

Tuggeranong Community Council Inc.

Minutes of General Meeting – 3rd March 2015

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

Welcome: Eric Traise welcomed all MLAs, guest speakers and visitors.

Apologies: Brendan Smyth, Mick Gentleman, Sheridan Brill, Darryl Johnston, Col Petrie, Ann Driver

Confirmation of Minutes of the last meeting:

Acceptance of the minutes of the 3rd February 2015 was proposed by Albert Orszaczkzy, Seconded by Robyn Chapman

Business arising from the minutes:

T one 5

Pat Williams gave an update on the T One 5 Project. The team received a lot of interest through Facebook and other social media. Schools have expressed interest, and the Belconnen Community Council also expressed interest in adopting the idea, but were told they the project was designed for Tuggeranong.

They have developed a list of projects, and as a trial project they organised chalk drawings in the gazebo, which was well received by the community and shared on social media. Next they will set up blackboards for people to write ideas on. As the team have limited money that are asking anybody who has materials to donate towards the project.

Lanyon Roads

Karl, Nelson, Shaun and Tom have come up with some ideas in light of the Lanyon drive issue.

- The single worse intersection in the area is the Isabella Drive/ Drakeford/ Athllon drive roundabout, which would be better with a set of lights there.
- Issues with Ashley drive will be fixed up through the updates which are planned on the road.
- A suggestion may also be to use the fire trails behind Bonython, from Woodcock drive around the back of the Town centre past Strangers Pond, as an emergency arterial road when required although this may be controversial and there may be environmental concerns with that option.
- Another option would be an arterial road on the west of the Murrumbidgee River, but would only work in conjunction with any development in west Tuggeranong.
- The connection to the Monaro Highway is steep and would have to link up at Eaglemont Retreat, which would be a major road in an established residential area.
- It was suggested the fire trails along Tuggeranong Hill down towards Banks could be resealed as an emergency access point.

Any of these suggestions would require TAMS approval.

Karl would like to know which of these suggestions the Community Council would like them to continue to develop and to then discuss with TAMS.

Eric pointed out that normally these roads work well, it was just in an emergency there was an issue. He thought it was good the community were looking at options themselves.

Buses to Erindale

Eric has written to Ministers Rattenbury and Coe in regard to this issue and will wait and see what their response is.

Presidents Report/ Correspondence – Eric Traise

The most significant thing to report in the Tuggeranong Valley recently is the murder in Calwell last weekend. Eric stressed that we can't just let it go and think that it is normal. We can't do anything for the mother but we can help the kids. As the leadership organisation in Tuggeranong the TCC can take leadership here and offer assistance to the family. Any ideas please talk to the committee. We want all Tuggeranong residents to think they can live safely.

Eric and Glenys met with the principal of Lake Tuggeranong College and discussed getting younger people involved in the Community Council.

All of the Community Councils have been asked by Mick Gentleman MLA to provide ideas and suggestions to the Statement of Planning Intent he is developing. This will be the key development plan for the next five years. There is a workshop tomorrow which Wayne King is attending. Any ideas please contact Wayne.

The next meeting Glenys Patulny will be chairing as Eric and his wife will be overseas.

Accepted: Karl Maftoum

Seconded: Russell Morison

Treasurers Report - Max Flint

There hasn't been a lot of activity this month. Currently we have \$26,000 as last month we received the grant from the government which covers running costs. This grant was \$5,000 less than the previous year due to us spending less. Expenses this month have been minimal.

Nominated: Max Flint

Seconded: Albert Orszaczky

Subcommittee Reports

Environment subcommittee – Glenys Patulny

Lesley McGrane and Bill Perry are the backbone of the TLC. Lesley helps coordinate the clean-ups and Bill takes photos. On Clean Up Australia Day there were 35 people to help, and between them

got 55 bags of rubbish. An article about the event was in the Chronicle, Canberra Times and the Sydney Morning Herald. Glenys thanked the rowing club for their help on the day.

The rowing club have taken responsibility for regular clean up of one area, now the Government needs to clean up some of it as well.

Planning and Development – Wayne King

Wayne attended a Planning and Development forum organised by Mick Gentleman. There are usually 4 or 5 of these a year. This time they had released a draft plan for the light rail project which included a map showing the light rail through Woden, Erindale and then onto Tuggeranong, rather than down the Monaro highway to Tuggeranong. There is a brochure on the wind farms, with many of them planned for over the border in NSW as the ACT lacks suitable sites. Wayne has a few brochures from the forum if anybody is interested, including a plan showing proposed development down Northbourne Avenue. Eric will send an email as to how to access the information from the TAMS website.

There is a planning meeting tomorrow, contact Wayne for details.

Health Subcommittee – Beverley Flint

Beverly Flint has spoken to KFC and McDonalds about the rubbish around the lake near their premises over the weekend. She has also spoken to Deidre Babcock from No Waste about more bins/ rubbish collections in the area.

She also spoke to McDonalds, the Tuggeranong Arts Centre, the Over 55s club and various takeaways about participating in the Clean up Australia along the lake.

Communities@Work have a service to provide free food and assistance with electricity bills and prescriptions to people in need at the community centre, from 10am to 3pm 5 days a week. Anybody in need welcome.

Beverly would like to thank everyone, including Glenys, Bill, Lesley, and Nicole Lawder, who helped out at the Clean Up Day.

Police Report – Sgt Jo Cameron

Sgt Jo Cameron thanked Eric for his comments, and said that police are still investigating the murder of Tara Costigan, and she added she is glad to see domestic violence finally being addressed. Tuggeranong Police have a commitment to the family violence Intervention Program and recognition now that the community and police need to work together. These things need a community response, so if there are concerns from the community in regards to family violence Sgt Cameron can put you onto relevant contacts. The Police would like any information from the community if they know anything.

You can find statistics for each suburb on the ACT Police website. An overall trend shows a decline over five years. Many of the crimes committed appear to be youth crime.

If an abandoned car is reported to police, they will contact the owner and it is the owner's responsibility to move it. If it is unclaimed TAMS are required to remove it.

Crimes rates for this month are:

- Burglary rate is 27, an increase of 7 from last month but down from last year
- 57 property damage decreased by 20 from last month
- 25 confirmed assaults same as last month
- 15 reports of stolen motor vehicles increase by 4 from last month
- 21 reports of number plate thefts same as last month
- 61 reports of thefts from cars decreased by 28 from last month but an increase by 20 from same time last year. Please remember to not leave valuables in cars.
- 186 thefts decreased by 29 from January
- Also 84 cannabis plants and methamphetamine were seized after a tip off.

MP/MLA Updates

Nicole Lawder spoke about domestic violence and reminded the meeting that blaming the victim is not helpful, that we all need to stand up and speak out, that these sorts of actions and opinions are not okay. Everyday sexism is where it starts. Nicole was able to put the Costigan family in contact with a pro-bono lawyer. It is important that men stand up – it is not a woman's issue and cannot be fixed unless men help.

Nicole attended many community events over the weekend including the lake Tuggeranong Clean up on Sunday morning and the Fadden Ponds clean up in the afternoon. Thank you to Andrew Wall for organising the Clean up at Macarthur.

Nicole is undertaking a survey of Fadden and Macarthur regarding speed humps. Mick Gentleman started a process of installing speed humps but we need to ensure more are required first and assess whether traffic measures on Bugden avenue and Sternberg crescent have stopped the rat racers. A survey undertaken by Nicole Lawder and Brendan Smyth showed people were mixed on the need for more traffic measures.

It was pointed out that this is the only way for residents of Macarthur to get to Erindale, so it is not a rat run and more speed humps are not required.

Nicole was asked by Eric about the building of a new CIT campus at Tuggeranong, but Nicole Lawder said that Joy Burch would need to be approached about it.

Government Housing Projects

David Collett, Executive Director of The Public Housing Renewal Taskforce spoke about new developments at Chisholm and Monash.

The ACT currently has the oldest public housing stock in Australia and the Government is currently in a process of a four year renewal of some of the older properties. Some of the larger complexes

will be demolished. Currently 1288 properties are to be renewed and the department will sell the older properties. New properties added to the ACT Housing list will be spread more evenly across the ACT than it is currently.

DAs are being lodged for developments in Monash and Chisholm designed for older tenants, so will not be suitable for many of the tenants being moved from the Northbourne complexes. The team have letterbox dropped and are hoping to have comments by local residents before the DA is submitted in early March.

These developments are for 20 units at Hambidge crescent Chisholm and 25 at Mead street Monash for aged accommodation on land zoned as community facility (owned by Commissioner for Social Housing). These will be two bedroom and they will have water tanks, secure parking, small yards, and will have a six star energy efficiency rating. Two bedroom properties have been selected as they are cost effective and more flexible, and more attractive to many older residents.

On the Monash site there is a water inflow issue which the engineers will be looking at.

Construction is intended to start before the end of the calendar year.

Lake Tuggeranong Water Quality Improvement Projects

Matt Kendall, Executive Officer, Catchment Management and Water Policy, outlined the ACT Basin Priority Project, indicating that the ACT priorities are different to other jurisdictions as in the ACT the focus is on water quality and getting water back into the landscape, not irrigation and reuse of water resource.

Six priority catchments have been identified; Lake Tuggeranong, Yarralumla Creek, Upper Molonglo, Lower Molonglo, Riverview, Fyshwick.

The Governance structure includes a joint Commonwealth/ ACT steering committee and a number of project advisory groups, including technical, community, and water quality, cross border coordinating group.

Phase 1 will run until Feb 2016 and includes a pre-feasibility study and an audit of the water quality and establish gaps and priority areas. GHD will provide a report on all 6 catchments.

There is an ACT wide monitoring project to June 2015. These include frameworks for surface water and ground water, the study of the lake beds, micro pollutants and sediments.

Audit of Infrastructure project will go until June 2015, and are looking at the assets that are already in place and what can be done better.

The identification of the final options will be from April to September 2015 and will consist of identification of treatment options (based on environmental, social, economic criteria) across the 6 catchments. There is a focus on catchment infrastructure options.

There will be a Business case submitted to Cabinet later in the year. 10% of the funds have been released so far.

Phase 2 will run until March 2019 and subject to Commonwealth funding approval will consist of installing water quality infrastructure.

Justin Foley, Catchment Management and Water Policy discussed causes of blue green algae in Lake Tuggeranong.

Lake Tuggeranong was built in 1985 – 87 as a settling pond to protect the Murrumbidgee from sedimentation. There are 3 main tributaries, Wanniasa and Kambah from the North and Tuggeranong Creek from the south.

Blue Green algae has been a big problem due to poor overflow to the Murrumbidgee new developments and shifts in climate likely to put further pressure on the system. Is the system working? We know it isn't and we need to act on that. The lake is often closed and this will be an ongoing trend if status quo continues.

The causes of the problems include:

- Undersized for the catchment
- Stormwater drains is most of the supply to the lake
- Water quality impacted by sediment and nutrient runoff
- High turbidity difficult for plants to grow but Blue Green Algae like it.

We need to take a holistic view of management of water, so the project is also looking at stormwater project, infrastructure proposals in catchment and in the lake, e.g. street sweeping, and practise change (composting leaves etc.). They are also looking at ways home owners can improve their impacts on water quality

Currently the project team are gathering data and putting it through a regional assessment. Want comments on the proposals. Suggestions given in the meeting point to Ian Lawrence's report which suggested wetlands at Tuggeranong Homestead and the retrofitting of wetlands at Lake Tuggeranong.

In lake management proposals include:

- Retrofitting spillways, fluctuating operating levels of lake Tuggeranong
- Greater storage capacity and greater pollution interception
- Ground drawdown of lake levels, exposure of sediment
- Encourage bigger reed zone
- Siphons and a bio filter on parkland could reduce extent of pollutant.

The next step is to work with the Commonwealth to get it right, so an analysis of the socio economic and environmental situation has been undertaken. Catchment options analysis and assessment are due May – June. Will then talk to the community and then take the results to cabinet by September with a draft business plan by December.

Jennie Gillies, Manager of the Urban Waterways Program spoke about what is being implemented in ponds across Tuggeranong.

Sullivan's creek group developed a Restoration strategy in 2000; at one point they had 500 volunteers. They reduced the flow to reduce sediment and then removed the concrete.

Four of the 14 projects that the community suggested have been assessed as being able to provide solutions to 70% of the issues identified.

In 2007 \$10.2 million was provided towards drought proofing the ACT. 50% of potable water is used in the irrigation of playing fields etc. Pumps, pipes, flow meters, valves, water quality testing, tanks are all in use to help in catching and using stormwater.

Stormwater reticulation network – 3 areas were suggested and Flemington, was funded by the Commonwealth to catch stormwater and irrigate the nearby green areas such as the Yowani country club.

In 2008/9 there was a Parliamentary agreement as part of the economic stimulus package to install ponds in Lyneham and Dickson to transfer water to Flemington road for storage and there it is filtered through the green areas. There will be an announcement soon in regards to this work, which is the largest stormwater network in the ACT.

Lyneham Ponds are now online and can move 20 million litres and has a storage capacity of 10 mega litres. Flemington road can hold another 140 mega litres. Dickson Ponds are also on line.

In Tuggeranong they are looking at stormwater harvesting and using water from Lake Tuggeranong to irrigate playing fields. In Kambah and Wanniasa tanks have been installed but the pipelines are not in yet. There are already water quality and biodiversity benefits.

There are currently detailed studies across the six catchments and sites are being ranked according to economic, environment, social and cost, but Lake Tuggeranong is expected to be a high priority.

In June there will be an open house where people can come and look at a map and have a chat about the project. There has been some delay in getting projects on Lake Tuggeranong as not all of the Commonwealth funds have been released yet.

There has been a long history of infrastructure being built with no thought for maintenance, so we need to do a lot of planning of better low maintenance options; the audit of infrastructure has been important for this process.

East Greenway residents have for years put up with smell from the lake and nothing has been done. The team acknowledged the urgency with this project and hoped to get things moving soon.

The gross pollutant traps need to be cleaned more regularly, the infrastructure audit will be looking at them. They are checked twice a year and after heavy rainfall. Once they are 60% full they are cleaned.

Given that the stats show that Lake Tuggeranong is worse than Lake Ginninderra it was pointed out by members that this was not good enough and Tuggeranong had waited long enough for things to be fixed.

General Business: none

Close Meeting: Meeting closed at 9.50pm.

Next Meeting: 7th April 2015

Presidents Report

As I was thinking about what to put in my report to you, I couldn't get the most significant thing that's happened recently in Tuggeranong out of my mind. I'm referring to the horrific murder of a young mother in Calwell a few days ago. I'm sure we were all shocked by this terrible event. But do we just have to accept that such crimes are a normal part of our society today and that we are powerless to do anything about it?

I'm not sure that we can do anything to prevent more of these crimes from happening but I am sure that we shouldn't just shrug our shoulders and try to forget it happened. There are now three young children who will grow up without their mother. We can't do anything to help her but perhaps we can do something to help the children.

I intend talking further to the Committee about this to see if they agree that the TCC should somehow get involved. If you have any thoughts about this, please let me or a Committee member know during the coffee break. We want all Tuggeranong residents to feel that they can live here safely and happily. I believe that after such a terrible event, our community would expect us to adopt a leadership role and that's what I'd like to see us do.

On other more mundane matters, the Lake Tuggeranong Carer's Group sponsored a successful lake tidy up on Sunday. I'll let VP Glenys say more about this during her Sub-Committee report later.

As you know, we've been talking for some time now about trying to broaden the age demographic of our membership. We've been particularly keen on trying to involve younger people. To that end, Glenys and I met with last week with the Principal of Lake Tuggeranong College, Julie Murkins. It was a very fruitful meeting and I hope it will bear fruit in the next few months. We intend having a similar meeting with the Erindale College Principal.

Planning Minister Mick Gentleman is convening a planning workshop tomorrow afternoon to develop his Statement of Planning Intent. This will set out the key planning priorities for the Government for the next 3-5 years. Vice President, Wayne King will be representing the TCC at this workshop. Earlier today I circulated via email more information about the workshop. If you have any ideas that you would like Wayne to put forward, please let him know by midday tomorrow by email secretary@tuggcc.com.

Eric Traise