

## **DOWNER COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION**

Minutes of Management Committee Meeting, Monday 7 September 2015

### **PRESENT**

Di Fielding, Miles Boak, Philida Sturgiss-Hoy, Stephen Sedgwick, Chris Paterson, Caroline Le Couteur, Jane Ahern, Patti Kendall. Observers: Amit Barkay, John Fielding, Travis

### **GUESTS**

Kim Sinclair, Rebecca Vassarotti & Eddy Burke, all from CHC Affordable Housing

### **Amendment to the Agenda**

Date for 2015 AGM

### **MINUTES**

Minutes of the meeting of 3 August 2015 were accepted.

### **MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES**

**Upgrading of Bicentennial Square:** Di reported that she has written to Mr Barr twice seeking his response to Downer Community Association's concerns about the upgrading of Bicentennial Square, which has fallen into disrepair. The Association would like to have it upgraded to coincide with the re-opening of Downer shops ensuring the whole area is a refreshed and appealing community facility.

**Action: Di to now write to David Dawes expressing our understanding that Mr Barr was going to speak to him about the Square, and if he has done so. Mr Dawes' response to be sought.**

**Downer preschool:** Despite a speedy response to Di's letter to Diane Joseph reiterating DCA's concern at the lack of community information confirming that Downer Preschool is a feeder school for North Ainslie, Majura and Lyneham Primary Schools, nothing concrete appears to have done to address the issue.

**Action: Di to see Diane Joseph. Denys to put reminder of preschool zoning in DCA newsletter**

**Mobile phone:** After some discussion, it was concluded that a pre-paid mobile phone would probably be the best and least expensive option for DCA. Stephen to ascertain Jingwen's thoughts on using a mobile phone.

**Action: Stephen to report Jingwen's response to using mobile phone to committee. Matter listed for Actions Arising for October 2015 Management Committee Meeting.**

### **CENTRE CORRESPONDENCE**

As noted.

### **CENTRE COORDINATOR'S REPORT**

A plumber from TAMS came to look at the blocked gutters and will repair them.

Robin Burger, ACT Property Tenancies Officer, informed DCA that the centre has a possum/rodent problem. As a government tenant, the DCA is liable for the first \$500 of any repairs. It was decided that it would be best to continue with the government pest control services for this issue rather than a private provider.

**Action: Di to ask Robin to organise pest removal and to check if gutters need to be cleared prior.**

### **TREASURER'S REPORT**

Stephen Sedgwick reported that he is looking at the possibilities of getting a better return for the DCA Fixed Term deposit.

**Action: Carry over consideration of new term deposit as an agenda item for January 2016 committee meeting.**

### **DCA ANNIVERSARY DINNER**

Organisation for the dinner is progressing well. Chris has booked Hudsons to cater the dinner. It was decided that cutlery and crockery will be hired, DCA members to supply tablecloths. Brian will organise drinks. Denys will include dinner information in the next newsletter. John Fielding will organise music.

**Actions: Chris to inform DCA of costs for cutlery/crockery hire.**

**Menu to be finalised and numbers confirmed with Hudsons a week prior to the dinner**

**Denys to include dinner ticket payment methods in newsletter**

### **CHC AFFORDABLE HOUSING/DOWNER SCHOOL SITE REDEVELOPMENT**

Kim and Rebecca from CHC introduced Eddy Burke to the meeting. He is the new CHC Community Liaison Officer and is to be the quickest point of contact for the community with interest and questions about the redevelopment. CHC will be starting a website specifically for the Downer community with information on the development's progress. It will contain a Q&A forum. Rebecca informed the meeting that there is still no date for commencement of the works as the land purchase is going through another process – a second iteration. Once the land purchase is complete, CHC will have a sales office, with information, on site. CHC are still moving ahead and are considering architects. 5 will be asked for Expressions of Interest. DCA reiterated its preference for buildings to blend in with the area as much as possible, similar to the leafy low key City Edge development in O'Connor rather than the starker, higher Braybrook complex in New Bruce.

There was further discussion around the impact of the development and number of apartments, particularly on local roads. The committee also emphasised its concern about the impact on infrastructure, in particular the already overloaded sewerage system and insisted that work is not to commence until the sewerage system has been updated.

Kim, Rebecca and Eddy were thanked for their attendance and for keeping DCA informed.

### **DICKSON COLES DOMA DEVELOPMENT**

It was noted that the Coles Doma redevelopment application for Dickson shopping centre has been resubmitted for approval. Those who submitted a comment on the previous application, including DCA, will get 2 weeks to respond to the latest application. Environment and Planning Directorate - Planning (formerly ACTPLA) has 4 weeks to consider the application. It was agreed that if the same issues that DCA objected to previously were still present in the resubmitted application, our objections would be lodged again. Downer has the least green site of any suburb and any reduction in green site in Dickson will have a significant impact on the Downer community. It was also noted that there has been no further public information on the Section 72 development in Dickson.

### **DOWNER SHOPS DEVELOPMENT**

Di will contact Theo Poulos for an update on progress and potential opening day.

**Action: DCA to organise, with Theo, a walk around the site for those interested in the development. Theo to be invited to the anniversary dinner**

### **CAPITAL METRO**

Di was invited to be part of a capital Metro reference group for Dickson. There are 3 groups with approx. a dozen members in each. Di commented that she will ask the hard questions and seek greater transparency for the community as part of her role in the reference group with the aim of

making the outcomes of the group the best they can be for this area. In particular, community concerns around accessibility - it will be too far for many in the community to walk to the tram stops - what will Capital Metro be doing about access for the elderly and disabled?

Di would like members of the Downer community to send messages, preferably written ones, in terms of what they would like Di to take to the reference group. Downer-specific questions are important.

**DCA AGM 2015**

The DCA AGM will be held on 23 November 2015 at 7.30pm. Kim from CHC will be guest speaker.

**Action: Brian to advertise AGM in Chronicle newspaper**

Di thanked everyone for attending the meeting

**NEXT MEETING:** Monday 5 October 2015 at 7.00pm

The meeting closed at 9.10pm.

Di Fielding  
Convener

Jane Ahern  
Secretary