

Woden Valley Community Council
Record of Meeting, Southern Cross Club, Woden
7 pm Wednesday 7 February 2018
MLAs in attendance: Caroline Le Couteur and Jeremy Hanson
Estimated attendance: ninety people

- 1 Acknowledgement of country.
- 2 President, **Fiona Carrick**, welcomed attendees. There were apologies from Robert Issell and Eric Glass.
- 3 Minutes of the last meeting, held on 6 December 2017, were approved.
- 4 **Chair Report: Fiona Carrick** stated that Woden is centrally located and is accessible from all areas due to the duplicated roads (except next to Phillip) and bus rapid services.
 - She also expressed concerns about the draft variation to the Territory Plan DV344 which provides blanket zoning for a building hierarchy of high rise residential buildings across the CZ1 and CZ2 zones of the Woden Town Centre, noting that this building hierarchy was not adopted in other town centres.
 - With respect to 15 Bowes St, the 2015 Master Plan provides for 12 storeys on this site, the July 2017 draft Precinct Code (DV 344) allows an extra four storeys for being in the building hierarchy and close to public transport. While DV344 had interim effect in December 2016 (Ivy was approved at 16 storeys), in December 2017 15 Bowes St was approved under the previous precinct code that did not have building height limits on the site even though the 2004 Master Plan supporting that precinct code had building heights of 6 storeys. Two towers, 18 and 26 storeys have been approved on a 0.37 hectare site leading to very high density without open green spaces or community facilities being identified in the area.
 - The town centre should be a social and economic hub but Woden does not have amenities like an indoor pool, CIT, arts centre etc. though Woden Town Centre is central and well connected to public transport. Woden requires these facilities to bring people together.

5 Presentations

(a) Community - ACT Inaugural Scooter Competition – Woden Skate Park:

Woden will be hosting the inaugural ACT Regional Scooter Titles on 3 March 2018 and hopes to make this an annual event. The Australasian Scooter Association contacted the WVCC to determine whether we were interested in hosting the event. We have been working with them to deliver the event, Woden Community Service is helping with the bbq.

(b) Community - The Arts – busker competition, murals:

Mr Graham Gall joined WVCC in December 2017 and he is taking the lead on art in Woden. Graham will be coordinating art in the Woden area through various aspects ie database facility where interested artists can register their name through wodenarts@wvcc.org.au , Other projects include: street art projects, art for seniors, exhibition space and Community base street art. We are hoping to host the ACT busking competition in Woden.

(c) Climate Strategy to a Net Zero Emissions Territory

Peta Olsen EPSDD, ACT Government provided a presentation about the discussion paper *ACT's Climate Strategy to a Net Zero Emissions Territory* launched in December 2017. Opportunity for public feedback is open until 9 April 2018. The current strategy and action plan was released in 2012 and this is the second action plan. The pathway is based on setting targets between 2020 and 2050 so Canberra can become 100% sustainable. The objective of the discussion paper is to ask the community what the next priorities should be and how the efforts could be split between Government, community and business to best achieve net zero emissions. The target reductions set below the 1990 emissions are: by 60% by 2025, 75% by 2030, 95% by 2040 and 100% (Net Zero) by 2045 (Ref: Figure 2).

(d) Housing Choices Discussion Paper

- Alex Kaucz and Simon Tennent, EPSDD, ACT Government advised the Government is managing all challenges of rapid population growth. This requires the need to be sustainable, compact and well connected. The mix of housing types is changing. The delivery of housing types is now lacking in the middle range, the “Missing Middle” (Ref: Slide 5). The community’s views regarding the type of housing people would like to live or see in residential areas is now being sought with submissions open until 9 March 2018. Complete the online survey at www.yoursay.act.gov.au and / or write a submission. (Ref: Slide 11).
- The community expressed concerns about RZ1 zones being considered for dual occupancies as they were keen to keep the leafy green suburbs.

(e) O’Malley Community Facility land

Simon Tennent EPSDD, ACT Government advised the Block 25 Section 31 is under land release. It is a community facility site which has specified permitted uses. The block is 3,500sqm and public consultation is open till 14 February 2018. Feedback can be provided on this matter at www.planning.act.gov.au. The community was concerned about the loss of the car park as it is heavily used, including by embassies in the area, that the facility would create a rat run and that there had been no market sounding to determine what type of profitable community facility was needed in the area.

6 5 minute update from MLAs:

Caroline Le Couteur informed the community that the Government is increasing the number of trees planted.

Jeremy Hanson agreed that there is no doubt Woden has been neglected. He expressed real concern about the taking away of public spaces. He considered the land release is not working properly and the rates scheme is wrong. He offered help in taking the petition on the Block 25 Section 31 O’Malley to the Assembly. He invited the community to contact him if requiring his help.

- 7 Other business:** The meeting finished at 9:58 pm. The next meeting of the WVCC will be at 7 pm on 7 March 2018 at The Canberra Southern Cross Club

Secretary