

Woden Valley Community Council Inc.

Record of Meeting in Apollo Room, Hellenic Club

Wednesday 7 May 2014

- 1 The Chair, **Jenny Stewart**, welcomed attendees to the meeting. Apologies were received from **Emma Walters** and **Bill Smith**.
- 2 Minutes of the last meeting, on 2 April 2014, were accepted, subject to an amendment to the Local Member Spot paragraph confirming Liberal Party support for the proposed five-members in five-electorates.
- 3 **Petra Oswald** and **Ben Riches** from the Environment and Sustainable Development Directorate reported on responses to the discussion paper on the Woden Town Centre and Mawson Group Centre Master Plans. Ben Riches outlined the extensive community engagement strategy followed over a period of six weeks. Histogram slides with results of analysis of responses classified by age of visitors, frequency of visits, purpose of visits, time and duration of visits as well as methods of travel were shown. Petra Oswald then spoke generally about usage: community activities, shopping, the bus interchange, landscaping issues including shop design and street shelter for pedestrians. Suggestions received for improvement were listed. Issues specific to Mawson, touching on pedestrian priority, building heights and methods of slowing down vehicular traffic were canvassed, as well as suggestions for improvements, including night-time safety, bicycle and pedestrian access, the free carparks, green and open spaces as well as the look and feel of surrounding apartments. Further community engagement with stakeholder groups is envisaged. Website reports will be progressively updated.
- 4 Lest we Forget: **Michael Taylor** from the Woden sub-branch of the RSL presented an interesting talk of RSL activities in the Woden Valley, as well as a brief history of Eddison family involvement in the district. Details of RSL planning for a move to new premises in October 2015 were outlined. Two motions were then put to the meeting and passed unanimously. These were:
 - Motion 1: That the Woden Valley Community Council (WVCC) agrees in principle to the proposed Woden Valley RSL Sub-Branch relocation of the two historic and heritage Memorials from their site at the original Yamba homestead to Eddison Park.
 - Motion 2: That in confirmation of its acknowledgement of the historic and heritage value of the 'Eddison Tablet', the WVCC agrees to assist in the cost of the refurbishment of the Tablet, up to \$300.00, in the event that the Tablet is relocated to Eddison Park.Before proceeding in relation to Motion 2, **Michael Taylor** undertook to investigate whether the Tablet might be retained in situ in the new development.
- 5 Local Members: **Gai Brodtmann**, Federal Member for Canberra outlined her community consultation work on traffic "black spots" and her representations to

Government about the Westfield Centre; businesses are concerned, she said. **Nicole Lawder**, MLA, reported on her representations regarding child care facilities.

- 6 General Business: WVCC submission on electoral boundaries was discussed. It was noted that Council felt that the Electoral Commission should give priority to boundaries reflecting the natural towns in Canberra. Issues to do with fast-tracking of the legislation as well as sunset clauses were canvassed.
- 7 Other business: **Jenny Stewart** reported on the Meeting of the Combined Community Councils the previous Saturday. A position paper has been drafted highlighting how unbalanced Canberra's development has become. Submissions have also been invited for a comprehensive inventory of all the open spaces in the Combined Councils' areas. **Mike Reddy** reported on his attendance at a Planning and Development Forum at which climate change and amendments to planning legislation were discussed.
- 8 The meeting closed at 9:32pm, with next meeting of the Council scheduled for 7:30pm on Wednesday 4 June at the Hellenic Club.

Timoshenko Aslanides

Minutes Secretary

25 May, 2014