

Woden Valley Community Council Inc.
Record of Meeting in Hellenic Club

Wednesday 4 March 2015

- 1 The Chair, **Martin Miller**, welcomed attendees to the meeting. There were no apologies.
- 2 Consideration of Minutes of the meeting of 4 February 2015 was held over for the next meeting.
- 3 **Justin Foley** provided an excellent overview of the ACT Basin Priority Project as well as a detailed report of current developments and future plans. The objective is the improvement of water quality in the ACT and Murrumbidgee River System. Assisted by a funding agreement between the ACT Government and the Commonwealth Government, the project, now in its pre-feasibility stage, is focussing on six designated water catchments in the ACT; ground water will be included. Phase one (completed by February 2016) will identify options; phase two (by March 2019) design and construction. Issues to be addressed include high sediment and nutrient loads, current quality of waters in the Murrumbidgee system, erosion, and the implications of climate change. A question from the floor concerned the Yarralumla Creek: would it be returned to its original state? No; the high degree of surrounding urbanisation makes this impractical, but the original “chain of ponds” principle still applies: it will be important to slow down the flow of the water.
- 4 **Michael Prendergast** and **Michael Britton** reported on the Furzer Street Precinct Upgrades & Carpark closure. Issues dealt with include upgrade of intersections, and construction work associated with various infrastructures, the realignment of Corinna Street, and landscape improvements. The number of additional sets of traffic lights was clearly of concern and the meeting was assured that synchronisation of these lights would be given detailed consideration.
- 5 Local Member **Nicole Lawder** discussed several areas of concern: the closure of the Auslan classes at the CIT; the upkeep of parks and playgrounds and public election funding under the Electoral Act. Questions from the floor dealt, in extensive detail, with the public funding of elections.
- 6 **Mike Reddy** reported on developments in the planning and development forum. These covered topics such as wind farms, the light rail master plan and Northbourne Avenue as a tourist corridor. It was noted that both the Minister and the senior public servants were taking serious note of observations and suggestions from the Woden Valley Community Council.
- 7 Under other business, it was noted by Woden Community Services that some \$173K of WCS shared funding had been allocated for a feasibility study for the “Men’s Shed” project. Additional committee work input from (male) volunteers would be needed to drive this.
- 8 The next meeting of Council is scheduled for 7:30pm on Wednesday 1 April 2015.
Timoshenko Aslanides
Minutes Secretary