

Tuggeranong Community Council Inc
General Meeting – 3 December 2009
Draft Minutes

Apologies:

Steve Dospot MLA, Paul Armstead.

Present:

See attendance book record of 3 December 2009.

Approval of October 2009 Minutes:

Accepted: Rusty Woodward Seconded: Sue Penn-Turrall

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting last month will be circulated prior to the 2010 AGM as is normal practice, but members will be aware that a new Committee was elected at that Meeting and this matter will be addressed further in the President's Report.

Matters Arising from October Meeting:

The newly-elected President was not present at the October Meeting and the Minute Secretary, Albert Orszaczky, indicated that he was not aware of any "Matters Arising", following the departure of the former President, Rosemary Lissimore after that Meeting.

Albert mentioned that apparently an update was not yet available on the release of the Cemetery Discussion Paper. Also, the situation is not clear regarding the consultation process and the promised public display at Lanyon Market Place and/or the Hyperdome for the planned construction of Government supportive housing in Bonython, Conder and Kambah. Further information and comments were sought from members in this regard and it was confirmed that the displays had, in fact, been installed at both locations.

President's Report (Mr Darryl Johnston):

President, Darryl Johnston was chairing his first General Meeting and presented the following Report:

"Firstly, thank you to everyone for their emails, ideas and suggestions on moving forward with the new Tuggeranong Community Council. If I have not replied to your emails or messages, I am sorry but I have been busy. If I do not get around to you please send me a reminder.

This last month I have been working to get the new Tuggeranong Community Council up and running with the welcomed help and support of the new Executive and a number of other members. At times this has been a difficult and time consuming task.

On 7 November I and some members of the new Executive collected the files and assets belonging to the TCC from the home of the former President and Public Officer, Rosemary and David Lissimore. Almost 20 years of hard copy records were collected, enough to fill my trailer. I believe David was pleased to regain the space in their house and some normality to their lives.

Some files, namely the computer records, were not amongst those initially collected. After I contacted Rosemary and David the files were delivered to the TCC mailbox and our records now appear to be complete. The disks included a letter in which Rosemary and David requested that they be removed from the TCC Membership list. In a (subsequent) telephone call to them I confirmed with David that that the letter was their official resignation from the Tuggeranong Community Council, effective from receipt of the letter.

Last weekend members of the Executive Team began sorting through the hard copy records, filing and archiving to determine what we needed to keep and disposing of the outdated and unnecessary material. To me, and I feel to many members of the Executive, that mammoth exercise marked the beginning of a new chapter for the Community Council, a point at which, I believe, we can now move on and look toward a positive future. I hope you will join us in moving ahead.

The new TCC has received numerous messages of support and congratulations on the appointment of a new Executive Team. They include emails and messages from our elected representatives, both local and Federal, other Community Councils, community groups and organisations, the Australian Federal Police and many

- Identified 33 unlicensed & 46 suspended drivers;
 - Arrested 3 disqualified drivers, 2 drivers exceeding the PCA and 4 persons with outstanding warrants;
 - Seen a further 2 disqualified drivers summonsed, 5 drivers summonsed for other traffic matters & 3 summonses issued for non-traffic related offences;
 - Issued 452 Traffic Infringement Notices;
 - Recovered 3 stolen motor vehicles;
 - Seen 1,150 vehicles examined by RTA Inspectors with 18 vehicles removed from the road immediately and 290 other vehicles issued minor defect notices.
- Operation “RAID” (Remove All Impaired Drivers) commenced recently and will run through to mid-December 2009. This is an Australia-wide operation involving all Police Services with the mission of deterring and detecting impaired drivers through significantly increased Random Breath testing and High Visibility Patrolling. ACT Police will contribute by conducting an additional 6,000 Random Breath tests during the period of Operation RAID.
 - Search Warrants executed on consecutive dates at addresses in Richardson and Theodore resulted in the recovery of property stolen during a residential burglary and from three separate school burglaries. Drugs and a stolen motorcycle were also seized during the execution of these warrants, as well as a large crucifix stolen from a Christian school.

Sergeant Anderson provided an update on the enquiry raised at a previous meeting regarding the likelihood of drug testing of drivers. He indicated that roadside tests are now being conducted in the ACT (in conjunction with the ANU) on a voluntary basis. It is expected to be introduced nationally in the form of a random saliva test, with a refusal resulting in the vehicle being searched and seized and the authority for the driver to be taken to hospital for a compulsory blood test.

Questions from the floor:

The following issues were raised by members and briefly discussed:

- Proposed test for DUI victims – breathalyser unit to be installed in vehicles.
- Presence of RAPID device on Athllon Drive recently broadcast on ABC Radio – no real concern to Police. Also, the common practice of flashing lights to warn oncoming traffic of speed traps is considered OK if it achieves its purpose of reducing speed.
- Patrol activities to continue for a few more months targeting North Tuggeranong suburbs. Also, purpose of high Police visibility is intended to reduce other “high volume” property crime.
- Discussion re proposed reduction of speed limit around Shopping Centres – generally a welcome safety measures.

Presentation on the New TCC:

President, Darryl Johnston addressed the members regarding his suggested plans for the role and activities of the Council in 2010 and beyond. He outlined the following details of his proposals:

- Proposed structure of the Council with more active participation and involvement by members to spread the workload and achieve a sense of ownership;
- Various Sub-Committees to be formed to handle the major issues involving the Council on behalf of the local community, namely:
 - Planning and Development
 - Environment
 - Transport
 - Community and Services;
- Interested members asked to nominate for one or more of the Committees;
- Specific role of each Committee and activities involved;
- Additional positions to be appointed to cover various specialist activities - maintenance of TCC website, media communication strategy, social engagement, legal adviser;
- Method of operation and proposed meeting arrangements, as well as the process for reporting activities and recommendations to the Executive Committee for consideration;
- Final submissions to be presented to members in a structured manner at General Meetings for discussion/decision and for either adoption or rejection back to the Committee for their reconsideration.

The ideas were generally well received by members and the following comments and suggestions were put forward:

- Suggested process may present problems due to tight deadlines often imposed for requested input;
- Phone and email communication to be used as much as possible to accelerate the decision process;
- More time may be available on request to enable more structured and professional TCC submissions;
- Firm and consistent policy to be established in each of the various areas;
- Proposed structure is idealistic and increase in membership required to enable effective operation;
- Aged pensioner issues also need to be canvassed;
- Small number of interested volunteers expected in early stages of implementation, but expansion and success anticipated over time;
- Knowledge and expertise of various other community groups/organisations can also be utilised where applicable;
- Need to be selective in prioritisation of relevant issues and to liaise with other Councils to standardise response time to Government on consultation topics;
- Nomination for Committees requested and opportunity exists for recruitment of new members to assist in their specific area of interest/concern;
- Suggestion to appoint a Liaison Officer (or group) to attract local business people/organisations to become involved with TCC;
- Relationship established with Communities at Work may be beneficial in this regard and to be further discussed. Also, links with various related groups may also be worthwhile investigating;
- Final suggestion for a revised and more preferable Committee structure to avoid conflict of ideas and opinions by appointing one person to thoroughly deal with and report on each specific issue.

General and Other Business:

Eric Traise provided some brief feedback on a session earlier today by Roads ACT to present a Consultant's Report recommending the introduction of a 40kms per hour speed limit around local Shopping Centres. He mentioned that an online questionnaire on the proposal is available through the TAMS website for completion before 18 December. The presentation highlighted the prevalence of injuries to pedestrians and cyclists and the comparison of the extent of damage and likelihood of probable fatalities at different speeds. The relevant web link to the questionnaire is to be included on the TCC website for the information of members.

It was reported that the reduced 40kms speed limit is already in force in several Sydney suburbs and is working quite well. Also, the limit is also in successful operation around Erindale.

Upcoming Events / Next meeting:

Tuesday 8 December 2009 - Canberra Airport Community Meeting scheduled for 4.45pm to 6.00pm at Canberra Airport Management Office, 2 Brindabella Circuit, Canberra Airport.

"Curfew for Canberra" group have approached us to attend the next Meeting on **Thursday, 4 February 2010** as guest speaker, and this was acceptable to members. Also, members agreed to invite ACT Cemeteries group to address the March Meeting on the outcome of the Report to be released shortly on the suitability of the location for their proposed development at Mugga Lane. It was suggested that the Minister for Planning, Andrew Barr MLA, also be invited to attend that Meeting if available.

Darryl indicated that all requests to address our Meetings should be submitted formally and would be put to the membership for agreement if considered relevant. Also, it was suggested that guest speakers would generally be limited to one person or group per Meeting, as well as a time limit to fit in with the new Agenda format. It is also intended for some relevant items of interest to be communicated through the new TCC website.

Also, serious concerns were expressed by Colin Petrie on the status of the South Tralee residential development and he suggested that we invite the relevant parties to address a future Meeting to provide an update on the current position for the benefit of anxious Tuggeranong residents. Eric Traise pointed out that the recently released Environment Report was available through the Queanbeyan Council website.

The meeting concluded at approximately 8.50pm and members were invited to stay on for the usual light refreshments and informal chat.