

Tuggeranong Community Council Meeting Minutes – 5 April 2016

Welcomes:

Meeting Opened 7:33pm and President, Glenys Patulny welcomed the large crowd in attendance - refer Attendance Record of 5 April.

Apologies:

Frank Vrins, Gai Brodtmann MP, Martin Wright, Kit and Carol Vincent, Darryl Johnston.

Minutes from the March 2016 Meeting:

Moved: Lorraine King, Seconded: Bill Heins

Matters arising from the Minutes:

Nil

President's Report:

Glenys delivered the following Report:

“It has been a busy month starting a few days after our (previous) meeting, with the announcement by Minister Mick Gentleman of a new suburb for Tuggeranong. We are happy to have the Minister here tonight to give us, later in the evening, the details of this proposal. On the same day there was the official launch of the Calwell Master Plan. Copies can be viewed on the ACT Government website.

Last Saturday there was a Neighbour Day at the park near the Castley Street shops in Kambah, sponsored by the Asbestos Response Taskforce as a way of trying to bring the neighbourhood together in an area where there are a number of “Mr Fluffy” affected homes. The TCC had a stall there and I spoke to a number of people about various issues. Today I attended a lunchtime address on “Making Canberra’s Heart Sing” a talk by two Canadian eminent town planners talking about urban renewal and the lessons learnt from other cities. And on Thursday I will be attending a whole day “Thought Leaders Forum” session on the transformation of Central Canberra.

Currently the TCC Executive are working hard on deciding what we want for our new website. This will then be passed on to a designer to implement these ideas and we hope to have it up ASAP.

There will be the official opening of the Kingswim Centre at Calwell next week on Wednesday 13 April, where a plaque, acknowledging the work of our past President, Eric Traise in ensuring that the Centre went ahead, will be unveiled.

The next meeting of the Tuggeranong Community Council will be held at 7.30pm on Tuesday 3rd May. We should be hearing about what is happening with the Murray-Darling Basin Project and the implication for water quality projects here in Tuggeranong. We will also be hearing from Capital Metro, Council on the Ageing and the latest news about South Quay. It will be a very busy night. We usually try to restrict the number of guest speakers at each meeting to two (one long speaker and one short one), but this year there has been so much happening we’ve had to increase that.”

Police Report:

Sergeant Chris Meagher provided a brief Report, including details of Crime Statistics during the previous month.

He advised that the number of criminal offences have increased in Tuggeranong across all categories, with the exception of Assaults and Sexual Assaults. He mentioned that ACT Policing are targeting speeding during April, also driver behaviours particularly road rage incidents.

Sergeant Meagher also made reference to the “silly season” approaching over the colder months with road conditions often effected by the incidence of fog and icy roads. Extra care should be taken to avoid potential accidents.

MLA Reports:Nicole Lawder MLA

Ms Lawder provided a brief update in relation to her follow up action on the complaints about the smell emanating from the Mugga Lane tip. She indicated that the authorities had agreed to closely monitor the situation as appropriate.

She also made brief reference to the proposed new Tuggeranong suburb, which will be the subject of a presentation by Minister Gentleman shortly. Ms Lawder mentioned the Calwell Group Centre Master Plan, which is in the final stages of the community consultation process. She also referred to the recent policy announcements by the Canberra Liberals regarding the proposed extension of the duplication of Ashley Drive to Johnson Drive, as well as their extensive Transport Plan.

Brendan Smyth MLA

Mr Smyth reminded attendees of the less than 200 days countdown to the ACT Election in October.

He highlighted the apparent neglect of the Tuggeranong Valley by the current Government, with particular reference to the delay in announcing the long overdue Master Plans for Kambah, Calwell and Erindale.

Brendan also made reference to plans for extension of the Ashley Drive duplication and the concerns being expressed about the upgrades required to local suburban shops. He emphasised that it was “time for action and change”.

Mick Gentleman MLA

Minister Gentleman provided a brief update on the status of the “Mr Fluffy” demolition project and the next stage relating to the purchase of the vacant blocks.

He proceeded to provide a PowerPoint presentation about the new suburb of Thompson being proposed for the Valley. The 190 hectare area is situated between the Town Centre and the Murrumbidgee River. The following points were highlighted:

- Focal point of the Murrumbidgee River to the locality.
- Vital to grow the local economy and community.

- Essential for urban renewal and sustainability.
- Total of 18 suburbs in the Valley since Kambah was settled in 1974, consisting of around 85,700 residents.
- Tuggeranong is a great place to live, but we need to generate new business and investment confidence.
- Potential exists to revitalise the commercial area as well as increase the supply of residential accommodation.
- Essential facilities are the core for the community's active lifestyle and well-being.
- Community consultation being conducted with feedback and first hand views being sought to ensure the suitability of the proposed development.
- Various studies involved in planning a new suburb – ACT Government will consider all options before a firm decision is made.
- First phase of consultation completes on 22 April, with feedback to be provided to community.
- Website comments to be directed to: www.haveyoursay.planning.act.gov.au .

Members of the Land Development Agency were present to assist with addressing any relevant questions. The following comments and concerns were raised by members:

- Where is the exact location? **Map of the nearby area was displayed.**
- Concerns re possible smell from the nearby river and Lake.
- Local business groups concerned about the timelines for the consultation process and outcome. Early involvement of community sought.
- Master Plan did not include the proposed new suburb.
- Why not develop the existing Town Centre around vacant car park areas before creating a new suburb on the outskirts?
- Concern regarding tight consultation period to enable community submission.
Plenty of later opportunities beyond initial closing date to allow for further community engagement.
- Concerns about likely destruction of environment and heritage value of the Thompson property.
- Query about the number of people likely to reside there and the opportunities available for local jobs, as well as required improvements to transport facilities for travel to City and beyond.
- Are zoning changes required for the proposed development?
Yes, variation required and will receive usual attention/approval.
- Suggestion to extend Arboretum area south and combine with the locality of the new development.
- Proposed completion date queried. **Project to commence in 2017 at earliest.**
- Comparison drawn with Crace development and relevant block sizes. It appears that too many residences being proposed to fit the available space.
- Who will conduct environmental assessments required?
Professional contractors to be engaged in accordance with the requirements of the relevant Act.
- Choice of smaller affordable blocks would be acceptable to young people anxious to enter the residential market.

Guest Speakers:

-Tuggeranong College students

Glenys introduced three students from Tuggeranong College to address the meeting to share details of some of the improvements they would like to see in Tuggeranong to benefit local youth. They provided an enthusiastic dialogue with a mixture of various ideas including the following:

- Local teenagers are stuck for social activities, other than visits to the Hyperdome.
- Talked about the ‘beautiful lake’, which unfortunately suffers from bad smells. They want it cleaned up.
- Benefits of developing various events around the Lake, such as exercise/fitness related activities, utilising the Town Park for suitable events to showcase students’ talents, possible establishment of a Youth Centre, etc.
- Recent experience with Lake clean up highlighted likely possibilities of the surrounding area.
- Boost cultural life for youth, more tertiary institutions with perhaps a small campus of a local University.
- Improve night life with more outlets opening for longer periods.
- Develop gazebo area on Lake Foreshore as a meeting place with suitable amenities.
- Improve public transport system to enable better access to/from Tuggeranong.
- Implement more effective ways to inform young people about available local activities through use of social media.

The presentation was well received by the audience and Nick Tsoulis delivered some words of appreciation and encouragement for the information provided. Further clarification was sought regarding the preferable communication channels and reference was made to Facebook and Instagram in particular. Glenys pointed out that the TCC is presently working towards developing a Facebook presence through its website.

There was further discussion on the benefits of establishing a local university campus similar to facilities available on the Northside. Reference was made to the discussions at the last meeting in relation to the recent establishment of the CIT nearby and the wide variety of courses being offered. Further clarification was sought on the nature of activities required to satisfy local youth and avoid them having to travel outside the area. The students provided a variety of interesting suggestions and their further involvement and attendance at meetings would be most welcome and was encouraged.

- Martin Fisk (Menslink)

Glenys introduced Martin to provide a brief address about the role of his organisation. Menslink is a local charity that has operated for almost 15 years to provide support and mentoring to young men experiencing troublesome times.

Martin made reference to the common habit of youth to bottle up social problems and difficulties resulting in adverse circumstances and actions, such as violence and domestic conflicts that can often lead to drug dependence, likely imprisonment and even a tendency to suicide. In many cases, teenagers grow up in a single mother family with the absence of a male parental role model to provide the strong direction needed to overcome their personal struggles. Unfortunately, the messages being

promoted through media and most forms of entertainment are focussing attention on violence as being an acceptable way to overcome such challenges and a way to achieve what you want.

Menslink conduct three programs for young men who come from all parts of Canberra. The programs consist of: talks by their trained staff at local schools and colleges with footballers from the Raiders, their partner in the ‘Silence is Deadly’ campaign; also volunteer mentoring services for young men who don’t live with dad or whose experiences with their dad may not be positive; as well as sharing in positive images and normal experiences that they have not previously been exposed to. The Menslink services are provided completely free of charge and also include crisis counselling in a safe space where required.

The organisation is only partially sponsored by the local Government and further funding is received from corporate sponsors. Information was left for any volunteers interested in becoming involved in the mentoring activities and the valuable work being undertaken by Menslink, who are presently located in Griffith.

Martin fielded a few questions from the floor and the informative presentation was well received by the audience.

General Business:

- **Correspondence** Nil to report.

- Treasurer’s Report

Max Flint presented the Report showing bank balance of \$30,435.39, with expenditure of \$799.69 during the past month - copy attached (page 7).

He provided the following additional information for the benefit of members:

- Expected expenditures this financial year are for:
 - Update and revision of the TCC website and Facebook: \$6,000;
 - Monkey Survey commitment: \$500;
 - Community grants: \$1,000;
 - Routine expenses including promotional material: \$10,000.

Max proceeded to propose a Motion for the proposed expenditure of up to \$3,000 for renewal/update of the TCC website. Seconded by Bill Heins and carried unanimously.

He also advised that on 22 March 2016, the Chief Minister advised all Community Councils of changes to the Deed of Grant and administration requirements for 2016-17. Main changes are:

- encouraged to maximise use of ‘social media’;
- provision of full details on all activities to engage the Community (in addition to monthly TCC meetings) – nature of activity, timing, how engaged, attendees, summary of outcomes.

In addition, the Committee has to “*submit a proposal to utilise any unspent funds accumulated from past years.*” This initiative by the Chief Minister would appear to be aimed at recovering funds accumulated by the seven Community Councils.

Note that **not all** accumulated funds would be returned to the Government because:

- In the case of our TCC, members have to pay an annual fee. Accumulated fees belong to the Members and would not be claimable by the Government. These would be deducted from bank statement balances, for what may need to be returned to the Government;
- An operating fund of at least \$10,000 would need to be retained for working capital.

The Treasurer agreed to report at the May 2016 meeting on what the sum of accumulated member fees would be.

Moved: Max Flint Seconded: Tom Lindenmayer

- Sub-Committee Reports

Health, Community and Education: – Beverley Flint

Beverley provided an update on her recent activities regarding the following matters:

- Discussion with McDonald's and KFC about the untidy state of the area outside their outlets near the Lake after peak weekend trading. Relevant parties and local authority responsible have indicated that improvement and further ongoing attention is expected, which we will closely monitor.
- Recent discussions with Sergeant Chris Meagher regarding the statistics for domestic violence incidents in the region. Sergeant Meagher advised against providing statistics or submission at this stage. The TCC has requested a "Final Report" be provided to the TCC with accurate details to enable presentation to a TCC General Meeting.
- Issues with the smell and blue/green algae around the Lake in Greenway and the likely relationship to cases of Motor Neurone Disease, as suggested in recent media reports.
- Submission received from two members of the Thompson family about their family history in the proposed new suburb and heritage area. This information was passed on to Minister Gentleman and the Land and Planning Agency. A member of the Thompson family has attended our Council Meeting this evening.
- Update on the TCC's involvement with the 'Footsteps to Follow' project. No further action required at this stage.

Environment and Planning: – Paul Nicholl

Paul mentioned the following matters:

- Update on water quality testing in the Lake and impact on plant life.
- Results of Clean-Up Australia Day around the Lake in early March with details of many and varied items recovered. More regular attention required.
- Forthcoming study related to Murray-Darling Basin project to reveal the outcomes impacting on the Lake, with further pressure being exerted by both TCC and the Tuggeranong Lake Carers group.

No other business was raised by members and Glenys informed attendees that next meeting to be held on **3 May**, with guest speakers as mentioned earlier in the President's Report.

Meeting closed at 9.40pm.

TUGGERANONG COMMUNITY COUNCIL (TCC)		
TREASURER'S REPORT		
GENERAL MEETING		
	5/04/16	SC Club
ACCOUNTS FOR PERIOD ENDING		
	March 2016	
	Date	Balance
Operating Account		
Start of Period	1/03/16	13,722.84
Income		2.28
Expenses-Paid		- 799.69
Cheques not yet presented		500.00
Cheques paid from last month		-
Transfers TO Investment Acct		-
Transfers FROM Investment Acct		-
Transfers TO Petty Cash		-
Transfers FROM Petty Cash		-
End of Period	31/03/16	13,425.43
Net Change for Period		- 297.41
Investment Account		
Start of Period	1/03/16	16,840.27
In		10.59
Out		-
End of Period	31/03/16	16,850.86
Net change for Period		10.59
Petty Cash		
Start of Period	1/03/16	87.10
In		72.00
Out		-
End of Period	31/03/16	159.10
Net change for Period		72.00
Total Accounts		
Start of Period	1/03/16	30,650.21
End of Period	31/03/16	30,435.39
Net change for Period		- 214.82
Income for Period (Op Acc)		
	Date	Sum
Total Income (excluding transfers)		2.28
Expenses-Paid for Period		
	Date	Sum
B.C. Flint (expenses)	1/03/16	154.15
M.R. Flint (expenses)	6/03/16	47.25
G. Patulny (expenses)	6/03/16	54.31
S Cross Club	29/03/16	500.00
Total Expenses-Paid (excl transfers)		799.69
NET GAIN/LOSS FOR PERIOD		-797.41
CHEQUES NOT PRESENTED		
	Date	Sum
Southern Cross Club		500.00
Total		500.00
CHEQUES PAID FROM LAST MONTH		
	Date	Sum
Total		-
		0.00
Notes:		
1. Committee expenses are those incurred by Committee Members, while performing Committee duties.		