

NORTH CANBERRA COMMUNITY COUNCIL  
DRAFT AGENDA  
Wednesday 17 April 2013  
ACT Sport House  
100 Maitland Street Hackett  
7:30 – 9:30

1. Chair Introduction
2. Attendance and Apologies
3. Presentation by Shane Rattenbury, Minister for Territory and Municipal Services, Corrections, Housing, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs and Ageing, followed by a questions and answers on any of his portfolio matters.
4. Table minutes from March 20 2013 forum and discuss any business arising.
5. Discuss and approve payment of invoice for web hosting and maintenance.
6. Discuss and approve payment of invoice for insurance.
7. Discuss and approve NCCC submission on the Draft Gungahlin Strategic Environmental Assessment.
8. Discuss DA201323500, removal of concessional lease on Braddon Club.
9. Discuss issues for forum to be held on May 15 2013.
10. Other Business.
11. Meeting close.

**DRAFT MINUTES – PUBLIC FORUM**  
**NORTH CANBERRA COMMUNITY COUNCIL**  
**7.30pm 17 April 2013**  
**ACT Sports House, Hackett**

**1. Chairs Introduction**

The meeting was opened by Leon Arundell around 7:40.

**2. Attendance and Apologies**

Committee:

Leon Arundell  
Bruce Smith  
Richard Larson  
Geoff Davidson  
Marianne Albury-Colless  
Greg Haughey  
Jochen Zeil

Members:

Caroline Le Couteur  
Chris Emery  
Maureen Hartung  
Pam Graudenz  
James Walker

Visitors:

Marcus Hipkins - Ainslie  
Marian Williams - Hackett

Apologies

Mike Hettinger

**3. Discussion with Shane Rattenbury. Shane introduced and talked to a number of topics including:**

- **Light rail proposal.** This is the biggest project in the ACT. Things to consider are getting the governance right, the government assets in the Northbourne Avenue Corridor, light traffic pressure, rat-running, and a whole mixed range of things, including Monash Drive.
  1. Q. Why hasn't bus option been considered instead of Light Rail? A. The bus option is off the list. It is about shape and structure now.
  2. Q. Why aren't the current left lanes made into dedicated bus lanes. A. In four years' time it won't be needed. Infrastructure will be moved out of the middle.
  3. Q. Traffic synchronisation. Why isn't this better managed? The technology is there to do it. A. This is a good question.
- **Dogs off leash set aside areas.** Shane had no idea there was a consultation process in north Canberra on dogs off leash set aside areas.
- **Cat containment in suburban areas, especially bush at the boundary.** Parkcare groups, the NCCC and the ACT Conservation Council have lobbied the ACT government to make the 'The Fair' development in Watson a designated cat containment area. To date the body corporate responsible for doing this hasn't implemented the policy. As subsequent renters move in the policy will most likely be progressively diluted or simply ignored. It is predominantly a question of continuous re-education which is almost impossible to do without strong body corporate support. We can't rely on enforcement, because Parks and Conservation Service resources are limited. The law may be inadequate.
- **Bill on third party appeal rights.** There is academic endorsement for the draft legislation initiated by the ACT Greens, but not bi-partisan political support. There is work to do on details. The bill applies to both matters heard before the ACT Civil and Administrative Tribunal (ACAT) and the ACT Supreme Court.
- **Social needs assessment.** Q. Why isn't this being used for new developments or only used on an ad hoc basis? A. There is patchy expertise. Some of it is good, some is bad.
- **Lack of integration in planning i.e. City to the Lake.** Q. Why aren't audits of what works and what doesn't work? It appears to be lacking in depth. A. The government architect should have been looking at history.
- **Neighbourhood Plans.** Members comment: Precinct codes can be positive if good for a suburb's neighbourhoods plan.
- **Traffic calming.** Members comment: Calming is required on residential streets in Ainslie. A. Traffic calming measures are implemented according to budget priorities. There are four sites being worked on from the previous budget. The list is not necessarily the one which ACT Roads might have drawn out. With traffic shifting it is often the case of one problem solved, another opens up. All traffic related issues draw out different responses from community members.
- **Mandatory building defects insurance.** Q. Why is it not mandatory to have compulsory building insurance for buildings over 3 storeys in height? A. The ACT's definitions of what is commercial and what is residential is different to other states. Over three storeys is considered to be a commercial development. It is also the case that developers don't want it in the ACT. Members comment: There is growing reluctance for purchasers to buy off the plan because there is no building defects insurance for buildings over 3 stories.
- **Majura cycle path.** Q. What is the need for this costly \$12 million proposal? It will be embarrassing if no-one uses it. A. Shane is not convinced it will be used for

commuting. More likely for recreational bicycle riders. Members comment: There are two different methodologies for determining cycle way priorities. There are separate priority lists, one of which is community generated. A. Shane is willing to look at the alternative list. There are different attitudes of women to cycling. They desire better separation and better safety. The same should apply to older people and children.

- **Accommodation for community groups.** Members comment: Community groups have great difficulty accessing reasonable and affordable community space. There is an acute shortage of it. We have been blocked by TAMS from accessing community space in Hackett. A. Shane was not aware that there was a TAMS policy to block the school from accessing the space desired. After further discussion he agreed to have a look at the matter again. Comment: There are a number of agencies that rent out space for community groups including Community Services, Health and TAMS. There are differences in rent. A lot of groups can't afford rent and insurance. Smaller groups are being squeezed out or can't operate effectively.
- **Utility bills and monitoring.** Q, Why can't all utility bills include metrics showing differences with comparable dwellings? A. This is in the process of being implemented.
- **Political matters.** Because the ACT Greens have lost three members in the current Assembly, a lot of corporate knowledge has been lost. It makes the job of initiating or responding adequately to new legislation more difficult. Shane is bound by cabinet solidarity. It will be possible for the North Canberra Community Council and other councils to book meetings with him two times a year.

**4. Table Minutes from March 20 and discuss any business arising.**

The Minutes were tabled and approved by the committee. There was no business arising.

**5. Discuss and approve payment of invoice for web hosting and maintenance.**

The committee agreed to pay Gaffer Designs the fee of \$680. We agreed that it was not necessary to increase band width at this time, or require additional features.

**6. Discuss and approve payment of invoice to Chief Minister & Treasury for insurance.**

The committee agreed to pay the fee of \$993.53 as per invoice.

**7. Discuss and approve NCCC submission on the Draft Gungahlin Strategic Environmental Assessment.**

Jochen Zeil circulated the draft document and talked to the committee about it. The committee agreed that it be sent as drafted on behalf of the NCCC.

**8. Discuss DA201323500. Removal of concessional lease on Braddon Club.**

Richard Larson circulated a draft document and talked to the committee about it. The committee agreed to consider the draft and submit it or an amended version by the deadline on May 9.

**9. Discuss issues for May 15 forum.**

Leon Arundell agreed to invite Tony Gill, Director of ACT Roads to speak to us on traffic calming measures, road and cycle infrastructure and safety related issues. Richard Larson agreed to invite Susan Helyar, executive officer for the ACT Council of Social Services and Leigh Watson of Shelter ACT to talk to us about housing affordability and community service provision for people on limited incomes.

**10. Other Business.**

There was no other business discussed.

**11. Meeting close**

The meeting was officially closed around 9:30

Richard Larson  
NCCC Secretary  
May 13 2013