

Woden Valley Community Council Inc.

The logo for Woden Valley Community Council Inc. features a stylized green and blue graphic to the right of the text. The graphic consists of a blue square with a white shape inside, resembling a stylized 'W' or a building, with a green swoosh extending to the right.

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Record of Meeting

3 October 2007

Chair David Menzel welcomed attendees and said that apologies had been received from John Hargreaves, Karin McDonald, Margaret Pearson, Jacqui Burke and Annette Ellis. Mr Menzel introduced Todd Handy from ACTPLA who was to address the meeting on the new development for Molonglo.

2. Mr Handy presented a computer animated film on the development showing the layout of lake on the old sewerage works site as this was the favoured means for storm water management. Biodiversity would be maintained on the 3,100 hectare site which is approximately seven and a half kilometres from Civic and Woden Town Centre. Public submissions on the ACTPLA plan were requested with a closing date of 26 November.

The National Capital Plan requires amendment to incorporate the Molonglo development and the changes have been detailed on the NCA website. Designated areas within the proposed urban area would provide protection for hills, rivers and buffer zones would also be provided with building permitted up to certain elevations only. The development would be an exemplar of sustainable development with a population of 73,000 to be reached over a 30 year period in 33,000 dwellings. Environmental concerns would be addressed including the reduction in potable water use by 40% from 2003 levels. Planning concepts would be in accordance with sustainable city requirements with the development area containing four habitat types, woodland, grassland, riparian and aquatic. Emphasis would also be placed on retaining the former property of Kana.

Traffic would be managed on a North/South and an East/West arterial road and include an orbital public transport network. The government intends releasing the first land in Molonglo in late 2008 with a range of block sizes down to 250 sq metres. The first residents were expected to move in 2010. Five schools would be required and all residences would be within 400 metres of a community centre.

3 Chair David Menzel said that permanent premises for the WVCC and other community and voluntary organisations continued to be a requirement in the Woden Valley. The WVCC had a need for premises for the storage of records in addition to a meeting space that was not subject to the favours of Woden valley clubs. Shared facilities would reduce the costs for the large number of voluntary organisations in the Valley and a combined submission from a number of organisations would have more affect than individual submissions.

4. Mr Menzel said that the future use of school sites would be discussed at further meeting in late October and early November. The WVCC was particularly interested in the future of the former Chifley school and the possible use of the North Curtin school which was slated for closure.
5. The meeting discussed the Phillip pool and the Ice Skating rink and noted that the government was open to approaches for a long term lease for the site with one possible option being the removal of the pool and rink and rebuilding them elsewhere in the north Woden precinct. The current rink size was inadequate for international standard competition in addition to having OH&S issues. It was agreed that the ACT government would be formally approached to determine if there was another area in the vicinity that would be suitable for a pool and rink.
6. Mr Menzel advised that a comprehensive budget submission addressing WVCC concerns had been prepared and would be forwarded as part of the ACT government budget process.
7. Mr Menzel said that a letter would be written to the Chief Minister expressing concerns about the late cancellation of the venue at the Hellenic Club for the September meeting which illustrated the need for permanent premises.
8. Louise Evans said that the Woden Voice was close to production and would be distributed to all residences in Woden.