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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: Committee Meeting 19 August 2026

Accepted 20.10.26

1. Attendance and apologies

Attendance: Ian Hubbard (Chair), Claire Miles (Deputy Chair), Leon Arundell (Secretary), Karlene Dickens (Lyneham), Merinda Nash (Watson), Marianne Albury-Colless (Reid), , Marcus Hipkins (Media Coordinator),

Apologies: Jochen Zeil, Bruce Smith, Ernestine Kirsch, Stephen Goodwin, Amy Jelacic.

2. Declarations of conflict of interest

None

3. Acceptance of meeting minutes

- General meeting 18 March: Accepted (moved Marcus, seconded Leon)
- General meeting 20 May: Accepted (moved Marcus, seconded Karlene)
- Committee meeting 17 June: Accepted (moved Karlene, seconded Leon)

4. Matters arising from the minutes

None

5. Chair's report

The Chair urged member organisations to encourage their members to attend meetings.

He raised the former Braddon Bowling Club site as an example of Community Facility sites being re-zoned for development. The meeting was told that Brindabella Christian College had built over some of its car parking space and built new car parking spaces on part of the Lyneham oval, and was retrospectively permitted to occupy that Community Facility land for approximately $1,000 per year.

The discussion covered the telecommunications tower on the Ainslie Volcanics site, district strategies and the Aquatic Strategy.

6. Treasurer's report

We were told that this year's government grant is yet to arrive, and we have a balance of $3,867.81. Residents Associations were reminded to submit bids for funding to support the objectives of the government grant.

7. Guest speaker/s for September General meeting

Kurrajong MLA Rebecca Vassarotti is interested in presenting at our September meeting. Thomas Emerson will not be available.

Ian and Claire agreed to follow up with the other local MLAs.

8. Constitution issues (Bruce, Ian & Leon)

Options for ensuring that our constitution complies with Sections 65B (*Dispute resolution*) and *Section 65C (Disciplinary action) of the Associations Incorporation Act*.

Deferred to the October committee meeting.

9. Possible submissions

Northern and Southern Gateways

10. A unified website for the NCCC and its member organisations (Bruce)

Some residents associations support this idea, while others prefer to manage their own websites.

11. Resident association reports

Karlene told us that *Light Up Lyneham* had run from 3pm to 8 pm, with three stages for performers, and had been attended by 4,000 people including Senator for the ACT David Pocock, Member for Canberra Alicia Payne, and Members for Kurrajong Elizabeth Lee and Thomas Emerson.

12. Any other business

12.1: Proposal for walking group for older residents in Ainslie, by Lucy Griffiths-Jones.

The committee responded positively to the proposal. Claire agreed to draft an email to Ms Griffiths-Jones.

Next meetings

General meeting 16 September.

Committee meeting 21 October.

Any member of the Council or the public may attend Committee meetings as an observer.

Resident Association Reports

REID RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION INC.

HIGHLIGHTS

1. 'Building Reid' is progressing & now advertised on RRA website. A flyer will follow in a few weeks updating all the goodies available. Welcome one and all – we will be 'Trybooking' the event so we can tell how many sausages need to be bought!

Building Reid 1926
Celebrate the building of Reid 100 years ago
Sunday 18 October 2026, 2.30 to 4pm
Dirrawan Gardens Pre-School end
There will be games – coffee – drinks – a sausage sizzle – a cake stall – and more
Hear local historian Tony Maple – find out about your home – talk to neighbours
It's free to come along
Supported by the RRA and NCCC

2. August Newsletter

Now published, delivered to residents and posted on RRA website the August newsletter highlights 'Building Reid', provides a glimpse into what it was like in 1926 when Canberra was a 'straggling settlement', an update on lease extension and rat running through Reid (see below).

ISSUES

3. Speeding and rat running through Reid: PETITION

As we were underwhelmed by the Government's response to our concerns relating to safety and legalities re speeding in a residential zone, we have written again to Tara Cheyne MLA, Minister for City and Government Services, requesting more information and seeking a meeting with her to discuss the issue.

We have also taken up a petition to the ACT Legislative Assembly Reducing Rat Running in Reid which asks that measures be taken to reduce the speed of traffic in Reid and reduce the incentive for commuter traffic to travel through Reid, a residential suburb. We would really appreciate your support! Examples of recent REID traffic accidents below:

3. Reid Park Sports Ground (RPSG) Conservation Management Plan (CMP)

We have been informed that the CMP is with Sports and Recreation Facilities and has been since June last year. Must be bureaucratic silos again, surely not lack of or ineffective procedures.

Marianne Albury-Colless
President
Reid Residents' Association Inc.

Friends of Ainslie Volcanics Grasslands Aug '26

Highlights 1. Button Wrinkleworts (Rutidosis leptorrynchoides, a nationally endangered herb/forb (daisy family) and Kurrajongs (Brachychiton populneus) are now planted, watered, mulched and 'guarded' and being monitored.

2. We have 72 Poa spp. (grass) to plant, water, mulch and set guards and hope to get them in by the end of the month.

3. An Ainslie neighbour and weeder found another forb not previously spotted on Ainslie Volcanics Grassland this week. We are fairly sure it's Hovea heterophylla and we can add it

to a few other native ‘newbies’ Hypericum gramineum (not the invasive St John’s Wort) and Kangaroo Apple (Solanum laciniatum).

4. We are welcoming the CIT Maintain Native Ecosystem course students to AVG to study background elements such as soils, rocks, biodiversity and threats as part of an assessment of a natural area requiring maintenance and remediation work.

Issues

1. Telecommunications tower definitely in the wrong place!

Interesting to see and hear residents wondering how such an intrusive construction has been allowed to pass through government approval processes.

2. Statement of Significance and Constraints

Still awaiting to discuss the conservation plan ‘An Ecological Restoration Site Plan for Blocks 2 and 3, Section 60, Quick Street, Ainslie ACT. I have discussed recently with the Conservator of Fauna and Flora, Bren Berkevics, this exercise would seem to be repeating the plan and a waste of resources, an unnecessary impost on the government’s budget. This is particularly so as much of the heavy lifting has been accomplished including the removal of invasive tree species and improved management of Serrated Tussock, a Weed of National Significance, (WoNS is the acronym). Until research catches up with rabbit control these invaders will remain unfortunately an Australian-wide issue not just Canberra. These issues comprise most of a budget for AVG. Our volunteer work is valued at $52.19 per hour but the cost of doing the work that volunteers achieve is, of course, very much less than employing paid staff.

3. Camping site

The camping site is still in evidence; the camper appears to have found a warmer place to stay.

How does it happen in the national capital of Australia that we continue to have people who, for various reasons, are forced to camp outside in all weathers.

Marianne Albury-Colless, Convenor, Friends of Ainslie Volcanics Grasslands