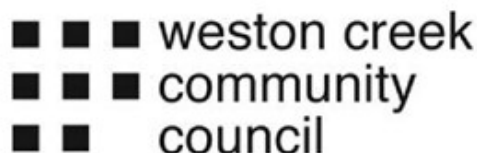


Your local voice



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PUBLIC MEETING. WEDNESDAY, 31 MARCH 2021

MINUTES

See also video of meeting, live streamed and uploaded to WCCC Facebook page

Committee in attendance: Tom Anderson, Bill Gemmell, Janice Paull, Michelle Bourdet, Simone Hunter, Warwick Lavers

Apologies: Pat McGinn, Shelby Schofield, Ryan Hemsley, Christine Mellors, Mark Boast, Michelle Weston

MLAs in attendance: Dr Marisa Paterson, Emma Davidson
MLA apologies: Giulia Jones MLA

Meeting opened: 7:40 pm

7:40pm Welcome to members and guests – Tom Anderson – Chair.

Acknowledgment of Country – Bill Gemmell

We are honoured to be meeting on the ancestral lands of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. We acknowledge these First Australians as the traditional custodians of this land, whose cultures are among the oldest living in human history. We pay respect to the Elders of the communities in the Murrumbidgee region and extend our recognition to their descendants – past, present, and future.

7.43 Presentation by Nick McDonald Crowley on Denman Prospect Stage 2

Presentation:

See also slide show.

Represents the Snow Group who are passionate about quality development in Canberra. They are looking at ways to reduce traffic congestion.

- Currently construction happening for a community centre. Communities at Work will take over the operation. The ground floor will be a child-care center for about 90 children.
- The playground area will have public toilets.
 - 10 more parking bays will be added to the playground.

- The trees are growing slower than anticipated, so more shade structures will be added.
- 2015 construction began, the shops will eventually be central to the development. 5-year plan includes affordable housing.

Issues raised by participants:

- Environmental issues such as lack of shade and heat
- Completion dates
- Connection to other areas – for example bridge and buses

Sample of questions from floor

- Is there a target of 30% for shade trees? What size are the trees. A: Won't have 30% target but will comply with government requirements. Landscape architects will design spaces such as verges and trees at the shops.
- How tall will the trees be? A: 2 metre trees will be planted, at fully grown they will be 4-6 metres.
- Issues of densification A: blocks are getting smaller, and it is also an affordability issue.
- What are the expected completion dates? A: 2000 people currently living in the area, projection of 8 000 people. Completion in 5 years, subject to demand. Buildings and infrastructure then 2-3 years after that
- Bridge – not their area. Going out to tender over around 6 months. Flooding at Coppins Crossing has caused some problems.

8.20 Presentation by John Nikolic, Verdant Developments on a Demonstration Housing Project in 24 Rubbo Crescent Weston

See also slide presentation, model, and circulated pamphlet package.

Introduction by Chair: 2017 the government looked at innovative development ideas and then called for expressions of interest in April 2018.

Can pass on any comments or questions through WCCC or to Bianca Way. Information will also be on the WCCC website and Facebook page.

- 24 Rubbo Crescent is a Fluffy block, currently RZ1, 900 square metres.
- Proposed development requires amendment to the Territory Plan passed by the Legislative Assembly.
- Pre PDA consultation phase, seeking support for this being a benchmark for future development.
- Project is disability accessible, has green spaces including a green roof.
- Proposal has potentially 3 titles
- Bianca Way – residential property specialist – 35 neighbours received information package in January.
- Chloe – design elements – possibility of 3 titles with the disability access unit. Orientation of the design is with the garage at the back for street appeal. Materials to be used and colour palette will be sympathetic to the surrounding houses.
- Can ask any questions or comments through Verdant.

Issues raised by participants:

- Orientation of building, including privacy concerns.
- Steepness of block and disability access potential issues.
- Percentage of hard space and green space and potential shade trees.
- Title issues.
- Parking.
- Variation to Territory Plan.

Sample of questions from floor

- Q: Privacy issues, how close to fence line A: 7-8 metres from back boundary. Along fence lines is multi use spaces.
- Q: 3 titles issues. How are you proposing to sell? Three residences or 2 +1 unit. A: Owner can sell their asset. However, this also offers opportunity to live in area of choice, could have live in carer.
- Is there adequate parking A: 4 car spaces on the block + other driveway spaces. Can still be incorporated into the design.
- What can you plant, example on the green roof? A: Has sufficient soil depth for shrubs
- Q: what is the argument to amend the Territory plan for this proposal? A: need for providing diverse housing for a market that does not currently exist. Goals of accessibility, flexibility, sustainability also allowing better quality design for construction.

8.04 Presentation by Bill Gemmell on Brierly Street Survey

See also PowerPoint presentation.

This comes about from election promise following meeting with Chis Steel. The survey questions come from his suggestions. Survey was, as your advocates, seek community feedback. We had 348 responses. Sample survey questions:

What do you think of Brierly Street as it is now?

Should Brierly Street be closed?

Should there be street art along Brierly Street?

Some responses included:

Area is ugly, exposed to weather.

Tulips were very pretty.

Traffic congestion issues.

- 50% said not to close street. 14% or responses on street closure were undecided.
- 77% support outdoor café culture if street was narrowed.
- 67% support street art.
- Themes of comments: beautify the area, more alfresco dining, sort out parking issues, requests for multi-story car park, maintain village concept with less concrete.
- Majority support a street upgrade. Strong support for shade, street art and entertainment.

Next steps: WCCC will write to MLAs. Further analysis required to drill down. Further community feedback welcome.

Chair thanked Bill Gemmell formwork and analysis on survey. Audience applauded.

Issues raised by participants:

- Mixed responses to closing or narrowing of Brierly Street.
- Need to improve the streetscape.
- Issues of Liardet Street

Sample of questions from floor

Q: Would the Trenerry Square area be a better space for outdoor café area.

Q: Did the Minister provide a business case? A: This was an election promise. There was some money from the cancelled carpark. There has been \$2 million allocated. This is part of the second phase of the Master Plan.

8:05 pm. Murrumbidgee MLAs

9:28pm Emma Davidson MLA

- Survey and feedback are appreciated as it shows consultation with community. It is important and informative.
- Coolo Park, we need to look at what we want for this park and how it connects to Brierly Street and other places of change. What would you like to see for the future of Coolo Park? Would you like trees, Markets, amphitheater.
- Q: When are we getting a smoke measuring station in Weston Creek? A: Will take that on notice and pass on information for sharing.
- Tariffs for solar panels A: We don't want to discourage use of renewables. Will take up with Minister for Emissions, Shane Rattenbury.
- Q: Weston Gymnastic Club, waiting for change of zoning for run down tennis courts Can you follow Up. A: Will follow up, Possibly Mr Gentleman's area

8:05pm Dr Marisa Paterson MLA

- Plastic cutlery, plates etc. Bill passed.
- Motion to restore Territory rights, on voluntary assisted dying has tri-partisan support.
- Sexual assault law reforms have been emotionally charged. Sexual Assault Reform working group has been set up and Yvette Berry will be leading it.
- Duffy shops consultation. You can email Marisa or can make comment on Have Your Say
- Person asking for money has residents concerned. It is a social welfare issue, looking at supports for him. Marisa has spoken to the police and has written to the Minister on the issue. If you have any problem/s please report to the police.
- Brierly Street will have formal consultation later in the year.

Q: Solar energy policy announcement – surprised some energy efficient components were not considered in the Duffy shops proposal. A: Marisa happy to take that feedback back

Q: Concerns that he is targeting the elderly and vulnerable people. Obtaining money by deceit. Asking for money at homes and around the car park. A: you need to report to the police. Get the message out, talk to your neighbours.

9:20 General Meeting

Minutes of the meeting of 24 February 2021 will be uploaded on-line.

Business arising from the minutes of the meeting of 24 February 2021. None

Treasurer's Report

- Weston Creek Community Council Smallbiz Account - \$15 413.99 from recurring Government grants.
- Fetherston Gardens Account - \$8 604.53

General Business

Chair Report: See also newsletter.

- Proposals for budget. WCCC Committee will be making a submission. Would love to hear your ideas. We will be submitting May/April.
- Request for traffic survey. Have sent letter to Chris Steel asking for external company to do traffic survey.
- Molonglo Valley Community Council. The Forum met on 18 March and next meeting will be 22 April.

- Coolo Park. Possibly a survey idea. Let us know what you would like.
- Lease variation in Coombs. Sold block for a child-care centre. Rental is too high. Owner asked for a variation of the lease. Planning Authority refused application.
- Duffy shops consultation is on the Have Your Say. Also, there will be consultation on 17 April on site at Duffy shops. Chair encourages people to attend.
- 28 April public meeting - further presentation on Canberra Hospital.

Questions/comments from floor:

- Old police site – Council representatives went to ACAT as party joined. These meetings finished about 12 December. Still waiting for decision.
- Concerns about the definition of community facilities. Would like to know that what is proposed/said to be built actually goes in.

9:50pm Close of meeting.

Next Meeting:

Wednesday 28 April 2021
Hospital upgrade
Community Centre Weston