

*Protecting, promoting and enhancing the economic, cultural, social and environmental well being of the residents
of North Canberra*

The North Canberra Community Council receives funding and support from the ACT Government



MINUTES

General meeting Wednesday 18 September 2019

Accepted 16 October 2019

The general meeting was preceded by a Special General Meeting, starting at **7.30 pm**.
Downer Community Centre, Frencham Place, Downer

Minutes of general meetings are published at <https://www.northcanberra.org.au/meeting/>

Meeting videos are published on the NCCC YouTube channel:
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC1gnJVlu5IWe6ZLT1hiSNsA>

SPECIAL ITEM

1. Minute taker for the meeting: Chris Finnigan

STANDING ITEMS

1) Attendance:

- a) Committee members: Marg Dudley (proxy for Luisa Capezio), Chris Finnigan, Bruce Smith (proxy for Jochen Zeil and Waltraud Pix), Geoff Davidson, Leon Arundell
- b) Members: Sarah Cronin (proxy for Margaret Henderson), Pam Graudenz, Catherine Cronan, Jane Goffman, Marianne Albury-Colless, Paul Costigan, Gordon Mcallister, Wendy Mellington, Denis O'Brien,
- c) Observers: Candice Burch, Mathew Mullaney, Mark Tupalski, Sarah Kelley,
- d) apologies: Michael Flynn, Jochen Zeil, Waltraud Pix.

2) Declaration of conflicts of interest: None.

3) Acceptance of minutes of previous general meeting 21 August

- a) Jane Goffman proposes several amendments to the draft minutes of the 21 August General Meeting (the final copy of the minutes is published on the NCCC website) (moved Marg Dudley, seconded Jane Goffman).

4) Treasurer's report

- a) Bruce Smith provides an update on the key items of expenditure approved by the NCCC Committee over the last month, including:
 - i) \$422 to Friends of Mt Majura for website maintenance costs; and
 - ii) \$750 for the O'Connor Christmas Party;
- b) Bruce Smith noted that the review of financial accounts by the auditor has not been finalised, however the intention is still to present them at the October Annual General Meeting.

- c) As part of the process to expend the remaining grant funding for 2018-19, a number of funding requests have been received over the past few weeks (including from Lyneham, Dickson, Campbell, O'Connor, Hackett). Bruce Smith requests that any further bids come in within the next couple of weeks as to allow for sufficient time for consideration.
 - i) As confirmed with the ACT Government, the grant funding is designated for communication activities (which range from communication facilities and media to communication orientated around festive events).
 - ii) Bruce Smith also suggests that a brief report could be provided by the grant recipient on how the funding was spent, as a means of updating the NCCC (moved Denis O'Brien, seconded Marianne Albury-Colless).

5) Correspondence

- a) The below items of correspondence were noted:
 - i) The Reid Residents' Association invites Reid residents and friends to their 75th Anniversary, to be held on Thursday 19 September at K Block Reid CIT Restaurant. The guest speaker will be Dr David Headon (book [here](#)).
 - ii) The Independent Competition and Regulatory Commission released its draft decision on the Consumer Protection Code review, which can be found [here](#).

GENERAL BUSINESS

6) Cancellation of Planning Forum

- a) Leon Arundell advised that the NCCC Committee had written to Minister Gentleman expressing concern at the cancellation.

7) Update on NCCC v ACTPLA & Anor AT 109/2018

- a) Geoff Davidson provided an update on the tribunal review relating to the Soho building development on Northbourne. Some of the issues raised include insufficient sunlight (as measured against the minimum amount of sunlight on the winter solstice), insufficient parking, and high level of background construction noise.
 - i) Leon Arundell suggests that the planned NCCC submission to the ACT Planning Review may be a good opportunity to highlight these issues.
 - ii) The NCCC commended Geoff Davidson for his work in successfully bringing the case to the tribunal.

8) The NCCC also noted the following:

- a) Input into ACT Government 2020-21 Budget ([link](#));
- b) Canberra Airport Preliminary Draft 2020 Master Plan ([link](#));
- c) ACT Sustainable Energy Policy 2020-25 Discussion Paper ([link](#)); and
- d) The update on drone delivery service regulations ([link](#))
 - i) A working group may be formed to investigate the potential impact on North Canberra, coordinated by Geoff Davidson.

REPORTS

9) Section 72 Working Group update

- a) Jane Goffman provides an update on the Common Ground project (which provides for affordable renting house managed by Common Ground and for people who have been experiencing homelessness):

- i) Jane Goffman considers that the project is reasonably well developed, with the building including basement carpark, community gardens, a café at the ground level, and other shops. Construction to take place over 2020 and 2021.
- ii) The deadline for providing comment on the Common Ground concept designs and associated draft variation is 1 November. Housing ACT will run info sessions outside the Dickson library during the school holidays to provide more information.
- iii) Jane Goffman also provides an update on the Dickson Pool Forecourt Temporary Upgrade, advising the work in terms of garden development and paving will commence soon.

10) Macarthur / Wakefield / Northbourne working group update

- a) Jane Goffman advised that the group had met with the NCA to express concerns regarding the building heights at the Northbourne / Wakefield / Macarthur Avenue intersection. However, as the amendments have now come into effect via amendment 91 to the National Capital Plan on 13 September, the path forward may be to advocate for action in the Senate through Senator Katy Gallagher.

11) Combined Community Councils update

- a) Leon Arundell provided an update from the recent Combined Community Councils meeting. One area of note was the discussion on Public Open Space Land Management, and the issue of what constitutes 'open space' for practical purposes (which has been brought into focus by the recent ACT Climate Change Strategy).

12) Committee decisions.

- a) The NCCC was updated on some of the recent Committee decisions of note, including the funding bid by the Campbell Community Association, the recent acceptance of new members and speakers to consider at future meetings, including a potential presentation on the Common Ground project.

13) Planning Review Working Group

- a) Leon Arundell provided an update on the first meeting of the Group, which discussed issues including private certifiers having too much power in the planning process and private citizens having to do too much background work on advocacy due to overly onerous processes.

14) Residents' associations update

- a) Paul Costigan notes that the processing times for the changes to the NCCC Constitution may influence whether the AGM should be held in October or November (as the Constitution needs to be current for at least 21 days before the meeting).
- b) Marianne Albury-Colless (Reid Association) updated the NCCC on issues over a proposed rebuild of a Mr Fluffy house in Dirrawan Gardens.
- c) Jane Goffman (Dickson Association) provided an update on the following:
 - i) The upcoming Dickson 75th birthday events, including night markets and the recent art constructions on Woolley St.
 - ii) The temporary carpark that will be installed while the Coles Supermarket is being built. There is limited scope for NCCC to provide input into the process.
 - (1) It is determined that a letter to MLAs Mr Gentleman and Ms Stephen-Smith are drafted to express our misgivings or seek an opportunity for input.

- iii) Jane also notes that the concern surrounding the impending departure of the final bulk billing doctor in Dickson. Leon Arundell and Jane Goffman will draft a letter noting this to Ms Stephen-Smith.
- iv) Jane Goffman will also be giving a presentation at the Australian National University on 16 November about the historic Dickson aerodrome.

Other business

- 15) The ACT Shadow Minister for Transport Candice Burch introduces herself to the NCCC and discusses her interest in local planning issues, and notes recent community concern about the changes to the bus network.

MEETING CLOSE 9pm

Future meetings

General meetings (7.30 pm, Downer Community Centre): 16 October, 20 November

Committee meetings

A. Immediately before general meetings: 7 pm, location and dates as for general meetings.

B: Thursdays 31 October, 28 November 7pm, upstairs room, Polish Club, Turner