

Tuggeranong Community Council Inc
Minutes General Meeting – 1st July 2014

Present:

See attendance record of 1st July 2014. Acting President Glenys Patulny opened the meeting at 7.30pm.

Welcomes:

All MLAs and guest speakers – Simon Corbell MLA and Greg Kent - ACT Emergency Services.

Apologies:

Gai Brodtmann MP, Mick Gentleman MLA, Barry Blight, Gail Barton, Terry Robinson, Frank Vrins.

Guest Speaker:

- Simon Corbell MLA – ACT Minister for Environment and Sustainable Development

Discussed actions ACT Government is taking to improve water quality in the Lake Tuggeranong Catchment:

- ACT Government has secured \$85 million from Commonwealth Government to improve Murray Darling Basin (MDB) catchment management, governance and water quality.
- Six sub-catchments in project - Lake Tuggeranong Catchment, West Belconnen, Yarralumla Creek, etc.
- Will consist of two stages. Acknowledge that the community want projects to start as soon as possible.
- Phase One – Auditing, assessment & data gathering – need robust evidence-base to justify investment in infrastructure. Involves assessing existing data, gap analysis, and undertaking further testing to improve data.
- Phase Two – Will use data gathered over next 12 to 18 months to assess the performance of existing water quality infrastructure, identify what types of infrastructure should go in to improve water quality.
- Also undertaking an ACT-wide monitoring study – to track water quality across sub-catchments and help prioritise capital expenditure.
- Projects may include offline and/or online urban wetlands to catch pollutants and/or a range of infrastructure interventions. Commonwealth Government will release funds as individual business cases approved.
- Going to tender for data analysis work, silt surveys, measure current sediment loads and turbidity issues.
- Looking closely at opportunities to bring forward funding for infrastructure as soon as possible. Have some data already, working closely with Waterwatch Coordinators, utilising citizen science programs.
- ACT Government has allocated \$270,000 for Waterwatch programs to continue, to ensure community is involved in all monitoring. Funding will allow for training and coordination of 160 volunteers across 200 sites.

The Minister was asked a series of questions, some of which included:

Q. – What is going to be done in practical terms to fix up water quality in ACT / Lake Tuggeranong?

A. – Projects likely to include urban wetlands, improving performance of existing ‘gross pollutant traps’, education. It’s a long-term issue; water quality has degraded over time due to urban development.

Q. – \$85m from Commonwealth, is the ACT Government putting in 10%, on top of the Commonwealth?

A. – Yes.

Q. – At what stage will plans for Stage Two of the Priority Basin Project be released?

A. – Iterative process, gathers data, identify hotspots, improve infrastructure, concurrent as data grows.

Q. – What advice can we give to residents of east Greenway who live near the lake and have had years of foul fumes coming from the lake? What can they do in the two years they are waiting for action?

A. – Appreciate it’s a real issue for residents; regrettably it’s a long-term issue that will take time to fix.

Q. – There are a lot of drains that enter into the lake. Why aren’t we putting in a filtering system?

A. – Wetlands can improve water quality, but need to be maintained. Need strong evidence for project approvals.

Q. – Stormwater harvesting – is that feasible in the ACT?

A. – Yes, ACT is trialling stormwater harvesting at Sullivans Creek, results will inform future projects.

Q. – Governance arrangements – are residents and health professionals included?

A. – Yes, set up a number of advisory bodies to assist with project.

- Q. – Re channels that have been concreted – large volumes of water in downpours – how do you divert them?
 A. – Channels are ecologically dead – completely enclosed, deposits all the problems down the end. New suburb planning now more effective, like Sullivans Creek trial – offline ponds allows sediments to settle.
- Q. – Any thoughts on alternative funding ideas, levies, charging arrangements to improve water quality?
 A. – No plans at all for additional levies or charging arrangements.
- Q. – Any short-term measures that can be done? Concerned the next two summers lake will continue to be closed.
 A. – No, even if a pond were built at Tuggeranong Homestead, won't have a material impact in the short term.
- Q. – Six sub-catchment areas – is there any guarantee Tuggeranong will receive funding on an ongoing basis?
 A. – Yes.
- Q. – In your 'best guess', when will the lake be able to be used again?
 A. – Unable to say, many variables like rainfall – underlying issue is the lake was designed to trap sediment.
- Q. – New sub-division near Bunnings – who is overseeing the catchment area for rubbish generated?
 A. – All new developments are required to have infrastructure installed, can provide additional info back to TCC regarding water sensitive urban design requirements.
- Q. – What are your thoughts on suggestions to develop west of Tuggeranong Town Centre?
 A. – Territory planning strategy identifies West Tuggeranong has potential for expansion but need to consider environmental impacts. Government has not ruled out development there but doesn't want it to be done piecemeal.
- Q. – Announcement re Community Energy Conference – any comments?
 A. – ACT Government will be providing a feed-in tariff for community-owned solar generation.

Guest Speaker:

- Greg Kent - Superintendent ACT Emergency Services

- New strategy to upgrade emergency services in the ACT due to changing urban footprint, population growth, densities and demographics.
 - Phase one: Tuggeranong. Phase two: Calwell and Greenway, Phase three: Kambah.
 - Strategy is to locate emergency services on major arterial roads to allow ease of access and quick back up – each station linked to others. Focus on community safety and improving response times.
 - Building a new South Tuggeranong Fire and Rescue station – located immediately to the southeast of the roundabout at Tharwa / Drakeford Drives. Construction site established in Feb 2014. Operational in early 2015.
 - Converting the Greenway Fire and Rescue station into a modern Ambulance station. Major upgrade to the Kambah Fire and Rescue station – timing to be determined.
- Q. – Any plan for changes / upgrade to the Chisholm station?
 A. – No. Will stay the same is at this point in time.

Coffee Break:

Police Report:

Sergeant Jo Cameron reported:

- For the month of June 2014: 25 Burglaries (down 28 on last month, and down 15 on 12mths ago); 59 Property Damage (up 2); 29 Assaults (up 3); 5 reports of Stolen Motor Vehicles (down 3); 14 reports of Number Plate Thefts (down 8); 48 Reports of Thefts from Motor Vehicles (up 26, up 12 on last 12mths); 111 Thefts (down 31); 31 Arrests, in all 1,240 Incidents recorded.
 - Reiterated the need to report issues to Police – the more reports received about an issue, the more response.
 - New, stronger powers to compel drivers to undertake a screening test. Refusing to give a screening test is an offence and will result in an immediate suspension of licence.
 - New police powers / legislation re 'interlock' – recidivist drivers have an option to apply to get 'interlock' on car and will have to do a breath test each time they start the car.
 - Parking Offences – a follow up from last month - if a vehicle is parked in a way that breaches the sign it is on front of, blocking path, blocking driveway, then this is an offence.
- Q. – If someone refuses a roadside drug test screening will it also result in immediate suspension of licence?

A. – Not sure, changes only announced to drink driving – the tests are different – will double check and advise.

Update from Local Members:

Nicole Lawder:

- Celebrated 12-month anniversary of joining Parliament.
- Just been through Estimates – asked questions about portfolio responsibilities - housing, environment, kangaroo cull, care and protection, water security, master plan, etc.

Brendan Smyth:

- Just finished 13 days of Estimates, deeply concerned about financial position – the ACT Government claims deficit is only temporary as expecting Federal Government to increase spending in ACT soon. As of today, ACT has \$4.7 billion of debt; \$5.1 billion of net liabilities, a raft of increases to rates and charges.
- Federal money for Basin Priority Projects won't be released for 2 years.

Q. – National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) launching today in ACT – how will the implementation go?

A. – There isn't a clear picture of 'unmet need'; unclear what qualifies as a disability; Individual support package, where the services are coming from, whether service providers qualify to deliver services.

Q. – ACT Government is selling off car park near CIT in Reid – where are students meant to park?

A. – Lots of concerns about parking in the area.

Confirmation of Minutes of June Meeting:

The draft minutes of the previous meeting were presented, as circulated on website.

Moved: *Russ Morison*

Seconded: *Max Flint*

Business Arising from the Minutes: Nil.

General Business:

- Capital Metro / Light Rail: a comprehensive policy has been prepared for TCC to consider (see website). The basis of the policy is that the TCC does NOT support the Capital Metro project in its current format, design, cost and coverage (i.e. Civic to Gungahlin).
 - Acting President Glenys Patulny spoke against the motion saying light rail would help set up Canberra for future generations and we shouldn't be insular. Other members were invited to speak for or against the policy and a vote was taken on the proposed policy.
 - Cons – Have to start somewhere, petrol / gas prices rising; need to plan for future.
 - Pros – Cost, limited scope, opportunity cost: not spending money on buses, limited benefit to Tuggeranong.
- Q. – Should the TCC consult more widely with the local community via a survey on the TCC website with an overview of pros / cons and use the results as the basis of the policy the TCC takes forward?
- A. – Concerns online surveys can be manipulated and thus not be representative.
- Darryl Johnston moved a Motion that the TCC embark on a survey of Tuggeranong Community to gauge their opinion on the issue of Light Rail. Voted: 6 for, 14 against. Motion not carried.

Motion to adopt TCC Capital Metro policy as presented AGREED: 14 for, 6 against. Motion carried.

Moved: *Max Flint*

Seconded: *Albert Orszaczky*

President's Report:

Acting President Glenys Patulny reported as follows:

- Attended ACT Water Matters Conference talking about: urban water planning; current state of ACT lakes and waterways; community perspectives – a true cost of failing catchment management; national and international examples of water sensitive urban design.
- Attended the first National Congress for Community Energy – potential for ACT people to get involved in renewable energy generation, will get a representative to talk to TCC at a future meeting.
- Attended meeting with other Community Council reps about possible future expansion of Capital Metro.

- Attended meeting looking at revitalising the Tuggeranong Business Community – will keep TCC informed.
- With another TCC executive member, attended meeting with Simon Corbell MLA, Mick Gentlemen MLA and members of the Environment Directorate to talk about Lake Tuggeranong.
- Tuggeranong CIT campus - awaiting information about timeframes, when construction will commence.
- Reminder there are a number of TCC subcommittees members can join: Environment, Health and Community, Planning and Development, Transport.

Treasurer's Report:

Max Flint reported as follows:

- The Treasurer delivered his report as attached. Minimal activity during past month. Account balances total \$25,240.05. A slight change due to a net reduction of \$104.17. Report accepted.

Moved: *Darryl Johnston*

Seconded: *Russ Morison*

Environment Committee:

Martin Lind from Waterwatch was invited to report:

- Recently the Urambi Hills Park Care Group planted 500 trees on Urambi Hills.
- Lake Tuggeranong – part of the lake was drained as part of the South Quay development to assist with construction. Southern ACT Catchment Group assisted to transfer any fish that get stranded.

Planning Committee:

Wayne King advised Nil to report.

Transport Committee:

Russ Morison advised Nil to report.

Health and Community Committee:

Beverly Flint reported as follows:

- Attended a 'Seniors Consultation Forum' at the Theo Notaras Centre in Civic on Wednesday 18/6/14. Department of Ageing has organised forums in Weston Creek, Belconnen and City, but not one in Tuggeranong. Working with organisers to have a forum in Tuggeranong.
- Followed up the issue of large amounts of rubbish left around McDonalds / KFC on Friday and Saturday nights. Spoke with Canberra Connect, McDonalds, KFC, Police and Municipal Services. They all agreed to assist. Requested food outlets increase bin signage, check their area regularly and for more bins to be put in the area and an early morning collection service on Saturday / Sunday. Will monitor the issue.
- The Marketing Manager of McDonalds has advised they have money (\$15,000) for 'Sponsorships' for the community. To date they have sponsored church groups, sport groups, physical culture groups etc. They also have a work experience program with schools and provide Cert 1 through to Cert 3 to successful participants. The certificates assist students to enter retail/business courses post school period.
- A free Justice of the Peace service available at the Erindale Library on Saturdays from 10am – 12.00pm.
- 'Footsteps To Follow' bronze plaques – the Lindfield family have agreed to sponsor the purchase of bronze plaques for the next five years and an option to extend sponsorship Project now organised by the 'Gardeners and Guardians of Tuggeranong Town Park'. They will establish an independent panel to assess nominations received. The aim is to have the 200th plaque unveiled on Canberra's Bicentenary in March 21 13.

Other Business:

- Albert Orszaczkly suggested that the TCC acknowledge the elevation of Mick Gentlemen MLA to the ACT Government Ministry.
- Regarding the Tuggeranong Community Health walk-in centre is now open – staffed by five nurses, open from 7.30am to 10pm.

The next General Meeting will be **Tuesday, 5th August 2014**. Meeting closed 9:50pm.

Attachment below:
Treasurers Report

TUGGERANONG COMMUNITY COUNCIL (TCC)		
TREASURER'S REPORT		
GENERAL MEETING		
	1/07/14	S Cross Club
ACCOUNTS FOR PERIOD ENDING		
	June 2014	
	Date	Balance
Operating Account		
Start of Period	1/06/14	7,031.08
Income		21.47
Expenses		-597.49
Cheques not yet presented		434.53
Cheques paid from last month		0.00
Transfers TO Investment Acct		0.00
Transfers FROM Investment Acct		0.00
Transfers TO Petty Cash		-15.00
Transfers FROM Petty Cash		0.00
End of Period	30/06/14	6,874.59
Net Change for Period		-156.49
Investment Account		
Start of Period	1/06/14	18,309.54
In		37.32
Out		0.00
End of Period	30/06/14	18,346.86
Net change for Period		37.32
Petty Cash		
Start of Period	1/06/14	3.60
In		15.00
Out		0.00
End of Period	30/06/14	18.60
Net change for Period		15.00
Total Accounts		
Start of Period	1/06/14	25,344.22
End of Period	30/06/14	25,240.05
Net change for Period		-104.17
INCOME FOR PERIOD		
	Date	Sum
Total Income (excluding transfers)		21.47
EXPENDITURES FOR Period		
	Date	Sum
Optus	9/06/14	62.96
Flowers (funeral)	9/06/14	100.00
Southern Cross Club	16/06/14	125.00
Committee expenses	30/06/14	309.53
Total Expenses (excluding transfers)		597.49
NOTES:		
1. Committee expenses are those incurred by Committee Members, while performing Committee duties.		