

Your local voice



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Minutes of General Meeting Wednesday, 25 November, 2015

Opening of Meeting

The meeting was opened at 7.40pm.

The Chair welcomed members and guests

Apologies: Gai Brodtmann, Guilia Jones, Chris Wilson, Trevor Wilson, Jan Hyde, Janice Paull, Shelby Schofield

Guests: Stromlo Forest Park (CMTEDD): Rod Florence (senior Manager Territory Venues) and Liz Clarke (General Manager Territory Venues)

16 people attended the meeting.

PRESENTATION

Stromlo Forest Park – Rod Florence and Liz Clarke

Background

- This is a legacy project from the 2003 bushfires
- The site was previously a commercial pine forest
- It is 1200 hectares with most of it on the western side. What you can see is a small part of the park.
- It is popular with equestrians, runner and mountain bike riders
- The plan is to make it a community asset
- It is open 24 hours a day but the gates are closed after hours
- There were 160,000 visitors last year
- There has been good regeneration following the fires

Events

- Most are local such as cross country running
 - Schools are out there most days
- National events include:
 - Running
 - Cycling
 - Mountain bike riding

Facilities

- 1.2km road cycling circuit

- 2.5km irrigated cross country running track
- 50km mountain bike trails (all grades)
- Equestrian trails
- Picnic areas
- BMX jump park
- Playground – mountain bike skills
- Canteen – available for rent
- Toilets and showers
- BBQ
- Little cycle track for very young children
- There are 160 kilometres of fire trails
 - These are also good for walking trails
- ACT bushfire memorial
- The cost is \$2 per participant for events
- Free Wi-Fi is available

Q. Have you considered an honesty box for mountain bike trails?

A. We haven't thought of it but the trails do cost a lot to upkeep.

Water is captured on site

- Dams
- Bores

Bushfire Management

- Cattle graze on the western side
- Mowing
- Controlled burns
- We want Stromlo Forest to be a Park but currently have an open woodland
- We will thin the vegetation
 - Uriarra Road
 - Denman Prospect border
 - Cotter Road – just past Summit Road. We will remove all wattles and replant with native grasses. There are some Aboriginal sites in the area that need protecting

Planned improvements

- A new cycle path adjacent to Uriarra Road. It will be built as a cycle path but cleared 6m around. It is hoped that it can be sealed to use for road cycling in the future.

Q. Will it be sealed all the way round?

A. Yes, there will be a full circuit for road cyclists.

Q. Can you confirm the path line around Weston Ponds and the Arboretum?

A. There are some design issues. Molonglo has a narrow entry and there has to be access for emergency vehicles and equestrians.

Q. Is the bushfire memorial part of the park? Are there plans to have entry through there so people can see it?

A. Yes it is part of the park. The 2010 Masterplan has playing fields down Swallowtail Road. This will allow parking close to the bushfire memorial. A car park is planned.

Q. What is the time frame for the ovals?

A. They are not planned for the moment. Some design work has been done but there are difficulties getting services (water, sewerage etc) to the site.

Q. Where is the water coming from?

A. What we are collecting now only covers our current needs. We are considering pumping from Holdens Creek or Weston Ponds. We could pump from Cotter Dam bypassing the water treatment plant as the pipes run right by the Park.

Q. Are there any updates on the swimming pool?

A. It is a Sport and Recreation project. It is still on the 2010 Masterplan. The Masterplan has been updated and is to be released next week. We can come back and talk about it.

Q. Does the Masterplan include accommodation?

A. Yes. There is a need for 2 star accommodation, particularly for school children. We can't cover demand at present. Modular accommodation is being considered.

Q. Is there a risk of overdevelopment? Can the community have input? We need some basic maintenance on the fire trails.

A. We do maintain the fire trails. The Masterplan update will include community consultation including a letterbox drop up to Hindmarsh Drive. There will be a balance between having an amazing facility and maintaining the bush that makes it amazing.

Q. What management is there for accidents?

A. Every ambulance has a map of and keys to Stromlo. There is named signage to help emergency services. There are two emergency phones, one near the Pavilion and one near the summit. There are regular inspections and maintenance carried out. There is also free Wi-Fi.

Q. It's it on GPS.

A. Probably on recent upgrades.

BUSINESS MEETING

Minutes of the Meeting of 28 October, 2015

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

Moved: Jenny Adams

Seconded: Margaret Anderson

Motion carried.

Business arising from the minutes of the meeting of 28 October, 2015

- Nil

Treasurer's Report

- Nil

General Business

- Meeting with Shane Rattenbury. The following issues were discussed:
 - New community centre – too expensive
 - Toilets and building for Fetherston Gardens
 - Duplication of Cotter Road
 - Update of Brierley Street and Trenergy Square
- Second service station
 - There is a for sale sign on the Cotter Road
 - It went to auction 25 November 2015 and was sold
 - There is a draft territory plan variation to change the use from service station and restaurant to service station and/or a restaurant if required
- Public Housing Holder
 - David Collett from the Public Housing Renewal Taskforce has advised that they are only looking at the preschool site
 - There are still concerns that more sites are being considered but not the Holder oval

- Gallipoli Garden
 - Officially opened on 11 November 2015 by Gai Brodtmann
 - Shane Rattenbury, Alistair Coe and Caroline Le Couteur were present
 - DHA put some money in and built a path
 - There is still a need for toilets and a display area
- ACT Waste Feasibility Study
 - Independent of Government
 - WCCC has been asked to be involved
 - The reference group meets next week for the first time
 - On the table are 6 monthly pickup, green bins, somewhere to take oils, kerosene etc. to be disposed of (Fluorescent tubes should be included as well)
 - The biggest problem is waste from commercial, industrial and apartment blocks
 - There are 53 streams of work
 - There is two years to come up with ideas
 - The Study is trying to generate revenue streams from all ideas
 - We will ask them to come and talk to the WCCC in March 2016

Q. Was there any mention of the paper recycling in Phillip?

A. Everything is on the table

- Mr Fluffy
 - There was an insert in Saturday's paper with an update
 - Neighbours of Mr. Fluffy houses are getting a letter explaining the process
 - If you have any issues ring the taskforce – 132281
- Review of the ACT concessions programme
 - The ACT government is reviewing concessions to target them more fairly
 - The discussion paper is open for comment until 22 January 2016
- Chief Minister's comment on the value of community councils
 - Mr Barr has commented that community councils don't do anything and are not representative of the general population.
 - This is not a new comment and other Members of the Legislative Assembly have been more positive. Council has been involved in the Multicultural Affairs task force, the One Canberra – getting to know your neighbour and numerous other projects and studies.
- DHA plans for knoll where Hilder Street roundabout joins DHA land
 - WCCC has lodged a submission raising concerns about the development overlooking existing houses
- Improving the ACT Building Regulatory System review
 - Mainly looking at apartments
 - Designed to hold builders more accountable for what they build
 - There is a need for more certifiers
 - There is a need for more government control of private certifiers
- Combined Community Councils committee
 - Gets together regularly to talk about issues that affect all as well as those impacting individual councils where other councils may have experience

- Trolley bay in Trenerry Square
 - To be followed up with Tony Gill from Roads ACT
- The Chair offered everyone best wishes for Christmas and the New Year.
 - The next meeting is 24 February 2016.
 - Information can be obtained from the website and the Facebook page

The meeting closed at 8.45pm

**Next Meeting Wednesday 24 February, 2016
St Jude's Primary School Hall
Mulley Street Holder**