.15
NET GAIN/LOSS FOR PERIOD				-1846.15
CHEQUES NOT PRESENTED			Date	Sum
	Southern Cross Club	21/04/16	250.00	
	W. King	27/04/16	48.75	
	A. Orszaczky	29/04/16	200.00	
Total				498.75
CHEQUES PAID FROM LAST MONTH			Date	Sum
	Southern Cross Club	4/04/16	500.00	
Total				500.00
Notes:				
1. Committee expenses are those incurred by Committee Members, while performing Committee duties.				