

## **Record of Meeting**

**2 November 2011**

1. The Chair, Dr Jenny Stewart, welcomed all attendees, including Caroline Le Courteur MLA.

Apologies were received from: David Menzel and Jeremy Hanson MLA.

2. Record of meetings as circulated for the September 2011 and October 2011 meetings were accepted on a motion of Bill O'Brien, seconded Greg Rutledge.

### ***Presentation: 'What kind of suburbs do we want in Canberra?'***

3. Sheila Hughes, President of the ACT Chapter of the Australian Institute of Architects addressed the topic of *'What kind of suburbs do we want in Canberra and how can that be achieved.'* The wide-ranging presentation included discussion on:

- the power of citizens;
- how much land, water, and energy different housing models use;
- sustainable housing;
- the role of public housing; and
- the sense of community.

4. Following the presentation Ms Hughes addressed questions from the meeting on:
  - how to achieve quality outcomes;
  - lack of choices for those who would like to downsize;
  - the narrowness of choice for those on low incomes; and
  - the role of a strategic plan across Canberra.

### ***Proposed expansion of the National Capital Private Hospital***

5. Liz Porritt (CEO, National Capital Private Hospital) and Chris Purdon (Purdon Associates) briefed the meeting on concept plans for the

proposed expansion of the National Capital Private Hospital in the grounds of The Canberra Hospital (TCH). Major issues raised by attendees included:

- parking;
- the impact of this and other development at TCH on Garran; and
- the sustainable technology being contemplated.

### ***Draft ACT Planning Strategy***

6. The Chair informed the meeting that the ACT Government had released the ACT Planning Strategy for public comment. The strategy aimed to make Canberra a compact and efficient city and is to guide Canberra's development for the next 30 years and beyond. An exhibition on the planning strategy can be viewed at the Woden Library from 5-12 December 2011. The Chair urged Woden residents to get involved and have a say on the draft ACT Planning Strategy.

The deadline for comments: 18 December 2011. For more information about the draft planning strategy, see website at: <http://timetotalk.act.gov.au/time-to-talk/planning/>

### ***Draft Transport for Canberra***

7. The Chair reported that the ACT Government had also released its draft Transport for Canberra Policy. This can also be seen in the exhibition at the Woden Library from 5-12 December 2011. For the draft transport policy see: <http://www.timetotalk.act.gov.au/>  
The deadline for comments: 11 November 2011.

### ***Woden Community Festival***

8. The Chair reported that the Woden Valley Festival would be held on Saturday, 5 November 2011 in Eddison Park (off Launceston Street, Phillip). The Festival will run from 10am to 3pm and will be followed by the Liftoff Festival from 4pm to 9pm, which is the youth component of the Festival. For more information see [www.wodenvalleyfestival.org.au/](http://www.wodenvalleyfestival.org.au/)

### ***Update on the pitch and putt issue***

9. June Cullen from the Pitch and Putt Club reported that relations between the club and the Canberra Southern Cross Club have improved. Current discussions are focused on trying to work towards a 'win-win' solution for both bodies

### ***Planning report***

10. *Mandir Ashram's application for reconsideration of ACTPLA's refusal of the proposed 106-bed residential aged care facility.* Jenny Stewart reported that WVCC had objected to the proposal for a 120-bed residential aged care facility that was submitted as 'additional information' for the reconsideration of ACTPLA's refusal of a 106-bed facility—on the basis that it worsened the bulk and scale of the development that was a condition for ACTPLA's approval of a 60-bed facility—and exacerbated the problems of solar access and limited communal open space.

*Lease variation approval for Curtin shops.* Dr Stewart said ACTPLA had approved a lease variation application that will allow residential development within the Curtin shops, despite strong community opposition. ACTPLA's reason for the approval was that the lease variation met all the codes and was consistent with the Territory Plan.

### ***Treasurer's report***

11. The Treasurer, Henry Hatch, reported that the WVCC's finances were basically unchanged since the books were audited for the Annual General Meeting.

### ***Other business***

12. Mike Reddy noted that in view of the presentation on the concept plans for the National Capital Private Hospital on the Canberra Hospital campus, the Council should keep a watching brief on how future TCH expansions may impact on the character and function of the suburb of Garran.
13. The meeting closed at 9.25pm.
14. Next meeting will be held on Wednesday 7 December 2011.