

## **Record of Meeting**

Wednesday, 2 May 2012

1. The chair, Dr Jenny Stewart, welcomed attendees to the meeting. Apologies were received from: Pamela Harris, Brendan Smyth MLA, and Gai Brodtmann MP.
2. ***The Record of the WVCC Meeting held on 4 April 2012*** was accepted. Moved by Bill O'Brien; seconded by Chris Erett.
3. ***ACT Greens Presentation***

Caroline Le Couteur MLA in her presentation covered issues of overall concern for the ACT, in addition to those of particular concern for Woden. These included:

  - i) ***Review of the Self Government Act:*** Assembly should have more control of its own operations e.g. in determining the number of MLAs. Assembly perhaps should adopt a more collaborative, less adversarial model.
  - ii) ***The Planning and Development (Public Notification) Bill:*** provides for better notification of deconcessionalisation proposals and changes to zones; and, in regards to exempt developments, for developers to provide information about the development to adjoining neighbours before building work starts.
  - iii) ***Factors driving change in Canberra:*** population growth; ageing population; smaller households; land supply; transport; ageing infrastructure; climate change; and peak oil.
  - iv) ***Master Plans:*** community put in a lot of work for little result; no statutory effect; precinct plans.
  - v) ***ACT Civil and Administrative Tribunal (ACAT):*** expensive process for individuals and local groups to access; skewing of process when development applications are amended after ACAT rulings.
  - vi) ***High-rise towers:*** carbon footprint; impact on town centres (shade, wind, traffic, parking).

- vii) **Role of Land Development Agency (LDA):** conflict of roles with LDA being a developer and a defacto planner while at the same time expected to maximize economic returns for government.

Ms Le Couteur fielded questions, which touched on public transport; revenue stream for ACT; high-rise; master plan process; and the appeals process.

4. ***Park and Ride, Bike and Ride feasibility study***

Michael Jollon from the consultants AECOM gave a presentation as part of the community consultation on expansion of park and ride and bike and ride facilities. This project is part of the Transport for Canberra 20 year plan that is outlined at [http://www.environment.act.gov.au/transport\\_and\\_planning/transport\\_for\\_canberra](http://www.environment.act.gov.au/transport_and_planning/transport_for_canberra)

The Transport for Canberra plan addresses issues relating to: congestion; transport options; public transport use; and, environmentally sustainable usage. The consultation process will assist in site selection for new facilities, which need to be conveniently located, visible, and safe for commuters to park without fear of vandalism to their vehicles.

5. ***Combined Community Councils meeting, 28 April 2012***

The Chair, Jenny Stewart reported on the April meeting of the combined community councils (CCC)

- i) Ewan Brown (Gunghalin Community Council President) has been appointed interim convenor of the CCC for the period leading up to the ACT elections in October 2012.
- ii) He will draft CCC documentation on the structure and running of the ACT CCC—and explore the process for seeking funding for a part-time administrative assistant and possibly, in time, a part-time executive officer.
- iii) Sub-committees to be formed on:—governance and integrated planning policy—planning and development—municipal services—transport—and the airport.
- iv) CCC needed to ‘get runs on the board’ by producing tangible outcomes from meetings.

The meeting agreed to two motions:

- i) calling for a review of the ACT Civil and Administrative Tribunal—the appeals process and establishing an office of a Community Planning/Development Advocate; and

- ii) calling for a review of ACTPLA and LDA and establishing an integrated and strategic planning and development system.

6. ***WVCC's submission on Woden 9 proposals***

Jenny Stewart reported that WVCC was preparing a submission on the Woden 9 development proposals. She urged others to submit their comments on the proposals by the deadline 7 May 2012.

The WVCC submission would comment on:

- the role of the Land Development Agency
- that the development proposals should be assessed under the impact track
- unsatisfactory nature of the development applications
- buildings over-scale for the site
- not necessarily ecologically sustainable
- parking issues
- proposals not in keeping with Woden Town Centre Master Plan
- implications for Melrose Drive; and
- implications for Woden Valley residents.

7. ***Draft Variation 306***

The Assembly's Standing Committee on Planning, Public Works and Territory and Municipal Services is calling for submissions on Draft Variation 306. Deadline for submissions: 1 June 2012.

8. ***Treasurer's Report***

Henry Hatch presented a written statement on income and expenses current to 2 May 2012. WVCC's bank balance is \$24,001.58.

9. ***Next meeting***

The next meeting of the WVCC will be held at the Woden Hellenic Club at 7.30 pm on Wednesday, 6 June 2012.