

**Minutes of Management Committee Meeting
Monday 2nd December 2013**

The meeting opened at 7 pm.

PRESENT

Di Fielding (Chair), Denys Garden, Brain Callahan, Chris Paterson, Amit Barkay, Jane Ahern, Caroline Le Couteur, Philida Sturgiss-Hoy.

Observers: John Fielding, Fiona Dickson, Ivan & Nadia Potas

APOLOGIES

Miles Boak, Stephen Sedgwick

MINUTES

Minutes of the meeting of 4th November 2013 were accepted.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

List of projects for work at Community Centre. Amit Barkay reported that this still needed to be done

Carpet cleaning. Amit Barkay reported that he was still waiting for a quote.

Cheque signatories. Di Fielding reported that she had spoken to the Cleaner's husband, but was advised that she preferred to receive payment by cheque. Denys Garden suggested that as from 2014, we should insist that employees are paid by EFT.

Traffic survey. Amit Barkay reported that this was ongoing, but there was difficulty because the scanned report was too big to email.

Letter to residents re. the school site. This had been completed and sent out with the Newsletter.

Submission on Light Rail. Forwarded.

CORRESPONDENCE

In.

1. Six email responses on school site development as a result of the letter which had gone out with the Newsletter.
2. Acknowledgment of receipt of submission on Light Rail
3. Acknowledgment of receipt of submission on development at 90 & 92 Blacket St
4. Email from Nola Zorzi who had ordered and paid for a book & CD but had not received them. Denys Garden to follow up.

Out.

1. Acknowledgments to those who had made submissions on the school site
2. Email to Nola Zorzi re. Book & CD.
3. Letter to one of our clients who had been reported to be using a key to get into the Centre to run a group if it is raining, and also not locking doors after using the Centre.

CENTRE COORDINATOR/LIAISON OFFICER REPORT

Amit Barkay (Centre Liaison Officer) reported that a mop & bucket had been stolen. Amit to buy replacements, and to get a lock for the storage room.

Di Fielding reported on user who is apparently not locking the room when she leaves.

Action: Amit Barkay to check on this.

TREASURER'S REPORT

In the absence of the Treasurer, there was no formal report. Denys Garden had spoken to the Treasurer who had reported that invoices had gone out, and several of these had already been paid. There was over \$8000 in our account at the time of the meeting.

COMMITTEE OFFICE BEARERS

The following were appointed to positions for 2014:

Convenor: Diane Fielding
Secretary: Denys Garden

Public Officer: Brian Callahan
Treasurer: Stephen Sedgwick

DEVELOPMENT ISSUES

Blacket St. Di Fielding reported that the period for applications had not yet closed

Survey of residents opinions about school site development. Jane Ahern reported on the collated responses received. The main issues raised were:

- Concerns over parking/increased traffic flow and subsequent problems
- Preference for retirement village/townhouse development
- Development should be for the community good, not Government profit
- Part of the site should be retained for community use (e.g. childcare)
- Commercial development should be compatible with redevelopment of the old shops

It was suggested that time to reply to the survey should be extended for another 2 weeks to gather any further responses.

School site. Di Fielding raised a concern about the future of the Community Centre following an article in The Chronicle. TAMS says that there are no planned changes to the arrangements already in place.

The issue of the demolition of the old school buildings was raised. It was agreed that we should put in a submission asking for work to be done responsibly, paying attention to the following:

- Reinforce requirements regarding the effects of noise and dust (especially asbestos) on nearby residents.
- Protection of trees
- Preservation of the old school courtyard
- A clear traffic management plan
- Concern over what will be left (a junk heap for how long?)

Action: Di Fielding to prepare a draft and circulate to the Committee (submissions close 10th December).

Light Rail Study. Caroline Le Couteur put forward the view that the Government should be looking at Downer in an integrated way – community needs, development, transport, infrastructure. We should put together information from the survey on development and from our light rail submission to present a coordinated approach. Since the light rail plans have been made public, transport is a NEW issue which impinges on the school site development and other issues in Downer.

It was suggested that we send letters to EDD, ACTPLA, the Chief Minister, the ACT Treasurer and Light Rail representatives asking for an opportunity to meet with them and discuss the big picture of development and transport in Downer.

Action: Di Fielding to contact the relevant people and try to organise a meeting.

Downer shops. Concern had been expressed about the possibility of the shops development not going ahead. However, Amit Barkay explained that some of the confusion was due to the 2 different partners in Lonsdale Roasters having different objectives. Although one partner was setting up in Kingston, the other partner was still planning to set up in Downer.

Brian Callahan raised the point expressed previously by Miles Boak, that other suburbs have been able to get grants to upgrade their shops (see http://www.tams.act.gov.au/city-services/public_areas/shopping_centres). It was agreed that we should put in for a grant to at least refurbish Bicentennial Square.

Action: Di Fielding and Amit Barkay to prepare an application. Theo Poulos should be made aware of what we are doing.

OTHER BUSINESS

Christmas function for Committee. It was agreed that due to commitments of members there was no time for this, and the possibility of some function should be explored in the new year.

NEXT MEETING

Monday 6th January at 7 pm.

The meeting closed at 8.15 pm.

Di Fielding
Convenor

Denys Garden
Secretary