

**Minutes of Management Committee Meeting
Monday 4th November 2013**

The meeting opened at 7.05 pm.

PRESENT

Di Fielding (Chair), Denys Garden, Miles Boak., Brain Callahan, Chris Paterson, Amit Barkay, Jane Ahern, Caroline Le Couteur. Observer: John Fielding

APOLOGIES

Stephen Sedgwick

MINUTES

Minutes of the meeting of 7th October 2013 were accepted.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

List of projects for work at Community Centre. Amit Barkay reported that the only item of consequence was the replacement of heaters. After discussion, it was decided that all the items listed at the October meeting should be submitted.

Action: Amit Barkay to compile list of items as discussed.

Energy Efficiency Grant. Di Fielding had previously reported that she had spoken to Diana Crombie about what had happened to this and she advised it was advancing on a 'staged approach'. She suggested we include any potential energy efficiency items in the list referred to in the previous item.

Form for Tax Office. Brian Callahan reported that he and the Treasurer had filled in the form and sent it off to the Tax Office. No communication back yet.

Progress with Shops. Amit Barkay and Di Fielding had previously reported that Theo Poulos had said that final approval for the shops had been given, and that from 2nd November, things might start to happen. However, Amit noted that Theo's partner was less positive about starting that soon. However, work should start before the end of the year. There was some discussion about problems for Community Centre tenants, particularly during the removal of asbestos roofing. Theo will let us know 7 days before work commences.

Other items of Business Arising are dealt with under separate headings below.

CORRESPONDENCE

In.

1. Email from Leon Arundell re. ACT Government's intention to challenge the right of NCCC to appeal against the de-concessionalisation of the Braddon Club lease at the ACAT Directions Hearing on 27th November.
2. Email from Bonnie Jackson, EDD, with Community Letter advising of site investigation studies to be carried out on Block 4, Section 61, Downer (Old School site) on 29th and 30th October.

CENTRE COORDINATOR/LIAISON OFFICER REPORT

Amit Barkay (Centre Liaison Officer) reported that one of the rooms and the toilets had been left open again. Centre Coordinator, Jingwen Wang is following up on this. There was some discussion about complaints about dirty carpets and the need for cleaning.

Action: Amit Barkay to get a quote on carpet cleaning from the company used recently at his workplace.

TREASURER'S REPORT

In the absence of the Treasurer, there was no report

Di Fielding raised the issue of the need for 2 signatories for cheques (previously discussed). Denys Garden said that most payments were now made by EFT/Billpay, and cheques were mainly for wages. The cleaner particularly, prefers to receive payment by cheque.

Action: Di Fielding check with Stephen regarding volume of cheques >\$300, and to contact the cleaner's husband re. the possibility of changing wages payment to EFT.

DEVELOPMENT ISSUES

School site. Miles Boak reported that even though final plans have not been submitted, the Government is likely to begin demolition of buildings on the site soon. Tenants are apparently already out of the buildings.

Traffic survey. Miles Boak and Amit Barkay commented on the hard copy of the report received. There was a disappointing lack of detail, and ACTPLA's response had also been disappointing. The report concluded that development of the school site would have little impact on traffic flows in Downer. A CD of the report had been promised, but not received.

Action: Miles Boak to scan the traffic part of the report and circulate to the Committee..

Survey of residents opinions about development. Jane Ahern had previously circulated a document to collect information from residents on the school site development. Di Fielding queried whether residents were really interested in what was happening. However, earlier information sessions were well attended, so maybe people are just being ground down by the process. It was decided that it was important to keep the issue in front of residents.

Action: Jane Ahern to finalise the information document and send to Denys Garden for printing and distribution with the Newsletter.

90 & 92 Blacket St. Di Fielding reported that the DCA submission had gone in, and thanked Miles Boak for his contribution to it.

Light Rail Study. Di Fielding, Caroline Le Couteur and Chris Paterson had attended a meeting to discuss the Capital Metro Light Rail Integration Study on 10th October. Caroline reported that it was likely that there will be a reduction in the number of buses to offset the cost of light rail. In general, Downer was not well served by the proposed light rail system. Caroline had previously circulated a draft submission, and wondered whether we should be a bit more upfront about what we thought was required. She suggested that it may be a good strategy to acknowledge that there should be higher density development along the light rail route (i.e. along Northbourne Ave) and good access from the inner parts of Downer to a possible tram stop opposite the end of the Barton

Highway. There may be an opportunity to trade this off against lower density in the Downer school site, which is too far from the proposed light rail route for residents to use it.

Action: Caroline Le Couteur to complete the submission on the DCA response to the Light Rail Study. This issue should also be raised at the AGM.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

John Fielding has agreed to be the Returning Officer. Denys Garden has prepared forms for use at the meeting, and there is a notice on the website. Brian Callahan is arranging refreshments. Theo Poulos is willing to speak about the Shops redevelopment. It was agreed that the survey/information sheet and light rail should be on the agenda.

OTHER BUSINESS

Miles Boak reported on a meeting of Watson Community Association with Simon Corbell on setting aside land in the suburb of Kenny as a reserve. The WCA would like our support on this.

NEXT MEETING

Monday 2nd December at 7 pm. Positions on the Committee will be filled at this meeting, from those elected at the AGM.

The meeting closed at 8.45 pm.

Di Fielding
Convenor

Denys Garden
Secretary