

*Your local voice*

■ ■ ■ weston creek  
■ ■ ■ community  
■ ■ ■ council

[www.wccc.com.au](http://www.wccc.com.au)  
[info@wccc.com.au](mailto:info@wccc.com.au)  
PO Box 3701  
Weston Creek ACT 2611  
Telephone (02) 6288 8975

## **Minutes of General Meeting Wednesday 22 February 2017**

### **Opening of Meeting**

The meeting was opened at 7.40pm. The Chair, Tom Anderson, welcomed members and guests

**Apologies:** Bec Cody, Chris Wilson, Trevor Wilson, Christine Lawrence

21 people attended the meeting.

### **PRESENTATION**

#### **Murrumbidgee MLA's – five minutes**

Caroline Le Couteur

- Hume plastics to fuel plant
  - Public consultation will begin in March
  - The plant will import non-recyclable plastics and convert them into a diesel substitute
  - A health investigation is being undertaken at the Green's request.
- Curtin shops
  - The DA has not been approved.
- Weather in January
  - The average daytime temperature was the hottest ever.
  - The rainfall was the lowest.
  - The nighttime temperatures were higher than average.
  - The ACT government has signed contracts to buy renewable electricity
  - The ACT sold excess electricity and made \$840,000 last month

It is possible to get solar companies to provide free batteries and you can sell the electricity back.

Chris Steel

- Green waste bin initiative
  - People need to register.
  - The bins will be delivered in March.
  - Collection begins in April. Make sure you register. It is \$50 for people without concessions and free for concession card holders.

- Weston Bus Line 182
  - Woden – Cooleman Court – Molonglo – City
  - 26000 people have used the service since the end of August.
- Weston Dog Park
  - The DA has been submitted
  - There are another two to three days to make a submission.
- Enquiries open for comment
  - 2016 election
  - Committee to look at establishing an integrity commission for the ACT.
- Curtin shops
  - Pleased with the decision.
  - I have asked Minister Gentleman to finalise the draft Masterplan.

Q. Can leases be forfeited if they board up the shops?

A. Not sure. This hasn't been done since self-government. We are looking at having municipal powers.

Q. Does the green bin trail include Wright and Coombs?

A. No, they will be included later but I am not sure when. The next suburbs are in Tuggeranong. We will also roll out collection of bulk waste.

Q. Buses only go in peak hour. Will more be rolled out? Currently you have to go to Woden.

A. Rapids will be rolled out in due course. They will run every 15

To avoid going through Molonglo you can park 'n' ride in Fitzpatrick Street. You can also park and cycle at the Arboretum.

### **Fiona Carrick – President of the Woden Valley Community Council**

WCCC Chair Tom Anderson introduced Ms Carrick advising that the two community councils will work together because Woden is Weston Creek's town centre.

- Issues for Woden Town Centre
  - Woden has lost a lot of amenities.
  - The population peaked in the early 1970s.
  - There are empty buildings, no shops and the Post Office is boarded up. There is a DA to turn it into a carpark.
  - The bowling greens, pitch 'n' putt, tennis courts and bowling alley have all gone.
  - Alexandra and Albemarle buildings are derelict.
  - Lovatt Tower is about to become empty.
  - The CIT in Woden is going. There will be no tertiary education in the Woden/Weston Creek area. It will be too far for kids to travel.
  - Woden and Weston Creek have the highest median age in the ACT.
- Swimming pools
  - There are no government pools on our electorate.
  - There are no swimming lessons available in Weston Creek or Woden.
- Kids activities
  - There is nothing like basketball available in Woden/Weston Creek
- Development
  - We want development in Woden. It must be correct development.
  - We want Woden to densify to make the case to have community facilities.

- There is a DA for 16 and 24 storey apartments where the Medicare building is.
  - It will be a gated apartment block.
  - It will shade Woden Square.
  - It will surrounded by buses.
  - It doesn't align with the Woden Masterplan which allows for 12 storeys on that site.
- Precinct codes for Woden are coming soon.

Ms Le Couteur advised that Masterplans aren't part of the Territory Plan so you can't enforce Territory Plan rules.

Q. What else could you put on that site?

A. You could do a land swap with the old police station site. This wouldn't shade anything and would take some of the traffic loops out. The Medicare building could be turned into a CIT. We would need community support.

Land swaps are currently too hard to do.

- Gaining community support to update Woden
  - There is a wall near Corinna Chambers that is always being graffitied.
  - We are asking the owners if we can do street art on the wall.
  - We will ask for submissions and get the community to vote.
  - We are thinking of going to the schools and asking kids for ideas on how to design Woden.

Q. What is happening with Edison Park? I believe some hectares are being cut off it.

A. The government is taking three hectares for the cemetery. They want to take it as far as Yamba Drive.

Q. MLAs why do we need these hectares can we go out Stromlo way?

A. Caroline Le Couteur: In approximately 2010 John Stanhope promised that there would be a cemetery at Majura. The design and tree planting was done but nothing else has happened and no money has been put aside. There is a need to provide space for those who want to be buried. The land has already been transferred to the Cemeteries Authority.

Q. Couldn't we find a site at Tuggeranong with infrastructure?

A. Nowhere else has infrastructure.

Chris Steel: The proposed site at Tuggeranong was very controversial.

## **BUSINESS MEETING**

### **Minutes of the Meeting of 25 November 2015**

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

Moved: Rosemary Drabsch                      Seconded: Max Kwiatkowski                      Carried

### **Business arising from the minutes of the meeting of 25 November 2015**

- Nil

### **Treasurer's Report**

- \$14,182.30 Main Account
- \$3,029.05 Fetherston Garden Account

## Business arising from the Treasurer's Report

- Nil

**Motion:** That the Treasurer's Report be approved.

Moved: Chris Wilson

Seconded: Janice Paull

Carried

## General Business

- Wetlands at Dixon Drive
  - The DA submission closes this week.
  - They are across from both Dixon Drive and Cotter Road.
  - The WCCC committee supports it and thinks it would be a good community asset.
- Weston Dog Park
  - The proposed site is off Waragamba Drive.
  - The carpark will be well off Waragamba Drive.
  - There will be little disruption to residents.
  - The DA is now out.
- Current roadworks
  - Cotter Road duplication
  - Traffic lights being installed at Hindmarsh Drive and Launceston Street Lyons and at Hindmarsh Drive and Eggleston Crescent Chifley
  - Coppins Crossing – the first 900m from William Hovell Drive lights. There will be no bridge over the Murrumbidgee River for a while so this road will service the new Molonglo suburb of Whitlam near Belconnen.
  - Dudley Street Yarralumla – there are plans for a roundabout 70m from the elbow near Cotter Road to allow access to the Yarralumla Brickworks subdivision.
    - There is already traffic banked back 100m in peak hour.
    - There should be an interchange off Yarra Glen but this is too expensive.
    - The plans are in the early stage but further plans are coming.
    - There needs to be starting and destination traffic surveys.
    - The roundabout in Novar Street is already really difficult without this extra traffic.
    - Caroline Le Couteur – Stage 2 of the Light Rail could change this.

Q. I live in Hilder Street and I can't get out of my driveway because of traffic going to Cooleman Court from Lyons. The roundabout at Heysen Street has caused a problem and 450 DHA houses will make it worse. The speed limit is 50kmh but people speed. There is a speed camera occasionally but it is in the wrong spot. What can be done?

A. WCCC and MLAs will follow up.

- Public Housing Taskforce
  - No one from the taskforce will come to the meetings.
  - They were supposed to come in November but did not show.
  - They were supposed to come in November but they denied agreeing to it.
  - WCCC has been trying for 15 months to get them to come to a meeting.
  - The other Community Councils are having the same problem.
  - WCCC is concerned that the new public housing sites will be presented fait accompli with no proper consultation.
- Meeting with Chris Steel
  - Very productive.
  - He has agreed to follow up what is happening with the second service station.

- Molonglo issues with the Land Development Agency and Transport Canberra and City Services
  - The LDA provides the land and does some service then TCCS takes over the services at some time.
  - Coombs and Wright are not getting services from either of them.
  - Caroline Le Couteur – I am looking into it. It is an issue with all developments. TCCS try to avoid taking over because there is no funding for it. Go to Fix My Street and tell them it needs fixing. This usually makes a difference.

Q. I am having difficulties with LDA and Fix My Street. I am picking up rubbish, as are other residents, and TCCS should be doing this. I would like WCCC to support the approaching the ACT government with the following:

1. Collection of all litter/rubbish on public land in Coombs. It is currently entering the Molonglo River.
2. Lawn mowing maintenance of all public land in Coombs including associated verges.
3. Maintenance to dead and dying street trees and replacement of missing trees.
4. Cleaning of environmental stoppers in the street.
5. Street sweeping in Coombs and Wright. The Molonglo Valley to be placed on the ACT street sweeping schedule.
6. Approach developers of large sections of land under development and about to be developed to mow their verges.
7. Approach to private owners who have not complied with ACT government guidelines on their verges.
8. Perimeter cleanup of the suburb including removal of unnecessary wire fencing and mowing of a fire break around the suburb. We are living in a bushfire area and no-one is controlling the area.

Wright is OK but Coombs is filled with rubbish. There is no maintenance. We need our own Community Council.

A. It is noted.

Chris Steel and Caroline Le Couteur will follow up.

Comment - The ACT government makes a lot of money from land development and some of it should go to doing maintenance etc.

Caroline Le Couteur – most money goes to health and education.

Q. Four years ago I said that trolley bays were needed in Trenerry Square and nothing has been done.

A. The Trenerry Square/Brierley Street upgrade may address this issue. We are still waiting on a presentation from the ACT government – hopefully next month.

Q. What is being done about a new community centre?

A. WCCC has been asking for it in budget submissions and with politicians for nearly ten years. We raised it today at our meeting with Chris Steel.

Q. I am concerned about the lack of greenspace, no lanes and narrow streets in the new suburbs. What can be done?

A. WCCC raised this at an engagement committee meeting in 2010. The government wants high density so this is what happens. The lack of laneways can be raised on the Active Living website saying that older people need the laneways to enable them to walk to bus stops.

The meeting closed at 9.10 pm.

**Next Meeting Wednesday 29 March 2017**  
**Raider's Club**  
**1 Liardet Street Weston**