

Tuggeranong Community Council Inc
General Meeting – 5 July 2011
Minutes

Present:

See attendance record of 5 July 2011.

President Darryl Johnston opened the Meeting and welcomed the attendees and acknowledged the presence of Rotary Club President, Mr Paul LeMesurier.

Apologies:

Greg Downing, Jeff & Robyn Chapman, Glenys Patulny, Eric & Carole Traise, Susan & Jeffrey Cowley, Gai Brodtmann MP, Rusty Woodward, Donna Smail, Bill Reid and Jane Hedges.

Confirmation of Minutes of June 2011 Meeting:

Accepted: Alison Ryan Seconded: Jan Petrie

Matters Arising from June 2011 Meeting:

No matters were raised by members.

President's Report (Mr Darryl Johnston):

President, Darryl Johnston presented the following Report:

“Members and friends, welcome to another meeting of the Tuggeranong Community Council. I especially want to officially welcome our new members:

- Joan Anderson, Michael Bowen, Samuel Cornell, Jeffrey and Susan Cowley,
- Max and Beverley Flint, Bill Heins, Ross McConnell, Patrick McKenna,
- Mark Taylor and Donald Thomas.

I hope I have not missed anyone. With these new members, the TCC now boasts an active membership of almost 50. This is good news for what is primarily a voluntary organisation.

Recently my wife and I were guests at the Rotary Club of Tuggeranong Changeover Dinner. It was a good opportunity to meet other active and community minded residents and to establish those links between both organisations. I expect that those links will develop further.

At the weekend I was pleased to act as Master of Ceremonies at the official opening of the new Calwell Medical Centre. The Chief Minister, Katy Gallagher officiated at the opening of the new Centre, which was the result of the tireless efforts of ‘Doctors4Tuggeranong’ and Calwell campaigner, Nick Tsoulas. I wish to pass on my congratulations to ‘Doctors4Tuggeranong’ and especially to Nick for his hard work in securing a new medical centre for the Tuggeranong Valley. I hope that this success will be followed with the re-opening of the medical centre at Wanniasa.

Finally, I wish to remind members that as we are now into the beginning of the new financial year that membership subscriptions are due for renewal. I also wish to remind members that the TCC Annual General Meeting will be held on the first Tuesday in September (6th). I encourage all financial members who have attended four or more meetings to stand for the TCC Executive Committee, including the position of President. This is your opportunity to make a difference on the Council and in your community. Your nominations are welcome. Thank you.”

Accepted: Jan Petrie Seconded: Susan Penn-Turrall

Treasurer's Report (Mr Eric Traise):

Unfortunately, Eric was unable to attend the Meeting and his Report was delivered by the Minute Secretary, Albert Orszaczky as follows:

Current bank account balance is \$11,010.40, comprising of our Operating Account of \$429.64 and Investment Account of \$10,580.76. Expenditure totalled \$1,233.42, with the main items being for the annual payment for our insurance cover of \$1,009.37 and phone/internet expenses of \$140.55. Income during the period was \$114.44 for membership fees totalling \$71 and interest on the Investment Account of \$43.44.

Accepted: Brendan Smyth Seconded: Alison Ryan

Sub-Committee and other Reports:

- Transport and Community Services Committee
- Planning and Environment Committee

No reports were presented from either of the above Committees.

Police Report:

Sergeant Rod Anderson, OIC of Tuggeranong Police Station presented the following brief report on crime statistics and information regarding other local Police activities during May:

- Burglaries have increased in June –19 more than in May 2011;
- Reported incidents of property damage have increased by 22 during the month;
- Confirmed incidents of assault have decreased by 6 from May to June;
- There was an increase of one stolen motor vehicle reported in June and 21 more reports of stolen registration plates in June.
- A total of 36 arrests were affected by Police in the Tuggeranong Zone during June for offences ranging from breach of bail conditions to outstanding warrants, through to offences such as, assault, burglary, drug offences and traffic offences including drink driving.
- Police conducted 571 Suburban Policing Strategy patrols within the Tuggeranong patrol zone during the past month.
- Middle of June saw four juvenile offenders arrested for their alleged involvement in the theft and use of a stolen motor vehicle. The vehicle was stolen from Greenway and 3 days later sighted in Gordon where Police arrested two of the suspects. The vehicle was recovered, containing several items of suspected stolen property, likely to have been taken from other motor vehicles that evening. Two days after the initial arrest, two more of the alleged offenders were arrested, all of whom are now subject to bail conditions.
- After four months of evading Police, an alleged offender for a serious glassing assault at Erindale was arrested by Tuggeranong Criminal Investigations. He allegedly threw a glass at another man outside an Erindale pub, causing injuries so severe multiple surgeries have been required by the alleged victim who is still suffering from impaired vision. The offender was refused bail and remanded in custody until the middle of July.
- Traffic targeting campaign for June and July is speeding. Over 55% of the infringement notices issued in June by Tuggeranong members were for speeding, ranging from less than 15km/h over the speed limit in school zones to three infringements issued for exceeding the speed limit by 30km/h in a non-school zone. July will see a continued targeted campaign for speeding.

Questions from the floor:

Members raised some minor concerns, including the following:

- Update sought on random roadside drug testing initiative.
Slow progress to date as not all vehicles suitably equipped.
- Suggestion to introduce education strategy for use of indicators on roundabouts.
- Query raised about relocation of Police Boys Club from Lyneham to Tuggeranong.
- Enquiry regarding success of bike patrol initiative
Breaking down barriers with youth.
- Issue of traffic lanes on Monaro Highway – on/off ramps a hazard.
- Extent of traffic patrol area towards Cooma?
Area covers both north and south ACT borders.
- Outline of Crime Stoppers reporting system.
- Enquiry regarding extent of recent fire at Chisholm High School.
Not much damage involved.

Update from Local Members:

Darryl invited the local Members in attendance, namely Amanda Bresnan (ACT Greens), Joy Burch (ALP) and either Brendan Smyth or Steve Doszpot (Liberals) to provide a brief report on current activities and issues of interest in the ACT Assembly.

Ms Bresnan mentioned the following items:

- ACT Budget debate – late night session till early Friday morning – details of Greens bids;
- Feasibility study for Calwell Park ‘n Ride;
- Trial of 40kmh limit around local shopping centres;
- Support for Chapel rather than Crematorium for Southern Cemetery project.

Ms Burch provided the following details

- ACT Budget deliberations – now completed for rollout – funding secured for Men’s Shed;
- Attendance at official opening of Namadgi School;
- Promotion of Adult Learning opportunities;
- Renovation of Tuggeranong Arts Centre;
- Additional ministerial responsibilities – Arts and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander issues – involvement with NAIDOC Week activities;
- Door knocking activities;
- Seniors’ concessions improved;
- Seniors Assembly initiative now oversubscribed – details of process involved;
- Concerns re funding allocated for development of Conder.

Mr Smyth added the following brief information:

- Budget increase in rates for Tuggeranong residents, also rises in various other taxes and fees;
- Concerns re planned changes for Gartside Street at Erindale.

A short break was taken at this stage prior to the presentation by our guest speaker.

Guest Speaker – Mr Hamish Horne:

President, Darryl Johnston introduced Hamish Horne, CEO of ACT Cemeteries Authority to address the meeting on the latest developments with the proposed Southern Cemetery. Darryl reminded attendees of the TCC Code of Conduct and the expected level of courtesy and respect to be afforded to our guest presenter(s).

Hamish provided a PowerPoint presentation outlining background information and an update on the project, which included the following details:

- Lengthy public consultation program conducted during 2010, followed by release of a Discussion Paper;
- Business Plan submitted to ACT Government and funds allocated in 2011 Budget;
- Planning surveys carried out with related business modelling;
- Tree planting program underway for 1,000 eucalyptus natives;
- Master planning process to Development Application stage involving:
 - Environmental Impact Study, consideration of heritage issues
 - traditional burials, memorial gardens, memorial hall(s), Crematorium, natural burial options
- Modern facility to meet the needs of people whilst conserving the natural environment;
- Next steps - Master Plan process, construction phase, operation to commence in 2015;
- Display of design concept incorporating public comments
 - Crematorium to be relocated to 1km from nearest residences.

Questions from the floor:

Various queries and concerns were raised by attendees, including the following:

- Capacity of memorial park compared to similar facilities. **Yet to be fully determined.**
- Provision for vertical burial option queried. **Not appropriate – considered a “gimmick”.**
- Cemetery is acceptable but inclusion of a Crematorium seems unnecessary as existing Crematorium is under utilized. Previous survey questions were loaded with no alternative site offered.

Travel of cortege to Northside is not considered suitable and people prefer to see a complete process on the one site.

- Will there be a live-in caretaker on site to avoid possible vandalism?
Quite likely but not yet resolved.
- Queanbeyan and Woden cemeteries are both without Crematoriums and strong opposition voiced for one to be included at the Southern Cemetery site.
- Plume study and air quality impact assessment previously undertaken – emissions likely to be negligible.
- Concern raised regarding transport access to the site.
Not an important consideration as the need for public transport travel is unlikely.
- Consultation process appears to be flawed as decisions regarding location and extent of facilities were clearly pre-determined.
- What other types of burial processes will be available other than actual cremation?
New technology of alkaline hydrolysis (acid bath) may be an alternative option, but not fully accepted at this stage. Also, a freeze-dried process may be another consideration and both methods will be investigated further, but cremation is traditionally the preferred option.
- Query on the nature of the buildings and facilities planned for the site.
Size of the buildings will be based on the usual requirements for similar facilities.
- The logic of planting so many trees at this early stage was queried as they were likely to be damaged by trucks during the construction stage, particularly as there was no direct vehicle access yet.

Other Business / General Announcements:

Darryl passed on congratulations to Nick Tsoulis and his 'Doctors4Tuggeranong' group on the establishment of the new Medical Centre in the Calwell Shopping Centre, which opened last weekend. Nick confirmed that negotiations have commenced for a similar facility to be introduced in Wanniasa in due course.

Darryl reminded members about membership renewals now being due. He also informed attendees of the Annual General Meeting in September and encouraged eligible members to consider nominating for positions on the Executive Committee.

The next General Meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday, 2 August 2011**, and an invitation had been extended to Mr Robert Ell from Leda Holdings to address the Meeting on the future operations of the Hyperdome, in conjunction with the Tuggeranong Master Plan– attendance yet to be confirmed. The meeting concluded at approximately 9.15pm.