

**THE GUNGAHLIN COMMUNITY COUNCIL
MONTHLY MEETING
MINUTES
11 AUGUST 2004**

Minutes of the Gungahlin Community Council Monthly Meeting held on 11 August 2004 in the Raider's Club Function Room, Gozzard Street, Gungahlin commencing at 8:05 p.m.

Present:

Those present at the meeting are registered on the attendance sheet attached.

Apologies:

Ms Sally Ruecroft

1. Preliminaries

The President, Peter Coggan, opened the Meeting at 8:05 p.m. Bryan Roach recorded the Minutes.

2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 14 July 2004 were confirmed as a true and correct record.

MOTION 1: That the Minutes of the Meeting on 14 July 2004 be accepted.

Proposed: Roma Hosking **Seconded:** Robert Rose **CARRIED**

3. Vote of Thanks

Peter Coggan recorded a vote of thanks to Barry Dee and all other members of the outgoing GCC Committee for their support to the Gungahlin community council. He mentioned that the Committee was a diverse group, but all decisions and actions were transparent. Peter added his appreciation for being handed a strong committee group through the likes of Roma Hosking and Ian Ruecroft, and that this would contribute to a positive move forward for the Community.

4. Gungahlin and Mitchell Voters Association (GAMVA)

Ian Ruecroft advised attendees of GAMVA's purpose, which is to promote issues of importance to the Gungahlin and Mitchell region; by encouraging political parties to develop election policies that are responsive to the region's needs. GAMVA will actively support candidates who demonstrate sustainable commitment to the Gungahlin and Mitchell community. He advised that Public Meetings addressing the needs and issues of the Gungahlin and Mitchell region would generally occur on the 2nd and 4th Monday of the month leading up to the ACT Election. The meetings will commence at 7.30pm and aim to

conclude by 9.30pm. The Gungahlin Community Council Web-site will list the schedule for those meetings.

Barry Dee added that he is currently writing to each Party for 'Meet the Candidates' sessions, where Candidates for the 2004 ACT Election will present their cases and platform positions as to why the community should vote for them. Molonglo and Ginninderra Candidates will present on 13 October 2004.

5. Forum Presentation – Canberra International Airport 2004 Preliminary Draft Master Plan

The President asked Roma Hosking to introduce the evenings' invited guests who will each present their position on the Canberra International Airport 2004 Preliminary Draft Master Plan.

Presentations from Mr Stephen Byron, Chief Executive of Canberra International Airport (CA) and Mr Ken Ineson representing the Village Building Company (VBC) focussed on the jet aircraft overflight/noise abatement issues that may affect the Gungahlin Community as a consequence of the Plan. Meeting attendees were invited to ask questions at the end of the two presentations.

Both presentations were well received and a number of questions were asked of both presenters. The primary issue was the fact that the Plan proposes that Canberra International Airport become an air freight hub/handling centre. This could result in up to 32,000 additional flights per year 24 hours per day seven days per week (24/7), with emphasis on night operations and freight being road transported to Sydney from the airport. There is concern that these additional operations will impact on Canberra suburbs and Jerrabomberra, and on the proposed Tralee Development.

Question and Answer Session

Jonathon Reynolds:

What is VBC's intent for Gungahlin?

VBC. VBC has concern for employment distribution and growth. The implication of the CA plan is the creation of a major new employment node at Canberra Airport. This will cause jobs to be syphoned off to the airport, and the VBC preference is for the creation of job opportunities in other parts of Canberra, such as established town centres like Gungahlin

Nancy-Louise McCollugh:

With regard to the CA letter proposing 24/7 air freight handling operations, which may result in up to 32,000 flights each year; if CA gives an assurance that there will be no overflights over Canberra Suburbs, will this affect Jerrabomberra and other southern developments like Tralee?

CA. The aircraft noise abatement plan considers the needs of Canberra and Jerrabomberra residents. The high noise area between Canberra and Queanbeyan is under threat because of the VBC plan to seek rezoning of the Queanbeyan rural land to residential instead of industrial, which will allow housing construction and development underneath the flight paths. Under the current ANEF 20 Zone the impact is negligible. However, this can't be

assured if the Tralee development goes ahead.

Peter Coggan:

As a long term Gungahlin resident, it is important to protect the suburb from the consequences of the CA expansion. Gungahlin residents may well become the 'meat in the sandwich' because of the proposals being sought by both Canberra Airport and Village Building Co. Can CA provide an undertaking to Gungahlin, that the suburb won't be disturbed by overflights should it conduct 24/7 operations?

CA. CA gives a one hundred percent guarantee that there will be no overflights, but with one qualifier: If the Tralee development to the airport's south goes ahead, this guarantee would change.

VBC. CA would obviously direct some flight operations to the north because of the Tralee development proposal.

Shirley Goodall:

Is there greed in both areas? Will jobs be taken away from Gungahlin?

VBC. Tralee is the only development area in the south, which accords with current planning proposals for the Canberra region. The airport plan will impact on the Tralee development because few people would want to live under a jet aircraft flight-path.

CA. Tralee was always going to be under a flight-path, but it is outside the ANEF 20 zone, so there isn't really an issue. The CA proposal will create employment opportunities for all parts of Canberra.

Lisa Logue:

Is there a self-imposed curfew?

CA. CA will ensure an overflight curfew over all residential suburbs. However, if the Tralee development goes ahead, there may be implications for the rest of Canberra and the region, for there may be need for flight path / airspace redistribution. For example, additional landings and take-offs occurring on the northern approach to the main runway.

VBC. Residents should be concerned for the proposed increase in aircraft flight numbers when the CA freight hub occurs.

Kate Woodbridge:

How can CA guarantee there will be no overflights, especially if the freight hub is established?

CA. Overflights by jet aircraft are fully considered in the noise abatement plan, and it is extremely unlikely that Canberra residents will be affected. Note though, that the noise abatement plan does not include smaller propeller driven aircraft/private flights. But, if there are residential overflights these need to be reported. CA will take action to investigate all reports of jet aircraft overflights. Furthermore, Tralee itself is outside the ANEF 20 zone, so there's not really an issue. But, despite it being outside the ANEF 20 zone

some overflights are probable, and that's why CA has objection to the Tralee development.

VBC. Current planning recognises the need to contain growth, and Tralee falls within this constraint, there's limited scope to continue expansion in the ACT and surrounding area.

Kye Hansen:

Have Air Services Australia (ASA) and the Commonwealth Air Safety Authority (CASA) endorsed the CA proposal, for it is unlikely that approval will be given for reverse aircraft operations? (Noting too that CA put forward the proposal to limit Jerrabombera overflights.)

CA. Jerrabombera residents are seeking more assistance with regard to noise abatement, and are encouraging northern approaches to the airport to limit the number of overflights.

VBC. VBC notes the intent to reduce aircraft noise over the small part of Jerrabombera affected by current air operations. But the ASA response to the proposal advises that northern approaches over Mt Majura are unsafe, therefore approaches over Tralee are more than likely to occur.

Ian Ruecroft::

The Sydney model discussed in the CA presentation is way off beam and has no relevance, but does the Spatial Plan address the Tralee developmental needs?

VBC. The Spatial Plan is applicable only to the ACT and not NSW, therefore it's not applicable to Tralee. The approach is to put covenants on titles, to ensure insulation etc in homes.

CA. CA suggests that VBC is aggressively opposing the Jerrabombera residents aircraft noise abatement proposal.

Tanya Rynne: (Jerrabombera):

Jerrabombera residents will continue to pursue their own needs, but not at the expense of Canberra residents' need for aircraft noise abatement.

VBC. VBC is seeking to have all the facts for the CA proposal put on the table. It is not in VBC's interests to attack the Jerrabombera proposal, for it is considered that its overall impact on the plan is negligible.

Roma Hosking:

The allocated time for this forum had come to an end and the presentation and questions were brought to an end.

At the end of questions, the President thanked the guest speakers for their honest and thought provoking presentations, and the community for its participation and questions. He mentioned that community comments/contributions on the GCC response to the Canberra

International Airport 2004 Preliminary Draft Master Plan must reach him by 19 August 2004. His contact details are included in *Gunsmoke*.

The President thanked Roma Hosking for organising and facilitating the forum. He added that it is important for the Community to be given opportunities to publicly debate such issues. He concluded that, with respect to the Canberra International Airport 2004 Preliminary Draft Master Plan, the main outcome for Gungahlin residents is protection from aircraft overflights - now and in the future – that it certainly did not want to suffer from jet noises overhead 24/7!

6. Other Matters

Gungahlin Child and Family Centre. Attendees were reminded that the Gungahlin Child and Family Centre is open, and that the official opening will occur on Friday 20 August 2004.

Next Meeting. The next GCC monthly meeting is to be held at the Raider's Club Function Room on 8 September 2004.

7. Meeting Closure

The meeting concluded at 10.05 p.m.

Bryan Roach
Meeting Secretary

Peter Coggan
President