

DOWNER COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION MEETING

Downer Community Centre, 6 August 2018

PRESENT

Miles Boak, Amit Barkay, Jacqui Pinkava, Philipa Sturgiss-Hoy, Greg Mulvaney, Patti Kendall, Robyn Rennie, Sam Hussey-Smith, Stephen Sedgwick, Denys Garden Suzanne Pitson, Jim Dehlsen, Richard Niven, Jane Goffman, Anne Stearman, Brian and Margot O'Malley

Meeting opened 7.05pm

Chair: Miles

1. Update on CHC Bradfield development by CHC

Amit had arranged for Keiran Fordham who is contracted to CHC to present at the meeting. He did not show.

General discussion sharing what is known or presumed. This included: Stage 1 is two thirds sold. The three bedroom townhouses were the most popular and could have been sold many times over. Development is expected to commence in 6 weeks. Power supply has been bought into the site. Major change of CHC personnel which may be the reason for their reluctance to engage with DCA. Concern expressed by the Committee about CHC commitment to affordable or disabled housing in the development.

Understanding that Keiran has been employed to undertake a feasibility study for Stage 2. DA for Stage 2 has been approved for apartments with affordable components. Miles understands that Stage 2 is in abeyance. Feeling is that if CHC want to make a major change to Stage 2, then a new DA would be required.

ACTION:

In lieu of his presentation, Amit contacted Kieran at the meeting to ask for a written brief on what is happening.

Miles to follow up with Kieran on Stage 2 and the affordable/disabled component of the development. If no satisfaction, escalate to the CHC Board.

2. APOLOGIES/MINUTES/CORRESPONDENCE

MEETING APOLOGIES

Brian Callahan, Tammette Wood.

PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES

Accepted and signed off. In response to amended action item, Amit provided words for acknowledgement of country-

I would like to pay my respects and acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land on which this meeting takes place, and also pay respect to elders both past and present.

DCA CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED AND ISSUES RAISED

See Attachment A for correspondence received to DCA inbox. Issues raised in correspondence-

- Transport Group has disbanded, advised by Barbara Burns.
- New bus network (Leon Arundell) generated at least 30 plus emails and resulted in a NCCC submission to TCCS. TCCS sent an invitation to DCA to submit comments to TCCS.MyRapidNetwork@act.gov.au by 12 August.
- Section 72 Consultation Report link provided.
- Jane Goffman providing an update on Coles/Doma vs Supreme Court.

More detail on these issues are covered in Other Matters.

3. CENTRE LIAISON OFFICER REPORT- Amit

- The Vet has inquired about using the Downer Centre Hall for Vet physio. An interim measure while his surgery floor is fixed.
- There has been a break-in at Gang Gang.
- SEEChange have request that the security screen door be fixed. Stephen noted that Alucom have been contacted many times to get the problem resolved. The lock barrels have been replaced.
- Stephen has asked SEEChange to informed Kerry (the Centre Coordinator) of issues.
- Centre gas heater issue- Stephen asked if the Canberra Flower Club are happy with the outcome. Philida assured that they are. Some discussion between Amit and Stephen as to the functioning of the heaters. Seems to be an issue with the pilot light or indicator needle. As a consequence, some heaters are not working. This has been a continual source of frustration and has cost the ACT Gov some \$2,000.

ACTION: Heaters- Jim to check the indicator needles.

4. TREASURER'S REPORT – Stephen

- Provided as email. Attached as hard copy
- Expenses in July totalled \$5,770 largely due to \$2,700 for re-print of Downer@50 book, wages, tax and superannuation.
- Total income received was \$4,380.
- Despite a deficit of \$1,390 Stephen felt that DCA's finances were in good shape. With \$4,000 in the bank.
- Expect \$1,650 in invoices from the ACT Gov in August.
- Stephen is in the process of preparing the finances for the Auditor in readiness for the November AGM.
- Stephen and Denys need to finalise the financial review (see June meeting minutes)

5. COMMUNITY LIBRARY- Anne Stearman

- Anne is a Volunteer with Lifeline Book Fair and is seeking the Committee's help/support in setting up a community library using a corner of the Gang Gang Café.
- Anne is happy to look after the library, its stock, general tidiness etc.
- It was suggested that once in operation, it could be registered with Street Library Australia- <https://streetlibrary.org.au/register/> noting it is inside and not an outside library and within a commercial space.
- Once operational, have an item in the newsletter and on the website, noting that there is also a little library outside the Pre-School on Cotton Street.

ACTION: Miles to accompany Anne to visit Iraj the Café owner to enlist his support in hosting the little library.

6. THE CITY AND GATEWAY FRAMEWORK- NEXT STEPS

- It was noted that Petra Oswald has left the Gateway Team. Second in charge Caitin is away until December. Katrina Williams responded to Amit's invitation to provide an update at today's meeting.
- Email response (attached to hard copy) indicated that they would not be able to as they are still in the process of finalising Stage 2 Community Engagement Report. This report and the final City and Gateway Urban Design Framework are expected to be released in the coming months. Once these documents are released EPSDD staff will be able to present at a DCA meeting.

ACTION: Jacqui to forward the email to Suzanne Pitson who has undertaken to put together a list of questions for Miles to write to Ben Ponting (Head of the City and Gateway Team in ESSD). As a courtesy, Miles to ring Katrina to advise her of the escalation of this matter to Ben Ponting.

7. UPGRADE OF DOWNER SQUARE- Amit

- Main works to be completed by end of September. Need to allow another 4 plus weeks for the new grass to take hold in the raised area. This area would remain fenced for this period and the rocks would not be accessible.
- November now suggested as the timing for a Square Opening and Party at the Shops.
- Suggested that a local politician be invited to open the revitalised Downer Square.

ACTION: Amit to contact ACT Government to discuss protocols for the Square opening. Need for a newsletter before this event noted.

8. OTHER MATTERS

COLES REDEVELOPMENT

Miles welcomed Jane Goffman who was one of the appellants at the ACT Civil and Administrative Tribunal hearing on the Coles/Doma Dickson DA. Jane provided an update.

- Charter Hall (the landlords of the Woolworths site) have hired a high powered Senior Council, Kate Richardson in addition to the lawyer that represented them at the ACAT hearing- Wayne Sherwood.
- The appeal by Coles is set for a four day hearing in the ACT Supreme court in November 2018.
- The ACT Government is also party to the appeal for the reason (as stated by Ben Ponting in the ACT Assembly) “that the ACT government needs to be at the table to understand what is being argued and to protect the interests of the territory.” It is understood that EPSDD is sending George Celiers who was the planner who declined the first DA.
- The Supreme Court has ordered mediation with all parties. This is set for Thursday 16 August at 9.30am at the Vibe Hotel at the airport. Jane would like Miles to attend.
- Aldi Supermarket has pulled out of the development and there is speculation that the Canberra based Doma Group (apartment developers) may be wavering.
- Coles have hired new architects, no longer Cox.
- Jane speculates that Coles is possibly running scared with the high powered legal representation enlisted by Charter Hall.
- With the withdrawal of Aldi, Jane feels this provides the perfect opportunity for a scaled down development. She wants Coles to focus on getting a new DA that meets planning requirements and that takes on board issues raised by the two previous DAs.

Philida gave a vote of thanks to both Jane and Miles for all their efforts on the Coles saga to date.

DICKSON/DOWNER HERITAGE WALK.

Jane spoke to this as she will be leading the walk which takes place on Sunday 28 October, 9.30-11.30am. It is organised through the National Trust at the cost of \$10. <https://www.nationaltrust.org.au/event/heritage-walk-16-wizards-of-oz-a-dickson-downer-heritage-trail/>

Jane has secured two experts, heritage architects Eric Martin and David Hobbs.

ACTION: Amit to check with Kerry about booking one of the halls to put up a display of historical photographs of the CSIR facility and environs.
DCA to organise catering for around 11am.

NEW BUS NETWORK SUBMISSION

On 20 July TCCS sent out an invite to organisations to put in a submission on the new bus network by 12 August.

As the DCA Transport Group no longer exists, Jacqui to approach Sue Dyer (whose name was linked to this group in the past), to see if she is submitting and if there was any benefit in DCA lending weight.

ACTION: Jacqui to contact Sue Dyer and sound out. Done. Will send her submission for info.

YOWANI GROUNDS PROPOSAL

A number of the DCA committee attended the 24 July Community Forum. A transport management and flood plan were displayed along with the proposed residential development (unchanged from what was displayed at the May DCA presentation).

Dan Stewart's (Elton Consulting) offer to present at a DCA meeting was noted, but felt that there is nothing new for them to present at this stage.

ACTION: Greg Mulvaney (who noted he is a member of the golf club) to prepare some questions for Miles to put to Dan. Questions include:

- density (is it reasonable in comparison to The Sanctuary)
- traffic movement, especially as it affects Swinden Street on the Downer side
- Flood plain, noting that Southwell Park is a designated flood plain
- Green spaces and set back from Northbourne Ave
- Liaison with the City and Gateway team about height symmetry.

Suzanne Pitson to prepare some questions for the City and Gateway people regarding Yowani for when they come to talk to DCA about the Gateway Framework.

9. NEXT DCA MEETING

3 September 2018.

Jacqui will be absent. Acting minute taker required.

Meeting closed 9.05 pm.

Miles Boak
Convenor

Jacqui Pinkava
Secretary

DCA CORRESPONDENCE

CORRESPONDENCE via email 3 July to 6 August

2 July- Suzanne Pitson

Draft flyer for possible letterbox drop/ website, pending outcome of City and Gateway submission wash-up. Referred to and attached to Minutes.

3 and 4 July- Barbara Burns

In response to my email about Melba St bus stops. Said that she has “stepped aside” from the Transport Working Group, citing lack of interest by the ACT transport people. Simon moved to Bungendore. Sue Dyer may still be involved but has never met her. (Printed).

3 July- Richard Niven

In response to my email to all DCA members. Re: what is happening on school site.

I responded 4 July, Amit 8 July, me 3 Aug, noting that CHC are presenting at 6 Aug meeting and inviting him to come along.

3 July- Chris Mobbs- Chair Hackett Community Association

Wanting contact for Judith Shaw regarding photographs in “Downer @ 50”.

Denys responded.

11 July- Dan Stewart Elton Consulting/Yowani Grounds

In response to my email to all DCA about Yowani Community Forum. Happy to present at DCA meetings. Forwarded this to Miles 11 July.

11 July- Denis O’Brien NCCC

Copy of their submission on City and Gateway. Referred and attached to Minutes.

15 July- NCCC

Invite to 18 July Meeting presentation by City Renewal Authority and Haig Park renewal.

17 July- Naomi Lee- TCCCS- Better Suburbs

Inviting submissions for Better Suburbs Play Stations Forum.

Forwarded to Janka, Majura Pre-School 17 July.

17 July- Elizabeth Lee MLA

Invite to Miles to have breakfast with Canberra Liberals 26 July.

Forwarded to Miles 17 July.

17 July Leon Arundell- NCCC

New bus routes issue for ABC666 Drive program, seeking issues for him to raise.

18-27 July- over 30 emails back and forth

20 July- TCCS- Invite for submission on new bus network, due 12 August.

I forwarded to Miles on 21 July noting that we have no Transport Working Group.

25 July- Leon Arundell- final draft of NCCC submission on New Bus Network. (attached).

I sent copy to DCA Committee members 1 August.

27 July- Caroline Le Couteur

Providing link to Section 72 Dickson Consultation Report.

Forwarded to Committee 1 August, suggested agenda item for meeting.

1 August- Kelly Robertson

Angry at new bus network, wanting DCA to kick out Meegan Fitzharris!

I responded noting that NCCC had put in a submission, providing link to TCCS to put in own submission and inviting to DCA meeting as it was on the agenda.

2 August- Kelly responding suggesting we launch an on-line petition.

2 August-Jane Goffman- Active Planning

In response to my response (cc her) to Caroline on Coles Doma status. Her response (cced to Miles) is attached.

3 August- Sue Dyer

CC of her email to NCCC on the Better Suburbs forum and other forums happening- providing her views- especially on suggested improvements to the Dickson shopping precinct.

6 August- Julie Edwards.

CC of her comments on the Yowani Grounds proposal sent to Dan Stewart.

OUTGOING- sent to whole DCA mailing list.

3 July- Information about the Better Suburbs Kitchen Table Conversations kit, proposed new bus network invite to have Your Say, City and Gateway update.

11 July- Invitation to attend the Yowani Grounds Community Information Forum on 24 July.