

Tuggeranong Community Council Inc.

Minutes of General Meeting – 3rd February 2015

Present: See attendance record of 3rd February 2015. President Eric Traise opened the meeting at 7.30pm.

Welcome: Eric Traise welcomed all MLAs, guest speakers and visitors, and those residents from Lanyon.

Apologies: Max and Beverley Flint, Sheridan Brill, Susan Carlyon, Jan Petrie

Confirmation of Minutes of the last meeting:

A preliminary version of the minutes of the previous meeting were sent out unfinished as the secretary has left and the voice memo machine was missing. As the machine has now been recovered the minutes will now be completed.

Business arising from the minutes:

When the completed minutes are ready we will take comments.

Presidents Report/ Correspondence

Eric Traise delivered the Presidents Report as per attached. Key points were;

- Our mission is to be an advocate for all residents and businesses of the Tuggeranong Valley, and we hope to continue to do this in 2015.
- The change of Chief Minister has been an interesting development since the last community council meeting, and the TCC hopes they can continue the good working relationship we had with Katy Gallagher now with Andrew Barr.
- Thankyou to Tom Cheesman for the work he did as Secretary. We wish him well in his new job and are now looking for a new Secretary. Anyone interested contact the committee.
- We have received a number of requests from residents concerned about development applications in their suburbs of late. The TCC has advised residents in Kambah on how to lodge complaints against a development application for a house to become a childcare facility. Outcome has yet to be decided.

Other issues that we will pursue this year include;

- Ongoing concern about the water quality of Lake Tuggeranong.
- Will continue to oppose the Canberra Metro Project. In July 2014 members passed a motion to oppose based on the high cost and the lack of benefit to the Canberra community.
- Currently waiting on answers for the ACT Government in regard to the above issues.
- Continuing to discuss the establishment of a CIT Tuggeranong campus. This would help in reinvigorating the town centre, in particular the empty buildings between Anketell and Cowlshaw streets.

- There are about 100 Mr Fluffy houses in Tuggeranong. There is a combined community council meeting this coming Saturday which will be hosted by Weston Community Council. TCC will attend and will report on anything that is discussed.
- On the 22 January Glenys Patulny and Max Flint attended the first of five ActewAGL hosted meetings of the Distributed Energy Reference Council. ActewAGL is strongly opposed to the price reduction proposed by the energy regulator. We want to understand the reason for this; once we do we will report back to the meeting.
- Tonights meeting has a challenging agenda. We want to give Lanyon residents the opportunity to voice their concerns about the Tharwa Drive closure. We are pleased to have ESA Project Manager Dr Mark Doverty and Roads ACTs Karl Cloos, as well as two Govt Brindabella MLAs, Ministers Mick Gentleman and Joy Burch and Opposition MLAs Nicole Lawder, Andrew Wall and Brendan Smyth here tonight.

Moved: Eric Traise

Seconded: Bill Heins

Treasurers Report

Wayne King presented the Treasurers Report in the Treasurers absence; report attached.

Key points are;

- The TCC received an annual grant from the ACT Government which enables the TCC to function. Recently this has paid our insurance, which is substantial, and costs associated with the webpage.
- Moved: Darryl Johnston Seconded: Russ Morison

T one 5 Project

T One 5 is a project developed by Town Planning students from University of Canberra and the Planning Institute of Australia. Organisers Loren Hendriks and Suzanne Orr came to discuss the project with the TCC. The group want to work with the TCC to help make Tuggeranong a better place to live, work and play in. Some of the students and young planning professionals who live in Tuggeranong suggested the project. Simply put, the project aims to achieve 5 projects in 2015 in the Tuggeranong area. It focuses on community participation, particularly youth engagement, to improve the aesthetics of Tuggeranong and involve people in their surroundings.

Initially the group is planning to install boards at the Hyperdome and invite people to write up ideas and suggestions for revitalising empty spaces around the town centre. The successful 5 projects will come from here. This part of the project has been successfully used overseas, most notably Christchurch after the earthquake as a way to revitalise the community. Ideas bombing has also been used successfully in Sydney. They are also intending on walking around and ask people on the street what they think.

The next step will include working with the TCC and looking at how to implement the ideas the community have put forward.

There were many questions from members which the speakers answered.

Gai Brodtmann noted the area around the gazebos between Anketell and Cowlshaw streets needs revitalisation. She also asked them to think about talking to the high schools and the youth centre in Lanyon, and how permanent are the ideas? They will be temporary, to begin to change public thinking, and we will see whether some 'stick'. Some may become permanent, it depends on what the community think.

Eric told those present that the TCC will work with the T One 5 committee, and we will ask members to form a subcommittee to do so.

Closure of Tharwa Drive

Mark Doverly from ESA and Karl Cloos from Roads ACT are here to discuss the recent closure of Tharwa Drive.

The ACT Government required ESA to put in a gravity fed sewer main under Tharwa Drive to connect the new Lanyon Fire Station 700 metres south west to connect to Gordon. Specialists were hired to assess the best way to proceed. The subterranean conditions that were discovered after drilling began meant that drilling wouldn't work. As it is a gravity fed sewer main it must be precise, and they were advised that it couldn't be done. The project team then had to find another way, and decided to excavate the road, which would result in a wide trench. Due to safety concerns for drivers and the workers themselves it was agreed to close the road and divert traffic around it. It was estimated that it would take 7 to 10 days to complete.

After discussing the issue with technical experts from Roads ACT, then Eric about community impact, they decided to do the excavations over the January period, traditionally the quietest time of the year. It took 9 days to complete the task, with the road crews working around the clock.

Before the work was undertaken 15,000 pamphlets were delivered to the affected suburbs, notifications were send out through Roads ACT, and they tried to get the radio to run regular ads in the days leading up to the commencement of the works.

The team apologised for 'getting it wrong' in regard to the actual amount of traffic, which resulted in substantial delays, of up to 2 hours. They recognise that they should have managed the traffic a lot better, but stressed that everybody underestimated the traffic in the weeks before school commenced. The team believe that the public would have been angrier if the roads works continued into the start of school.

Michael Knight asked what would happen if a petrol tanker went over, on Johnston Drive, how would people get out, given there is only one way out? Joy Burch stressed that this is the key issue that has come out of this situation – access. She has spoken to Mick Gentleman and Andrew Barr already about the issue. Roads ACT did work with the ESA to establish an emergency plan, which included access alongside the road for emergency vehicles and plates onsite to place over the trenches if required in an emergency. There were daily meetings with ESA and Roads ACT to assess the situation.

They tried to put in a number of measures but the traffic became chaotic as many drivers were disregarding the temporary road rules. The police were required to assist in directing traffic on all 4 exits, and then temporary traffic lights were installed. Karl Cloos advised that their traffic estimate

was based on counters at close by pedestrian traffic lights, but this clearly underestimated how traffic was using Tharwa Drive during January.

This all resulted in significant delays. The Roads ACT team apologised, but did stress that the work was done in 9 days rather than the estimated 26.

Hamish Sinclair commented that it is surprising that they underestimated the traffic level, although importantly it did raise the issue of access. Emergency Services said that social planning research has been undertaken over a number of years but with limited data. There were daily meetings to assess issues constantly, especially in regard to the morning rush. He did note that it was important to do it safely, and if the process had taken longer the Fire Station would also be delayed potentially by months.

There were a number of misleading road signs. There were a lot of signs erected; we can't speak for the contractors but we apologise if the signs were misleading.

Comment – Disappointed with the consultation by the TCC with the community, and it also raises issues about whether Roads ACT can link Tharwa Drive with the Monaro Highway, seal some of the fire trails behind Banks, or duplicate Johnson Drive or Woodcock Drive. Mark defended the TCC and Eric's consultation with the community, noting that the timing was very tight and a lot of consultation was not possible. Eric indicated that the TCC would be happy to discuss some of these options with Roads ACT, and is pleased to be able to 'flesh out' some ideas with residents of the Lanyon valley.

Why wasn't there more social media? Social media, the news, the Canberra Times need to be used in the future. We contacted the radio stations, but we can't tell the stations what to play. Roads ACT must notify, then the ESA developed maps as soon as possible before Christmas. Joy Burch agreed that the radio stations reported the closure and delays a lot in the beginning of the week but tapered off as it became 'old news'.

The decision to open Woodcock Drive to traffic one way should be congratulated. Agreed with Joy Burch that it is for a worthy cause, but a 2 hour wait in traffic is hard to bear. Thankyou for trying to make it easier. One questioner noted that there were supposed to be big displays at the shopping centres but she didn't see one at Lanyon and she didn't get a leaflet in her letterbox.

What would have happened if we had had a bad fire season? Information needs to be given to the community about any emergency plans. The team assured those present that there were discussions with the RFA, and that they were not expecting a high fire danger in January. Evacuation plans were in place if required; the pits could have been filled in and covered in 1 hour. All contingencies were accounted for. There was also a detour in place for emergency vehicles; but it would have been dangerous to allow traffic on it due to the gradient of the ground. Mark was asked if the community could be told next time of the contingency plans which are put in place, which he agreed would be a good idea.

Joy Burch said that the Fire Commissioner made a point of assuring the community but she wasn't sure on how it was relayed by the media.

Mark O'Neil expressed great concern over the potential plight of people with medical conditions. His wife required dialysis, and although they left 40 mins early for an appointment, they arrived 1.5 hours late. This week she required paramedics and they arrived 5 minutes after the call and got her to the hospital in 17 mins. He couldn't see how the detour track could be used by emergency services. The responding agencies were consulted with, and were all aware of the detour track. Nobody was compromised. ESA and Roads ACT will take concerns about emergency access and community awareness of contingency plans on board and will endeavour to do better next time.

Brendan Smyth asked whether studies into response times need to be reassessed given the issues with the roadwork, and who approved the closure? The sighting of the station was based on demographics, the road network, and changes in population which necessitated a move from the Greenway Station to better service the Lanyon Valley. All stations are intrinsically linked so that there is a rapid response, quicker than the national benchmark. Roads ACT approved the road closure.

Motion raised

TCC supports in principle and gets behind a campaign to look into another road access into the Lanyon Valley, as well as duplication of the relevant roads and to improve the traffic flow around intersections.

Motion: Karl Maftoum Seconded by Ian ???

Karl indicated that he is prepared to work with the TCC to put in a proposal to Government outlining the above.

Joy Burch was thanked for stepping in, and it was asked where was Shane Rattenbury, Minister for Roads? Joy Burch, as Emergency Services Minister was happy to represent the Government. A community open day will be organised when the fire station is completed. "We hope to see you all and you can see the benefits of the road closure".

Eric thanked everyone for sharing their concerns with the TCC.

Erindale Community Garden

Dr Karen McPherson told the council about the proposed Erindale Community Garden on Comrie Street, which fits in well with the earlier presentation by T One 5. In August 2013 she approached the Erindale College to paint a mural on the wall at the back of the block. This has been a positive influence on the community already. In August 2014 the idea of a community garden began. It will be a community garden for community groups, not generally individuals. There are many stakeholders already on board, including;

- Tuggeranong Uniting Church
- Police Community Youth Club, who will be helping build garden beds
- Canberra Organic Growers Association (they have a garden nearby but also have a long waiting list)
- Day Care Centres in area
- Families in the neighbouring units and townhouses are also interested.

Have also approached the Canberra Islamic Centre and the local indigenous centre. We are asking all community groups to be involved.

The block of land is in the middle of a residential zone, and is subject to erosion from cars parking there. The group has recently been successful in obtaining a 303 license to use the land. The Uniting Church next door are the auspicing organisation with a community management committee to oversee the day to day activities. There are a range of positive points

- It is in the middle of a busy centre, so many people
- The vision of the project is that it will be inclusive
- It is about community groups building community links and breaking down the silos.
- A vehicle for building social capital

There will be raised garden beds so that children and people in wheelchairs can access them. All paths will be wheelchair accessible. Everyone benefits from knowing where your food comes from and it is fun to eat what you have grown.

It will also be a place to provide shelter and somewhere to sit, eat and talk. 6000 cars come down Comrie street daily but nobody stops to talk; the group wants to get community groups talking to each other. Informal mentoring is an important way to pass on information, and provide support and friendship.

It will have one big utility area for communal propagation etc., to encourage communication. There will a fence surrounding the garden, but not a big one as they want passers-by to be able to see in and feel welcome.

There will be native gardens for children to explore in and for relaxation and contemplation. We see this area being about 20 metres by 8 metres wide.

There will be a children's corner for imaginative play, and a sensory garden for young and old. Horticultural therapy is good for visually impaired and people with Alzheimer's.

So far the group have had a banner raising on the 11th December to announce the project, quoting for fencing (will be up in 3 weeks), plumbing etc., Dial before you Dig, developed management structures, Tuggeranong Uniting Church and the Lions Club of Canberra Kambah as sponsors, list of stakeholders and a garden design.

The group have run some offsite projects as well

- 14th February sausage sizzle at Bunnings
- Using old pallets from Mugga tip to build compost bins
- Propagating plants that will form a short hedge.
- Community groups are planning what to grow in their plots.

Biggest time investment is looking for sponsorship and grants.

Lessons learnt include

- We need to be doing a lot of research

- Establish a vision and communicate it
- Ask people what they want
- Have a range of ways to involve people
- Funding
- Machinery of Government does work

There is a webpage www.erindaleneighbourhoodgarden.org

What are you doing about water? We have discussed with a plumber, and the Tuggeranong Uniting Church next door is letting us put a deductible flow meter onto their system which will allow us to pay for what we use. Will also be looking at installing water tanks.

How do you plan to deal with vandalism and access by the elderly?

We will be relying on passive surveillance – as it is a busy street people are always looking. We don't intend on having a permanent driveway. Instead it will be a temporary one with a lockable bollard so that cars cannot access the site. Will also have a tumbler code lock on the gate. The church next door and the mural have never been vandalised.

Many elderly people live on the same side of the road as the garden, so they will not have to cross the road.

General Business

Glenys Patulny informed those present that guest speakers at the next TCC meeting will be from the Water Policy Unit at ESDD in regard to water quality issues of the lake. A draft plan of some proposals to tackle these issues has been drafted and these will be discussed.

The Tuggeranong Lake Carers have identified a lot of erosion problems at the Wanniasa Inlet, which has been exacerbated of late due to a lot of rain. Are looking at working with a local Landcare group to put in some logs to reduce the erosion.

The 1st March is Clean Up Australia Day. Lesley, from Tuggeranong Lake Carers is organising the cleanup from 10am starting at the Scout Hall. If there are enough participants we will have a BBQ. Leslie usually does 7 – 8 hours weekly on a kayak cleaning up the lake.

It was asked if the TCC know anything about the proposal to reassess the electoral boundaries and what affect it will have on Brindabella. Eric answered that the TCC hasn't been advised of anything and believes that the decision was to be made mid-year. He directed people to look at the Electoral Commissions website where there may be more information.

Bernard O'Donnell, Wanniasa resident from the Saint Vincent's DePaul expressed concern about changes to the bus routes in Oxley, Monash, and Wanniasa from Erindale Centre. Since September services coming out of McBryde crescent have been altered, which has resulted in elderly people in these suburbs having no bus service to Erindale. He has approached ACTION himself to no avail. Can the TCC do anything about the situation? Eric has heard similar stories and that people's communication are being ignored. The TCC will approach ACTION with the concerns raised.

Close Meeting: Meeting closed at 9.40pm. Next meeting 3rd March 2015

PRESIDENT'S REPORT - 3 FEBRUARY 2015 - GENERAL MEETING

I'd like to welcome you all to our first meeting for 2015. The TCC's mission is to advocate on behalf of all Tuggeranong residents and businesses and the Committee and I are determined to do that during 2015.

We've had some very interesting developments since our last meeting in November last year. The most significant is the change in Chief Minister. The TCC had a good relationship with Katy Gallagher and I'm hoping we can develop a productive working relationship with Andrew Barr.

I'm pleased to be able to tell you that the TCC has been able to respond to requests for help for some of our residents who have been concerned about Development Applications on properties in their vicinity. The latest concerns of DA to convert a small house in Kambah into a child care facility. The outcome of this DA is yet to be decided but at least we've been able to provide them with guidance on how to lodge an objection. Providing this sort of assistance with guiding Tuggeranong residents with their interaction with ACT Govt agencies is a useful service that the TCC can provide.

We have a number of ongoing issues that we will continue to pursue this year. They are :-

- **Lake Tuggeranong Water Quality improvement.** We will continue to work with Govt agencies to develop projects aimed at improving the lake's water quality.
- **Opposition to the Capital Metro Project.** Members passed a motion at the July 2014 meeting to oppose this project basically on the grounds that it was too expensive and we don't get sufficient benefit in return. We have been vocal in our opposition and this will continue. We have asked the Govt to tell us if we (the public) will be advised when they know how much the annual availability payment will be and will we know before or after the construction contract is signed.
- **CIT Campus in Tuggeranong.** We will continue to pursue this issue with the Govt. The establishment of a CIT Campus here would add new life to the Town Centre.
- **The near vacant buildings between Anketell and Cowlshaw St** have lead to a dead area. We need to breathe new life into this area.

There is a combined Community Council this Saturday morning 7 February, hosted by Weston Creek CC. The TCC will be attending that meeting. Agenda Items as follows -

- CCC Structure and Secretariat
- Transport for Canberra
- Parking
- Population Growth
- Request from Deakin Residents for financial support.
- ACTEWAGL Distribution Energy Reference Council

On 22 January 2015, V.P. Glenys Patulny and Max Flint attended for the first time a meeting of the ACTEWAGL Distribution Energy Reference Council hosted by ACTEWAGL. ACTEWAGL is strongly opposed to the price reductions that the Australian Energy Regulator have required ACTEWAGL to implement in their draft report. We need to understand if ACTEWAGL's reasons for opposing AER's recommendations are legitimate or are they just trying to protect their income. Implementing AER's

TUGGERANONG COMMUNITY COUNCIL (TCC)		
TREASURER'S REPORT		
GENERAL MEETING		
	3/02/15	SC Club
ACCOUNTS FOR PERIOD ENDING		
	January 2015	
	Date	Balance
Operating Account		
Start of Period	1/12/14	2,242.55
Income		7,422.68
Expenses		- 1,836.23
Cheques not yet presented		218.52
Cheques paid from last month		-
Transfers TO Investment Acct		-
Transfers FROM Investment Acct		-
Transfers TO Petty Cash		-
Transfers FROM Petty Cash		-
End of Period	21/01/15	8,047.52
Net Change for Period		5,804.97
Investment Account		
Start of Period	1/12/14	18,524.37
In		67.42
Out		-
End of Period	21/01/15	18,591.79
Net change for Period		67.42
Petty Cash		
Start of Period	1/12/14	3.60
In		17.00
Out		-
End of Period	21/01/15	20.60
Net change for Period		17.00
Total Accounts		
Start of Period	1/12/14	20,770.52
End of Period	21/01/15	26,659.91
Net change for Period		5,889.39
INCOME FOR PERIOD (OP ACC)		
	Date	Sum
Bank Interest	31/12/14	2.68
ACT Gov Grant	29/01/15	7,420.00
Total Income (excluding transfers)		7,422.68
EXPENDITURES FOR Period		
	Date	Sum
Optus	4/12/14	43.98
W.King	11/12/14	126.16
Optus	6/01/15	43.98
Shared Services ACT Insurance	19/01/15	1,185.35
W.King	31/12/14	218.24
D. Holmes	23/01/15	218.52
Total Expenses (excluding transfers)		1,836.23
NOTES:		
1. Committee expenses are those incurred by Committee Members, while performing Committee duties.		