

**Woden Valley Community Council**  
**Record of Meeting, Canberra Southern Cross Club**  
**7 pm Wednesday 6 June 2018**  
**MLAs in attendance: Caroline Le Couteur**  
*Estimated attendance: Seventy Five*

- 1 **Welcome: President, Fiona Carrick**, welcomed and thanked attendees. There was an apology. from Gina Pinkas
- 2 **Minutes** of the last meeting held on 2 May 2018 (Not Discussed).

**Chair Report:**

**Budget measures, petitions, and inquiries:** Fiona mentioned that there was a provision of \$100,000 in the ACT Government budget for work around the town square. In addition, there was \$4.7 million for cycleways around the Town Centre (including between Lyons and Woden) and \$12.5 million for planning the light rail. The hospital also received funding, however, the hospital is for all of Canberra and southeast NSW and the light rail is economic infrastructure, the backbone of our public transport system. Woden also needs social infrastructure. Woden needs social infrastructure like a community/arts centre, a basketball centre, a CIT and we would like to hold onto our ice skating rink and pool too. There are a couple of inquiries in progress by the ACT Government and Federal Government. Submissions on the Curtin Master Plan are due and Section 66 in Kent Street in Deakin. A submission was recently lodged for WOVA who is here to present tonight. The Light Rail submission is due 15 June. Woden Valley Community Council is not saying whether there should be a light rail or not, but we are saying if light rail comes to Woden it should be a direct line to Civic so the people can have a rapid transport system from the South.

- 3 **Presentations - planning theme**

**Community**

**Women's Centre for Health Matters – Ms Emma Davidson**

The Women's Centre has been around from 1990 and represents women all over Canberra. We do social research, advocacy for health education, employment and transport. Safety net tool (URL) will be put on the website. This survey mentions where women are feeling unsafe in public spaces and why they feel that way. 82% of the community feeling unsafe are women. 34% of the women aged between 18-34 year. If they feel unsafe this will change their behaviours where they go, what they do, that's why we are interested in these statistics. The top of the ten suburbs where women feel unsafe is Phillip which is not a good sign. In the north Haig Park has a problem. Woden has quite a few concerns as well including the Woden Centre near the bus station. We look at safety issues in an area to let the ACT Government know so they can fix the problems. Women do not feel safe where it is dark and poor visibility for example near trees at a corner that someone might be hiding behind. In built-up spaces they feel safer. Women do not like going to an isolated and deserted area or an area where the only person they can see is someone that think might harm them. Women feel safer in well lit areas, where there are lots of open space and lots of other people using the space. Women feel safer in the Belconnen bus station because it is open with lots of people using it and there are cafés and amenities. Around Woden bus station they do not feel safe as it dark and no shops opening on to the space around. It is important that areas of disadvantage like in Chifley, Lyons and Mawson have good access to public transport. CCTV cameras do not necessarily make an area feel safe; they do not stop an offence but do assist in identifying the offender after the event.

**Sgt. Karen Jacks - Officer In charge Woden Police Station**

Understands that there are issues around Woden interchange also. In the last 12 months there has been an increase of 12% domestic and 16% commercial disputes. In relation to Woden Park near the Community Centre we are making sure people do not hang around without reason. If you have any questions pass it to Fiona and I will reply to those queries.

**Active Living - Territory Plan (TPV348) - Dr Anthony Burton and Ms Annie Kentwell, Heart Foundation**

The Heart Foundation spoke about the planning issues related to building a better environment. The Heart Foundation has a long history in engaging with the community and professionals in order to build up a better environment. We fund cardiac vascular research. We educate and also advocate building a healthy community environment. This leads to a healthy community. There is a prevalence of inactivity in the community. People do not get a minimum of 30 minutes of physical activity every day. According to the guideline this does not mean continuous in a single block, it can be in different blocks like walking to public transport, going to local shops. In Woden Valley 54% of the population did not meet the physical activity guideline. Comparing this with active travel to and from work in Lyneham 68% population currently drive to from work, 16.3% use active travel like walking and cycling to from work. In Mawson 85% people drive to and from work and Curtin only 5.2% take active travel. There is a need for mixed used density and facilities. So the challenge comes down to planning implementation appropriately. Facilities near to public transport are necessary so people can have easy access. These principles have been implemented into the Territory Plan.

**Development**

**WOVA – Michelle Rowe, Group Head of Communications, Geocon**

WOVA is one of the first developments which took to community consultation at a very early stage in October last year. We used digital and online engagement, Face book, face to face, invitation to information sessions and letter drops. In a survey 400 people participated. The online survey had 22 responses, 97 via Face book pages, 357 hits through the website during the consultation period. At the community information session there were 35 participants. At the presentation at Bellerive 175 people attended, the pop up stall at Weston had 155 individuals' engagements and executive briefings.

WOVA stated that the site is on the corner of Melrose and Launceston Street. The building at the corner will be a gateway building marking the entrance to the Woden Town Centre.

The proposed development provides four buildings in range of 10 to 24 stories for a total 798 residential apartments. A mix of 1, 2 and 3 bedrooms apartment. The site has been designed in accordance with DV344 with apartments primarily one bedroom, 39% of two bedrooms and 4% will be three bedrooms and SOHO dwellings with a 4 level basement for car parking. One way entry will be from Melrose Drive. The commercial building will be at ground floor which includes a café. 925 car park spaces will be provided.

The building along Melrose Drive will be 23 storeys on the north side and 19 storeys on the south side. There is a mixture of retail and commercial space on the ground floor. Community space is being considered. The ground floor is very important as it is aiming to connect the surrounding neighbourhood with a thoroughfare to the town centre. The community will be free to walk

through. There will be surveillance to the buildings. The shadowing model shows the movement of the shadow in 10 minute increments between 9am to 3pm as per the ACT planning guidelines.

There is a communal space on the roof which can be used as a community garden as well.

The community raised many concerns about the size and scale of the development, primarily about overshadowing of Bellerive and the solar panels, parking, traffic congestion, noise and the density of the development.

There were also concerns about the lack of facilities for families and children.

**Planning policy for Woden and Southlands (3D model of potential buildings)** – Ms Alix Kaucz, Environment, Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate

Presentation of the 3D model for DV344 for Woden and DV345 for Mawson showing some of the residential developments.

#### **4. 5 minute update from MLAs**

#### **5. Other business**

The meeting finished at 9:45 pm.

The next meeting of the WVCC will be at 7 pm on 4 July 2018 at The Canberra Southern Cross Club.