

*Your local voice*



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## **Minutes of General Meeting Wednesday, 30 April 2014**

### **Opening of Meeting**

The meeting was opened at 7.33pm. The Chair Tom Anderson welcomed members and guests including Gai Brodtmann, Federal Member for Molonglo.

**Apologies:** Rose Jurd, Gerald Santucci, Simon Hearder

Approximately 50 people attended the meeting.

### **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

#### **Second Petrol Station in Weston Creek**

Ivo Matesic from the Economic Development Directorate spoke about the second petrol station for Weston Creek. 6 sites were looked at and the best site is the corner of Cotter Road and Fitzpatrick Street. This site is not zoned for this use so a Technical Amendment to the Territory Plan will have to be done.

The Technical Amendment is about to start and will take approximately 12 months to be finalised. It is likely these will be in place by the time the Masterplan is implemented.

There is further consultation to come in relation to:

- Rezoning
- Masterplan
- Development Application

Mr. Matesic advised that there is likely to be retail attached to the petrol station. The site will be ready for sale early 2015.

Q. The existing petrol station in Weston Creek has a shop, a carwash, an auto electrician and a mechanic but only a few bowsers. What will be the case for the new service station?

A. The site has been chosen to allow more room. We are working with potential owners of the petrol station.

Q. Will there be a lane to turn into the petrol station?

A. Egress will be from Kirkpatrick Street.

Q. If the community feels strongly is there an opportunity to speed the process up? Can we use the proposed new laws (Planning and Development (Project Facilitation) Amendment Bill 2014)?

A. The project may not qualify under the Planning and Development (Project Facilitation) Amendment Bill 2014. We would like to do it more quickly but there is a due process to follow.

Ms. Brodtmann advised that there was a strong preference from the Weston Creek community (from consultation during the time of her petition) for an independent petrol station.

The Chair thanked Ms. Brodtmann and the Southside Chronicle for taking this issue up on

behalf of Weston Creek residents.

Mr. Matesic also advised that the first shops in Coombs will be going to market in the next few months and are expected to be opened in approximately 10 months.

### **Council on the Ageing**

Paul Flint, the Executive Director for the Council on the Ageing (COTA), spoke on services available to elderly people.

COTA is based at the Hughes Centre.

COTA protects and promotes the interests of older people in the ACT. There are two parts to the organisation:

- programmes and activities
- policy development and advocacy

COTA has been in the ACT for over 40 years, has approximately 2000 members and puts people before profits. It identifies gaps in services for older people and tries to fill these.

It has the following services:

- housing options advisor who looks at all activities about housing
  - staying in the home
  - downsizing from the family home
  - aged care facilities
  - retirement villages
- manages the Seniors Card Book which lists services/discounts available to seniors
- organises Seniors Week in the ACT
- community education programmes
  - falls prevention
  - Beyond Blue
  - positive ageing programme (active lifestyle)
- information service
  - assists people to find services that meet their needs
  - Directory of Services for the Ageing (book) that has 682 listings – many of the organisation provide similar services to COTA

The Commonwealth government and ACT government systems are designed to suit individual needs - what is it that will make a difference in your life?

The aged care system and HACC are being reformed. In 12 months' time it will look different and in 5 years' time it will be totally different again. The same fundamental will be kept – consumer directed care.

COTA is there to find service for you when you need it. Keep the phone number and give them a call.

Q. Are there any practical services available to get on the internet? You have to do everything on the net with the government.

A. Yes, the libraries, U3A, commercial places. COTA lobbied very strongly that all communities need to be covered – the illiterate and those without computers have the same information needs. We are fighting a losing battle.

### **Communities@Work**

Jo Cochrane and Hope McMahan from Communities@Work gave an overview of their services. They are the largest and most diverse association in the ACT. They have 100 programmes in 40 locations across the ACT and have been operating for over 65 years. They deliver services to people from birth to death. The majority of the services are government funded. They have a good working relationship with COTA.

Services provided include:

- Centres for Seniors - Weston Creek and Gungahlin

- Men's groups - Lanyon and Gungahlin
- Women's group - Gungahlin
- Sing a long - Tuggeranong
- Men's shed – Tuggeranong
  - continues to grow
  - no age limit
  - has great health and well-being outcomes
- Woden Seniors
- Club 55 (55+) - Tuggeranong

Programs available:

- Centre for Seniors at Cooleman Court
  - open Wednesday and Thursday
  - has a range of activities
    - fitness
    - arts
    - guest speakers
    - outings
    - senior sport carnival (done by YMCA)
    - other excursions such as the Maps Exhibition, lake cruises
- cooked meals - manned by staff and volunteers
- case management and case coordination
  - case manager will link you with the services you need
  - can provide larger one on one services in need
  - personal care such as helping get ready for the day, out of bed, showered, dressed
  - social support - keep you linked with the community e.g. shopping, pay bills, run errands, go for a walk with you, keeping you company.
- community transport – need to be over 65 to access
- community mini bus – provided by Action Buses. Need to be transport disadvantaged
- higher needs transport
  - need some notice
  - can provide last minute if available
  - 5 days per week using staff and volunteers (who use their own vehicle)
- Care and Share
  - Tuggeranong and Gungahlin
  - provides food and essential services at very reduced prices
  - Tuggeranong is currently supporting approximately 1700 people
- in home support services
  - personal care
  - domestic assistance (normally fortnightly)
- social supports
  - shopping
- provide community transport

Q. With the transport do we still need to give 24 hours' notice and does it still go through all of the suburbs?

A. 24 hours' notice is preferable. The route depends on whether a bus or vehicle is provided.

Q. Are you funded by the ACT Government?

A. We are a not for profit so we get some government funding. We also receive funding from philanthropic programmes.

Q. What is the first point of call for case managers?

a. Usually a phone call – you don't need a referral.

Q. What is case coordination?

A. Case coordination – basic support

Case management

- profound disabilities/dementia

- many people access more than one service
- can go to your home

Q. Is this digital world do you have to make selections by pushing buttons on the phone or use a computer?

A. The telephone is answered by a person. Can provide face to face services

During Seniors Week we had an Expo so that people could talk to a number of providers.

Q. Tuggeranong and Gungahlin are a long way apart. Do they focus on local people? The Weston Creek Masterplan has a community centre in it.

A. The centre in Tuggeranong is new and provided an independent service for Seniors. Most information/questions come by phone. The Weston Creek centre provides activities not information. Communities@Work has their offices (not shopfronts) in Tuggeranong and Gungahlin.

Q. What services are provided in Weston Creek?

A. All those spoken about by a coordinator based in Weston Creek. It doesn't matter where the phone calls come from.

Q. What kind of professionals do you have on staff?

A. Staff training includes:

- Certificate IV in Aged or Community Care
- Mental Health – clinical psychologists
- Children's services
- Many have Diplomas or Advanced Diplomas

Q. What requirements are there for volunteers for transport?

A. All volunteers must:

- do a volunteering induction program
- orientation and interview
- another interview once they have chosen the programme they want to work in
- have a Working with Vulnerable People Card which includes a police check
- have a vehicle which is comprehensively insured. Private vehicles get checked regularly

Q. If you have a police check etc. can you change where you work/volunteer?

A. The Cards are valid for 3 years and can move between organisations.

Q. What types of sports do you have at the sports carnival?

A. Wheel chair sports, hot potato, walking etc.

Communities@Work requested feedback on what services were needed in the future.

## **BUSINESS MEETING**

### **Minutes of the Meeting of 26 March 2014**

**Motion:** That the Minutes of the previous meeting be approved as circulated.

Moved: Chris Wilson                      Seconded: Mal Ferguson                      Motion carried.

### **Business arising from the minutes of the meeting of 26 March 2014**

- Nil

### **Treasurer's Report**

- No report as Treasurer was an apology

### **General Business**

The Weston Creek Community Council committee made submissions on the following topics:

- Attended the Public Sessions on Standing Committee on the Planning and Development (Project Facilitation ) Amendment Bill 2014
- Inquiry into a Territory Plan Variation proposed for Holder, Section 45, Block 21 to rezone it from Urban Open Space land to Community Facility land
- Inquiry into amendments to the Electoral Act 1992

## **Other Business**

Update on abandoned service stations was provided:

- Duffy – the site will be redeveloped into units
- Rivett – it is hopeful that the site will be sold
- Chapman – work is currently being undertaken to enable it to be sold

Update on shops upgrade:

- Chapman – these have not yet been upgraded. The work was supposed to have started in 2013 following the community consultation
- Fisher – the WCCC is lobbying for an upgrade to Fisher shops

WCCC has lobbied Shane Rattenbury to have both proposed car parks for Cooleman Court (Dillon Close and Liardet Street) to be approved. TAMS has also been lobbied to support the provision of both car parks.

The roadworks being managed by the EDD are running close to schedule. It is anticipated that the roadworks at Dixon Drive and Unwin Place will be finalised in August. There was a problem with a concrete pipe in Unwin Drive that delayed the roadworks.

The draft Masterplan for Weston Creek is scheduled for released in May 2014. I was supposed to have been released in May 2012.

The WCCC submission regarding Action Buses has had some success. Some routes have been redesigned:

- Routes 25 and 725 have been modified through Duffy
- Routes 26 and 726 have been modified through Chapman and Rivett.
- Route 27 has been modified through Stirling

There are also some additional Xpresso routes and times.

Comment was made that the maintenance of the green spaces in the Weston Creek area is disappointing. Canberra Connect is helpful if you have a computer but not otherwise.

There will be some controlled burning in the Weston Creek area at the end of April.

It is hoped to have presentations on the following topics at future meetings:

- May – Capital Metro to discuss the proposed light rail
- June – hoping to discuss the draft Masterplan for Weston Creek (this is to be confirmed)
- July – Community Groups active in the Weston area to give 5 minute presentations (this is to be confirmed)
- August – the Annual General Meeting

The meeting closed at 8:53pm

**Next Meeting Wednesday 28 May, 2014  
Weston Club, 1 Liardet St, Weston**