

MINUTES OF THE GUNGAHLIN COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING

11 February 2004

1. The President, Barry Dee, opened the meeting at 7.35 pm, and drew attention to minutes of previous meetings, correspondence and various reports tabled for perusal by interested people. He also indicated that two of the advertised presentations would not occur because of unavailability by the presenters: Roads ACT and Koundouris/Russell Group on the Aldi development; but that by Purdon Associates about planning for Casey would go ahead.
2. **Attendance:** Those present are registered on the attendance sheet (15 members + Rob Purdon of Purdon Associates and Dave Richardson of ACTPLA)
3. The **minutes of the October and November meetings** were accepted (October — moved: Barry Dee; seconded: Jon Reynolds; November — moved: Roma Hosking, seconded Ian Ruecroft.)
4. **Business arising from the minutes:**
—The petition that had been tabled in November (about policing in the ACT) was still available for signature, in two slightly different versions.
5. **Finances:** In the absence of the Treasurer, Barry Dee tabled two recent bank statements, which show that
—Gungahlin Community Council account has \$10 382.35 (11.02.2004; with cheques to the value of about \$2000 written against this but not yet presented); this account includes an amount of \$3636.36 received as a grant for a Gold Creek Homestead project.
—Gungahlin Community Council Hall account has \$3374.60 (31.01.2004).
6. Rod Purdon (Purdon Associates) gave a presentation on the **status of planning for the suburb of Casey**, for which a framework is currently being developed for more detailed planning in the future. The target is about 2000 dwellings for a population of about 5000. Mr Purdon provided a printed version of his ‘Casey Concept Plan Gungahlin’ presentation to audience members. A key principle will be the retention of the ridge and an open space link in the middle of the suburb, and connections to other suburbs.

Points raised in questions included:

- Is there likely to be an oversupply of local and group centres in the district? (one of each proposed for Casey). Response: The Casey group centre will serve all of north Gungahlin, and a commercial analysis will be done as part of the planning process.
- The issue of different approaches taken by different developers, and whether people will be able to buy land where they want it with the builder they want: no clear answer available.
- While roads and electricity are provided, telecommunications infrastructure is not; only Telstra does this, excluding Optus and other providers. Suggestion that developers put in telecom ducts etc and rent these to providers.
- Affordability for young home buyers needs to be in the mix of constraints / offerings.
- The lack of maintenance of long grass in some existing open spaces should be considered during planning for new open spaces.
- The need to make provision for teenagers and for motorised scooters; and for adequate parking (on-street parking is impossible in most Gungahlin streets).
- Concern that the target number of dwellings and population may be too high for the area.
- Connection to Hall? Response: if Kinleyside is built, there will be a road through into Casey.

A further presentation on planning for Casey will be in about a month’s time, in the form of a display for public comment.

7. **Other business:**

(a) Crime in the Gungahlin region

Peter Coggan spoke of recent incidents and informed the meeting that he has launched a 'fighting crime' program, commenting that while the police and the work they do are 'great', they are seriously understaffed (by 120 positions across the whole ACT according to the police union). Mr Coggan will also circulate a petition on this issue.

MOTION: That Gungahlin Community Council write to the Chief Minister, Jon Stanhope, and to the Police Minister, Bill Wood, asking them to provide increased resourcing in the immediate future for policing throughout the ACT, with a view to decreasing the crime rate. (Moved: Peter Coggan; seconded: Roma Hosking; carried without dissent)

(b) Mr Dee informed the meeting that the Horsepark Drive extension had opened earlier in the day.

(c) Mr Reynolds informed the meeting that an amount of \$18 million would be needed for improvements to the Barton Highway roundabout.

(d) The Gold Creek Homestead group has been reactivated, and is trying to get a representative on the working group that is to decide the future of the Homestead by the end of March.

(e) Mr Reynolds informed the meeting of some of the issues that the Gungahlin Community Council executive has raised in relation to proposed developments on the ground floor of the Coles and Big W developments — the number of storeys, and the proposal for residential use on the ground floor.

MOTION: That Gungahlin Community Council write to the relevant authorities about, and be active in campaigning against, ground floor residential development in the original retail core area of Gungahlin Town Centre. (Moved: Ian Ruecroft; seconded: Shirley Goodall; carried without dissent)

MOTION: This meeting believes that developers should conform to the planning controls and guidelines with respect to height and number of storeys. (Moved: Roma Hosking; seconded: Ian Ruecroft; carried without dissent)

(f) Barry Dee drew the meeting's attention to the questionnaires being circulated by the Gungahlin Regional Community Service to explore the feasibility of developing a Gaungahlin Festival.

(b) Roma Hosking explained a proposed trial of free space in *Gunsmoke* for short community announcements.

8. Barry Dee thanked Rod Purdon for his presentation, and closed the meeting at 10.05pm.