

Woden Valley Community Council

Meeting of 7 August 2013, Aegean Room, Hellenic Club

Apologies: Joy Burch, Brendon Smyth, Sheelah Egan, Bill & Thea Smith

Minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

Claire Middleton Principal Planner from Consultancy firm ACT Planning reported on progress in community consultation undertaken for the new community hub for the Woden/Weston Creek area. A number of sites are under consideration for the new hub, which will include premises for Woden Community Service, meeting rooms, and an enlarged Childcare Centre. Sites being considered include the southern portion of the Woden 9 site, as well as Callam Offices.

Clare Wall from SGS provided an informative outline of the demand analysis and demographic forecasting involved.

Questions and discussion canvassed whether the consultation was looking at separate hubs for Woden and Weston Creek or one that would suffice for both. It was made clear to the presenters that both Woden Valley Community Council and Weston Creek Community Council are firmly of the view that there should be separate community hubs for the two areas. It was pointed out that, whilst it was convenient to have the new centre at Woden (so that people did not need to take two buses to access it), the Weston Creek option had more links to the new Molonglo development than Woden.

It was noted that the Woden Seniors Club serves a very wide catchment; also, that the Chifley Hub was now almost fully tenanted and so cannot be considered instead of Woden or Weston Creek.

Chair of WVCC pointed out that WVCC had put the case (in its 2013 budget submission) for a Community Centre with community hub functionality, but also containing a major function room, along the lines of the Tuggeranong Community Centre. WVCC undertook to provide a copy of this submission to the consultants.

Paul Peters, Executive Director of the Road and Public Transport Division of TAMS provided a very informative outline of developments in Transport Planning and Transport Operations. Graphic illustrations were shown of the Real Time Information System. Hardware and software developments in planning and bus timetabling were described and a variety of possible new routes discussed. Of particular interest was a plan for strategic bus stops, located on Adelaide Avenue. Paul also showed a number of artist's views of the new Woden Bus Interchange.

Steve Doszpot, Shadow Minister for Planning, talked about his work, both as a local member of the Legislative Assembly and as Shadow Minister.

General business: a report on the Planning and Development Forum (little of note had occurred); preliminary reactions to the DA for the Estate development plan for the new bus interchange (few of the problems identified in consultations had been addressed).

All contributors were thanked in the usual way for their time and contribution to the evening's business, which was declared closed at 9:35pm.

Timoshenko Aslanides

25 August 2013