

TUGGERANONG COMMUNITY COUNCIL INC.
Minutes of the General Meeting on 6 April 2021

Meeting held at the Town Centre Vikings, Greenway and via Zoom video-conferencing application.

Welcome and Acknowledgment.

The meeting was opened at 7.30 pm by President Jeffrey Bollard with an acknowledgement of country and welcome to participants.

Present

Nineteen participants were in the room and nine participated via the Zoom application.

President's Report – Jeffrey Bollard

The President reminded participants of the Code of Conduct and that the meeting was being recorded through the Zoom application.

Floating Wetlands – Attended the launch of the floating wetlands on Lake Tuggeranong. Minister for Water, Shane Rattenbury spoke at the launch. Six members of the TCC attended. More details on the wetlands will be presented in our guest speakers' presentation.

Environment and Planning Forum - Co-chaired by Ben Ponton, Environment, Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate and Peter Elford of Gungahlin Community Council. Improved two way forum.

Combined Community Councils - The TCC hosted March 2021 meeting of the CCC. Issues discussed were planning, development applications and compliance, and NBN.

Extension of 40km/h zone in Greenway. Conducted interview with ABC Radio morning show regarding area east of Athllon Drive and north of Soward Way.

Acceptance of report was moved by Wayne King, seconded by Didi Sommer.

Police Report – Elizabeth Swain Detective Acting Inspector, Tuggeranong Police Station, ACT Policing.

Inspector Swain will be in charge of Tuggeranong Police Station while the normal officer in charge, Rod Anderson is at Emergency Services. Rod is due back June/July.

Inspector Swain reported on the statistics for the last 12 months, saying that offences have decreased by 19% over the last 12 months, some of which could be attributed to Covid. She mentioned:

- No murders in Tuggeranong in last 12 months
- Assault, property damage and burglaries are down.

She said regarding burglaries, that it was often the same person/s and once they were caught a lot of burglaries would be solved. Burglaries are often associated with stolen keys for cars and wallets.

She also mentioned that there were a number of new Constables at Tuggeranong and more are expecting to be joining them in June.

Inspector Swain responded to a series of questions on areas of criminal activity and requests for information for next month's presentation.

Members of Parliament and Members of Legislative Assembly Updates

No reports were provided.

Guest Speakers

Floating Wetlands Lake Tuggeranong - Ralph Ogden, Program Manager ACT Healthy Waterways Project

Ralph commented that in gross pollution traps (GPT), organic matter stewes between pipes and grill during the summer months and then is washed into the lake at a more concentrated level.

The proposed solution is: Improve drainage of gross pollution; divert base flows in-between storms to bay just downstream of GPT; and install a floating wetland/s.

Floating Wetlands

- 500 square metres - the size of an Olympic pool
- Plastic like a scour pad so roots can form continuous mass - plants will extend right across the mat.
- Roots absorb nutrients and shade the hidden nutrients.

It is expected/hoped that this will result in less algal growth in the Village Creek (Kambah) Bay. It will not solve the algal bloom problem but will help. The Environment, Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate (EPSD) is working across directorates with Transport Canberra and City Services (TCCS) to solve the problem.

In response to questions raised, Ralph noted the following:

- Rubbish in the gross pollution traps is cleaned out twice a year.
- Unlike the situation in other lakes, it is not just the sediments that drive the algal blooms but have lots of nutrients coming in from the catchment.
- They will be monitoring the micro plastics to ensure it doesn't shed.
- Netting above the wetlands is temporary to stop birds pulling out plants.
- Need to look at doing something in each drain to stop stuff build up.
- Need to look at breakdown rate of the nutrients.

Ralph said seven wetlands and rain gardens have been built in Tuggeranong. Research has shown that they are stopping 20% of pollution going into the Lake.

Latest Report of Lake Tuggeranong - Rod Ubrihien – Post Doctoral Fellow University of Canberra and with Stormwater Project and ACT Waterwatch

Rod commented that he has been working on the Lake since 2017, and provided the following background information:

- Cyanobacteria blooms and nutrients (blue green algae) - need light, stratification and nutrients.
- The major cause is the nutrients in the upper part of the lake - in upper water column (external loading) with releases from sediments in summer (internal loading), particularly after it rains as the rain leads to increased concentrations, and can double the phosphorus load i.e. there are huge increases in algae resulting from major rainfall events.

Broad scale land mapping has been undertaken, which looked at nutrient patterns and point sources. They found no clear link to any single land use - coming from all over the catchment.

Rod stated there is a need to manage stormwater in catchments, look at stormwater retention and harvesting and look at behaviours in the catchment deliver nutrients. We need to slow water going into the lake, as the Lake now is turbid – dark. It is hard to get plants growing in lake as they need light, as a result, plants will only grow on edge where it is clear enough. Thus, floating wetlands could make a difference.

Rod mentioned there has been significant investment allocated to ACT waterways. Lake Tuggeranong has been well looked after. He commented that there are different drivers between Lake Tuggeranong and Lake Burley Griffin.

General Business

Apologies

Mark Parton, Rod Lovett

Minutes of Previous Meeting

The Minutes for March meeting have been recirculated incorporating later corrections.

The minutes were moved for acceptance by Beverley Flint and seconded by Michael Crozier.

Correspondence

Invitation received from the Woden Community Council to attend a public meeting on development of the proposed transport interchange.

Treasurer's Report – Robyn Rofe

Expenditure for March totalled \$561.39, which included annual Zoom subscription and other communications (telephone and data). Accounts are in good position noting prepayment held for the next SouthFest.

The acceptance of the Treasurer's report was moved by Wayne King and seconded by Glenys Patulny.

Sub Committees Reports

Environment and Sustainability – Didi Sommer

Attended session organised by ACT NOWaste which looked at the government strategy called 'Love Food, Hate Waste'. The strategy is aimed at changing local behaviours. Refer to website *ACT Government Food Waste* to register to complete food waste audit.

Recycle Centre previously only recycled local waste now covers nearby areas, important to note that the contamination rate has increased.

Look up Recyclopedaia – the site tells you what you can do to recycle various products.

Lake Tuggeranong Clean-up - 58 people registered, including 15 Scouts; picked up 18 bags of general rubbish and 17 bags of recycling materials.

Minister Steel has released the Urban Forest Strategy.

Planning, Transport and Communications – Robin Rofe

The PTC Sub Committee are currently formulating a work program. Issues identified to date:

- General planning including parking.
- Consultation arrangements for development approvals.
- Communications including internet connections.
- Transport for Tuggeranong residents to Civic and other Town Centres.
- Duplication of Athllon Drive and Monaro Highway.
- Waste facilities at Hume.
- Better communication to residents about planning activities.

SouthFest – Catherine Jones

No recent meetings, however, a survey has been developed and will be circulated to stakeholders and the broader community to gain feedback about how SouthFest can be re-imagined.

Youth – Daisy Matsika

Great response to youth survey particularly through school contacts. Survey is still open. Themes emerging so far cover: COVID-19; water quality; crime; and access to health services.

Community, Health and Wellbeing – Glenys Patulny

The CH&W is supporting other Sub Committees such as BBQ for the Lake Cleanup and supporting the TCC Youth Engagement Forum, including providing lunch.

Glenys attended the *Be You* virtual conference on wellbeing addressing mental health.

Other Business

No other business

The meeting concluded at 9:30 pm. Next meeting scheduled for Tuesday, 4 May 2021.

* * *