

Your local voice



www.westoncreek.org.au
info@westoncreek.org.au
PO Box 3701
Weston Creek ACT 2611
Phone: 0458 756 034

PUBLIC MEETING. WEDNESDAY, 23 FEBRUARY 2022

MINUTES

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

Committee in attendance: Bill Gemmell (Chair), Michelle Bourdet, Liam Foley, Louise Hughes

Committee apologies: Michelle Weston, Mark Boast, Diana Terry, Lesley Pattinson

MLAs in attendance: Dr Marisa Patterson MLA

Apologies: Peter Cain MLA

Meeting opened: 7:36 pm. 13 signed in attendance plus guests and MLAs and WCCC committee members. Unique Facebook 342 views of meeting video (at 23 March 2022).

MEETING:

7:36 pm Welcome to members and guests. Chair, Bill Gemmell

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

Acknowledgment of Country

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.

7:42 pm PRESENTATION and Q&A:

EVO ENERGY: Mr. Derrin Limbrick, (Strategic Account Manager EVO Energy) and Ms. Alison Davis, (Group Manager Customer Delivery).

– community consultation about future infrastructure plans.

Presentation points:

- Overview of Evo energy. Primary role is to manage the electricity and gas networks in the ACT
- Goal is to provide reliable and safe gas and electricity which is reported to the Australian Energy Regulator
- Weather and storm events have a large impact on supply
- Maintaining the network outlined: including maintaining zone substations, vegetation, responding to emergencies and outages
- Trees and vegetation are the primary cause of blackouts in the ACT
- Evo Energy conducts aerial surveying to identify locations with vegetation encroachment. Weston Creek and Tuggeranong will commence in March

- Notifications will then be sent out to residents in August
- Weston Creek 2021 snapshot: 34 vegetation incidents, 9 outages, duration 2082 minutes and 1079 residents impacted. Notifications will be sent out in August.
- Vegetation clearance should be 1.5 m separation from overhead lines and poles and 1m from service lines. If you rent, advise your landlord.
- Residents have 60 days to have the work completed. You can request an extension and 60 days may be granted. Evo Energy will provide 3 reminders
- High levels of solar installations in Weston Creek
- ACT Government Sustainable Household Scheme has increased solar installations. Evo Energy needs to approve all residential PV installations
- Maximum export limited to 5KW per phase and 10KW per inverter. 5 years anti islanding testing required in accordance with legislation
- Single phase to 3 phase connections may be needed for increased use such as pool pump and electric cars
- Safety first. Call:
 - 13 10 93 electrical faults and emergencies
 - 13 19 09 gas faults and emergencies

Sample questions from the audience:

- What is the flight height of helicopter? A: Is on their website. They don't use drones
- Is there a plan to put the power line underground in Weston creek as shade is important? About 60% of network is underground. To do this in Weston Creek would be very disruptive and costs are passed on to the consumer. There is not a plan to put the entire Weston Creek network underground. You can get a quote to have connection to lines underground.
- With the storm in Belconnen and trees coming down on power lines, for example are the trees resident responsibility or ACT Government. A: Many were on resident's land
- Question about network resilience. A: Work with CSIRO and ANU
- Q: Building of Big Battery A: This is not Evo Energy building the Big Battery. There is information on the Government website
- Evo Energy is a joint venture. Government is partner with ICON Water and also part owner of Evo Energy

- **RETURN IT:** Mr. Laurie Minto, General Manager – Growth and Customers, Return It – Container deposit facility in Weston Creek

Presentation points:

- Return It. Engaged and regulated by ACT Government
- Have 4 depots with on-the-spot cash refunds. The proposal for Weston Creek is a smaller self-serve facility. There is a similar self-serve facility at Erindale
- Return It has been operating since 30 June 2018
- Customer container journey outlined, including you can use your phone to scan
- Environmental benefits as litter is reduced
- RVM units: Location is important. Sitting in car parks with low-speed zones, on level ground, ease of access to power, close to shopping centre for convenience

- Desired for Weston Creek location: Corner Trennery Street in front of Classic Car Wash
- 5 car spaces required for RVM
- Alternate locations: Common Court behind car wash, Macleod Circuit behind Ampol Weston Creek

Questions from the audience:

- Car wash business owner worried it will impact on his customers and business including litter and, difficulties for pet owners using pet washing facilities. A: Consulting with community about location
- Some concerns about loss of car spaces. Differing opinions in audience on this issue.
- Are the bottles going to landfill or being recycled? A: Definitely being recycled.
- How is litter managed? A: Aware of issues. It is regularly emptied. Location is important. Customers will have a registered account.

9:00 pm MURRUMBIDGEE MLAs:

Dr Marisa Paterson MLA

- Incarceration Nation disturbing but worthwhile watching. Justice Reinvestment Strategy
- Fix My Street – TCCS is working hard to meet demand but there is a back log at the moment. COVID and storms have also caused delays. Please still put in requests. Don't hesitate to contact Marisa
- Food and Fibre Strategy open for comment on Have Your Say. About reducing emissions and sustainability
- Policing: Marissa at Annual Reports Hearings, Police have said that the way forward is re-engaging with the community. Police Services Model is proactive
- Changing consent legislation, changing the Crime Act around consent. Marisa very passionate about this

Sporting facilities in Weston Creek

- A number of groups interested in expanding and increasing facilities due to demand:
 - Volleyball
 - Table tennis and badminton
 - Gymnastics

9:10 pm GENERAL MEETING: Chair, Bill Gemmell

- Minutes of the meeting of November 2021
Moved: Liam Foley Seconded: Louise Hughes Accepted: Yes.
- Business arising from the minutes of the meeting of November 2021. None.

GENERAL BUSINESS

- Chair report/newsletter: Copies available at the public meeting and have been emailed out to those on the mailing list. Points include:
 - Concerns about response times to *Fix My Street*. WCCC will follow up with Dr Marisa Paterson and relevant Minister (Minister Chris Steel)
 - Improving Police presence
 - Light Rail implementation is happening. Looking at disruptions and options during construction

- Brierly Street plans coming very soon for further comment
- Census information should be available around July
- Federal election coming, WCCC planning a candidates' forum
- Air quality is an ongoing issue

HAVE YOUR SAY FROM THE FLOOR:

- Update on Village: have not lodged the DA for the old Police site. Should be lodged in 2-3 weeks. There is a feedback report from the consultations
- Traffic lights are proposed for intersection of Heysen Street

CLOSE OF MEETING: 9:30 pm. Chair thanked everyone for their participation.

We would appreciate any assistance packing up the hall. Thank you in advance.

**Next meeting:
Wednesday 30 March 2022
Weston Creek Community Centre**