

## **Record of Meeting**

**2 June 2010**

1. Mr David Menzel, Committee Member, chaired the meeting and welcomed guest speakers and attendees including Caroline Le Couteur MLA. Apologies were received from: Shirley Lithgow, Secretary, Vice Chair, Dr Jenny Stewart, and Tom Lithgow. The minutes of the previous meeting held on 5 May 2010 were confirmed.

### ***Sorrell residential tower development cnr Launceston Street and Melrose Drive***

2. Paul Carmody from Hindmarsh provided an introduction to the final plans to be submitted in the DA and introduced Mr Brett Smith who gave a presentation that responded to the issues previously raised by Woden Valley Community Council (WVCC) on the proposal. Gina Pinkas noted that while there was still concern over the height of the tower, WVCC did appreciate that some attempt had been made to reduce the height of the “cap” on the top of the tower and there had been a response to WVCC’s request for landscaping to minimise the visual impact of the tower from Launceston Street. She encouraged people to submit comment on the DA.

3. The meeting was advised that approval to vary the lease for the former Burnie Court site had been given to increase the maximum number of dwelling units from 117 to 132

### ***Sustainable high and low-density development***

4. David Flannery and Melinda Dobson from the Royal Australian Institute of Architects gave a presentation on their views on a need for sustainable medium and high-density development in Canberra with a focus on Woden. Martin Miller presented segments of a recent Stateline production, which was the reason WVCC had invited the presentation. Key points in the presentation were:

Melinda:

- The potential of the Town Centre for alternative housing models and good opportunities to increase housing density.
- While there had been some increase in density it was not the right sort.
- 40 to 50% of CO2 emissions from construction and cities.
- Australia grew by the amount of the ACT's population each year.
- Tree lined streets with Paddington style terrace houses were desirable.
- Vision for Canberra to become a walkable city but there was too much green space and empty local parks. 50% of suburb is given to roads and driveways.

Planning to put the case for a Federal Government Cities Agenda

David:

- Amaroo type development not what we want with large houses on very small lots. We need energy efficient affordable housing.
- Contained development -want people to go to school, live, work and play in local area. Prefer double story semi-detached houses. He wants housing choice.
- It is not just about housing density but transport strategic planning. There is not much vision in our transport planning.
- It is also about where we produce our food.

### ***Planning Report***

5. Gina Pinkas advised of a number of meetings which WVCC members might like to attend including:

- DA for car parking at the new wellness centre at Chifley
- Proposal for a Community Bank at Curtin

6. She also advised that comments on the Plans for the new Women's and Children's hospital are due by 11 June. WVCC would be making comments on the Review of Change of Use Charge, the Development (Concessional Leases) Amendment Bill and on Draft Variation 203 Community Facilities Zone. Members were encouraged to make individual submissions.

7. Gina Pinkas also advised on the outcome of some multi unit development applications and drew members' attention to a number of relevant DAs open for comment on ACTPLA's website. She said there had been a hike in the number of DAs recently spurred on by the announcement of Change of Use Charge codification which would massively increase charges.

8. Next meeting of the WVCC—Wednesday, 4 August 2010 at the Hellenic Club.