

Record of Meeting

4 May 2011

1. The President, Jenny Stewart, welcomed attendees, including Caroline Le Couteur MLA.
2. Apologies were received from Alan Thompson; Pamela Harris; Brendan Smyth MLA; Tom Lithgow; Gina Pinkas; and Jeremy Hanson MLA.
3. The record of the WVCC meeting held on 6 April 2011 was accepted.

Concept Plans: Aalto Residential Apartments (Block 12 Section 22), Irving Street, Phillip

4. Catherine Townsend from Townsend and Associates Architects presented concept proposals for the Aalto residential apartments to be constructed on the former YMCA site (now a childcare centre, tennis courts and Balloons Aloft) in Irving Street, Phillip. The proposal is for the construction of two buildings, one 12 storeys and the other nine storeys, comprising 278 residential apartments (of one, two and three bedrooms) and a childcare centre to replace the existing centre.
5. Those at the meeting were pleased to see attention being given to the orientation of the buildings to ensure adequate solar access. It is expected a development application will be submitted to the ACT Planning and Land Authority (ACTPLA) in June.

Proposal of the Southern Cross Pitch and Putt Club (SCPPC) in Phillip

6. Luciano Lombardo, Chairman of the Southern Cross Pitch and Putt Club (SCPPC) in Phillip and June Cullen, Vice Chair of the Club presented their concerns to the Council about the Canberra Southern Cross Club's development application (DA) to change lease clauses of the Pitch and Putt course site in Phillip as a first step towards redeveloping the site for

commercial uses. Mr Lombardo explained the Pitch and Putt Golf Club was an unincorporated entity within the Canberra Southern Cross Club group of clubs. He said the DA, if approved, would spell the end of pitch and putt on the site. The course was a recreational facility in the Woden Valley that was enjoyed by both SCPPC members and the general public, many of whom came from other areas in the ACT and beyond. The club had been operating profitably for 12 years.

7. In the discussion that followed, many expressed concern that, if the DA was approved, Woden would lose yet another valuable recreational facility and at a time when there were proposals to significantly increase the population in the Woden Town Centre through the construction of residential towers. Furthermore, the Canberra Southern Cross Club had not consulted with the Woden community prior to lodging its DA, as required by the ACT Government.

8. It was agreed that the Council would strongly object to the DA. Jenny Stewart also urged Woden residents to do likewise. The deadline for submitting comments to ACTPLA was Wednesday, 18 May 2011.

9. It was noted that the former Canberra Southern Cross Club site with the gym and bowling greens next to the Pitch and Putt course was currently for sale.

Summary of Survey on Residential Towers in Woden Green

10. Shirley Lithgow began by thanking the 55 respondents to the WVCC survey. In her brief overview of the survey results she said that to the question of whether or not respondents supported high-rise residential towers in Woden Green, 45 of the 55 respondents said 'no'. Respondents had different ideas about what constituted high-rise. Of the nine who supported residential towers, four considered high-rise to be 8 to 15 storeys. Only three respondents supported a maximum range of 21 to 30 storeys and only seven supported a maximum range of 16 to 20 storeys. 23 of the 55 respondents supported a maximum range of 6 to 10 storeys. Of particular significance was that of the 42 respondents who considered the infrastructure in Woden to be inadequate, the majority wanted more lifestyle and recreational facilities in Woden.

11. The survey results would be emailed to respondents and those on the WVCC email list as well as being on the WVCC website.

Treasurer's Report

12. The Treasurer, Henry Hatch, reported that the closing balance at 3 May 2011 was \$20,539.11.

13. The next meeting of the WVCC will be held on Wednesday, 1 June 2011.