

Woden Valley Community Council Inc.

The logo for Woden Valley Community Council Inc. features a stylized green and blue graphic to the right of the text. The graphic consists of a blue square with a white outline, a green square with a white outline, and a green curved line extending to the right.

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Record of Meeting

5 December 2007

1. A/Chair Bill O'Brien welcomed attendees and said that apologies had been received from Andrew Barr, Planning Minister, Bob Cason, Michael Taylor, Bill and Thea Smith, Richard Mulcahy and Kate Harriden.

2. Gordon Lowe from Hindmarsh presented on the current plans for East Woden which has had a name change to Woden Green as a marketing tool. Mr Lowe said that community consultation had been taken into account in improving the road access from Woden Green towards the Southern Cross Club. He said that excavations which were being done was to determine the type of soil and if fill had been used in the areas designated for construction.

Mr Lowe said that Hindmarsh would like the WVCC to act as an independent chair for a public meeting to be held early 2008 on proposals for the development. He said that a 10 story commercial building would be constructed on the site which would be a joint venture with ACTPLA which would include structured car parking.

He said that plans would include the renaturalisation of the creek and that building would not be within the 100 year flood line. Large areas of open space would be retained and there was also a commitment to water sensitive urban design.

He said that 5% affordable housing would be included in the development and that the LDA as the Hindmarsh partner in the venture was aiming for a commercial rate of return on the project. It was expected that construction would start in October/November 2008 to allow time for community consultation with approximately 500 dwellings including multi generational housing to be constructed.

3. Gina Pinkas reported to the meeting on the proposed territory plan which was proposed for enactment in March 2008. The territory plan prescribes what owners can do with land and ACTPLA had received over 1,000 submissions/comments. The WVCC had provide formal comment on the proposals with proposed changes in relation to residential land being of particular interest.

Mick Gentleman noted that the plan was not finalised with final comments due on 7 December 2007. He noted that there was considerable support for the proposed changes to the territory plan. Ms Pinkas noted that there was still a requirement for a parking strategy for the Woden Town Centre.

4. It was noted that the proposed Lyons Estate development still contained a 9 story tower block which would be the first on the Northern side of Melrose Drive.

5. The meeting noted ongoing concerns over the redevelopment of the Entertainment, Accommodation and Leisure precinct to the north of the town centre. The crown lease for the swimming pool had expired and it was agreed that no further lease extensions should be entered into until public consultation had taken place on development and retention of the swimming pool.

Mr Menzel noted that the 12 story building would overshadow the pool which would impact on its utility. The ice rink serviced the ACT community and redevelopment would impact on its use.

6. It was noted that redevelopment of Phillip Oval had commenced and that this positive result had come from the community's concerns on the loss of public amenities.

7. It was agreed that the two closed school sites in Woden should be retained for community use particularly as there was a lack of accommodation for community purposes in Woden.