

Tuggeranong Community Council Inc
General Meeting – 2 April 2013
Minutes

Present:

See attendance record of 2 April 2013.

President Nick Tsoulias opened the Meeting at 7.30pm.

Welcomes:

Andrew Wall MLA, Gai Brodtmann MP.

Apologies:

Alison Ryan, Bill Heinz.

Confirmation of Minutes of March 2013 Meeting:

Accepted: *Glenys Patulny* Seconded: *Beverly Flint*

Matters Arising from March 2013 Meeting:

The Secretary reported he had received advice from the TCC's lawyers concerning the lack of response from Queanbeyan City Council (QCC) to the TCC's request for an explanation over a letter to the editor in the Canberra Times which, the TCC believed had been authored by a QCC executive. The Secretary recommended the TCC adopt the lawyers' offer for him to raise the matter informally with the Mayor of Queanbeyan. This was accepted by all members and the Secretary said he would advise the TCC's lawyers of the decision.

Moved: *Darryl Johnston* Seconded: *Ross McConnell*

President's Report (Mr. Nick Tsoulias):

President, Nick Tsoulias presented the following Report:

"Tonight's guest speakers include ACT Emergency Services to talk to us about the new Condor / Calwell combined emergency services base, and to take your questions, as well as a future proposal to see relocated from Greenway the Tuggeranong SES base to South Tuggeranong. Our second guest speaker, Lend Lease has passed on their apologies for this evening as some of their team was unable to come this evening, so they have rescheduled their presentation for our May TCC meeting.

This month The TCC met with the Land and Development Agency at the launch of Tuggeranong's new suburb of South Quay at the Tuggeranong Hyperdome atrium. South Quay will consist of 1000 dwellings in stage one, a children's playground, a lakefront boulevard and two new pedestrian bridges. The first stages expected to be sold off as early as the end of this year into early 2014. South Quay is part of the Tuggeranong Master plan, which was supported by the TCC in April 2011 with a submission made by the TCC. Recently our executive committee and I met with the Chief Minister of the ACT, Katy Gallagher MLA, Joy Burch MLA and Mick Gentleman MLA with the view to see South Quay developed as soon as possible, within a construction timeline of 3-5 years. In light of the LDA launch of South Quay, I invite all members of the TCC to please visit the Tuggeranong Library in the coming weeks, where a display of this new suburb will be until Sunday 17th April.

This month we have heard that our Canberra suburbs of Charnwood, Reid, Holt and our own suburb of Richardson were among the most disadvantaged areas of the ACT. The measures used included when doing Richardson were the residents' level of education, the number of bedrooms in their home, whether they were separated or divorced or did not speak English well, whether they were skilled or had basic access to local services, and whether Richardson residents were employed as professionals or managers, and their educational attainment also contributed to the score. I had visited the Richardson Primary School in my capacity as Vice President just over a year ago, and had a discussion with the school Principal, who had provided some valuable statistics, a survey by Communities@Work that mirrored these disadvantaged stats results and what level of support could our community see from the Commonwealth Government and the

ACT Government to bring this region of Tuggeranong in line with all our suburbs. The response is that the Federal Government has indicated that any increased investment into Richardson or any schooling system, as recommended by Gonski, will be introduced over a lengthy period of years. It's of the view of the Richardson Primary School in 2011 that the school will need to be prioritised for additional Commonwealth funding during the implementation of the national Gonski plan. I do understand the Federal member for Canberra, Gai Brodtmann MP can talk more about Gonski later, but briefly, the Gonski Review sets out an agenda for high-quality schooling that fosters the development of creative, informed and resilient citizens, who are able to participate fully in a dynamic and globalised world. It also leads to many benefits for individuals and society, including higher levels of employment and earnings, and better health, longevity, tolerance and social cohesion.

Other local problems which may have contributed to Richardson's disadvantaged status may be the social problems such as graffiti, alcoholism and street crime often reported in ACT Crime statistics, which will need to be tackled from within communities by residents. The ACT Neighbourhood Watch have a local Group out there and are working closely with the ACT Police and local residents to promote key links for residents to access many social programs that will benefit all. The bottom line is, that it important that our local Members of the ACT Legislative Assembly adopt these findings and to listen to the local community's push to see local jobs created, the push to see local services implemented, and their push to see a precinct with a properly planned environment. If I may remind you all, in 2012 the Tuggeranong Community Council tabled a motion supporting the efforts of the Minders of the Tuggeranong Homestead, to see restoration projects of the area and a proper plan for the local area of Richardson and Calwell. This motion was presented to the Chief Minister. The motion is consistent with the views of 40 local community groups in South Eastern Tuggeranong, members of the TCC, local schools' parents and friends, sporting teams, church groups, youth groups and the local business and residents' needs.

Moving on, the TCC made a formal submission to the Tuggeranong Town Park Master Plan. The submission draft was sent out along with an endorsement of the Hawker College students' presentation made last July at the TCC meeting, if you all remember. A show of hands last year indicated overwhelming support for the students' vision to be factored into this important Town Park Master Plan.

Finally the TCC is proud to have nominated Mrs Beverly Flint of Greenway to take on the appointment as an Ambassador of the TCC on the newly formed *Footsteps for Tuggeranong*, among some other prominent members of our community. The selection panel that Beverly will sit on will inform the public about the applications that are now open for nomination of worthy candidates who have made a significant and worthy positive contribution to the development of Tuggeranong. The timeline I am sure would be from the formation of Tuggeranong until the present day."

Accepted: *Russ Morison* Seconded: *Glenys Patulny*

Secretary's Report (Mr. Darryl Johnston):

The Secretary advised TCC Members flowers had been sent on behalf of all Council members to Alison Ryan who had recently undergone emergency surgery in Canberra Hospital.

Treasurer's Report (Mr. Frank Vrins):

The Treasurer delivered his report as follows:

Current bank account balance is \$20,682.10 comprising of our Operating Account of \$2,838.38 and Investment Account of \$17,843.72. Expenditure totalled \$481.05, with the main items being for the phone/internet and meeting costs. Income during the period was \$53.00 (from membership fees/renewals). The Treasurer advised Andrew Wall MLA will now be considered an honorary member.

Accepted: *Darryl Johnston* Seconded: *Glenys Patulny*

Sub-Committee and other Reports:

- Transport and Community Services Committee

Nil

- Planning and Environment Committee

The TCC has put forward a submission in response to plans for the redevelopment of the Tuggeranong Town Park.

Entries close on 4 April for the Tuggeranong Lake Carers Group.

Funding supporters being sought for the care of Lake Tuggeranong.

Police Report:

Sergeant Daryl Neit, OIC Tuggeranong Station, presented the following brief report on crime statistics and information regarding other local Police activities during March:

- Burglaries decreased in March.
- Increase in property damage and numbers of stolen cars and number plates.
- Safe Plate campaign to be held later this year.
- 42 people arrested over March for various offences from breach of bail, outstanding warrants and traffic related offences.
- Police attended 822 jobs over the month.
- Search warrants conducted on properties in Chisholm, Gowrie and Calwell in relation to drug and property offences.
- Police seized drugs and stolen property. Two people were arrested and one remains in prison.
- Two people arrested in the process of a burglary. Both were arrested by police following a tip-off from a member of the public.
- Success in the on-going program to reduce hoon activity on Kambah Pool Road. Rangers are looking at relocation of the fence line.
- New police roster has commenced which results in the freeing up of 30 police who can be deployed on patrols.

Questions from the floor:

- Concerns expressed over noisy motorbike activity around the bikers clubhouse in Wanniassa.
- Information requested on assault at Erindale.
- Information sought on car accident at Greenway.
- Information requested on chainsaw attack in Town Centre.
- Concerns expressed over plans for more speed bumps and traffic control measures in Macarthur.

Update from Local Members:

President, Nick Tsoulias invited the local Members in attendance, namely Gai Brodtmann MP and Andrew Wall MLA (Liberals) to provide a brief report on current activities and issues of interest in the ACT.

Ms. Brodtmann mentioned the following items:

- Offered to provide a presentation to the TCC on Gonski education reforms.
- Aware of issues at Richardson Primary School.
- Noticed an increase in people presenting themselves to the electorate office with mental health issues.
- Spoken to Medicare Locals and the Minister about mental health services.
- Update on proposed Tralee Forum in Tuggeranong.
- Mobile offices operating in the Valley in April and May.
- Cyber security seminars.

Questions from the floor

Nil.

Mr. Wall mentioned the following items:

- Part way through Annual Reporting sessions.
- Namadgi School footbridge repainting should be completed soon.
- Meeting Roads ACT to discuss proposed traffic calming measures in Macarthur, Fadden etc.
- Seeking interest from young people to participate in ACT Youth Parliament.

Questions from the floor

- Request an update on development of Calwell Park and Ride.

- Request an update on ACT Older Person's Assembly - is another being held soon?
- Traffic flow in East Greenway.

Guest Speakers - ACT Emergency Services:

The President introduced Dr Mark Doherty and Mr. Greg Kent from ESA. They spoke extensively on plans for a new Emergency Services Centre at Lanyon. The plans follow a review of emergency services response times in Canberra. The plan calls for the closure of the emergency services centre in the Tuggeranong Town Centre and the development of a new one at the intersection of Tharwa and Drakeford Drive. He also spoke about the possibility of a new SES headquarters at Calwell.

Questions from the floor

- Access to and from the station on a roundabout.
- The site of the proposed SES station at Calwell.
- The future of the Greenway station.

Other Business / General Announcements:

Beverley Flint provided an update on the meeting of the *Footsteps to Follow* selection committee and encouraged all TCC members to consider nominating residents for recognition in the program. She also updated members on progress of talks to improve traffic flow in East Greenway.

The next General Meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday, 7 May 2013**. Meeting closed at approximately 9.15pm.