

## **MINUTES OF THE GUNGAHLIN COMMUNITY COUNCIL PUBLIC MEETING**

**WEDNESDAY 12 JUNE, 2002**

The President, Ian Ruecroft, declared the meeting open at 7.30pm.

### **Apologies**

No apologies were recorded.

### **Minutes of the last meeting (13/3/02)**

Minutes of the last meeting (8 May) were circulated and accepted. It was agreed that these Minutes be placed on the Gungahlin Community Council's (GCC) website under the Light Rail section as the last meeting was devoted to discussion regarding the Light Rail option.

**MOTION:** That the Minutes from the meeting of 8/5/02 be accepted.

**Proposed:** Lloyd Walker **Seconded:** Barry Dee **CARRIED**

**MOTION:** The Minutes from the 8 May 2002 GCC meeting be placed in the Light Rail section of the Gungahlin Community Council's Internet website.

**Proposed:** Jonathon Reynolds **Seconded:** Lloyd Walker **CARRIED**

### **Treasurer's Report**

The Treasurer's report was presented. There is still \$23,000 in the bank, about \$17,000 of which is the Social Capital grant money. It is understood that the grant money does not have to be returned if not spent by the end of the financial year, and it is possible that a some of the money may be used towards the Gold Creek Homestead restoration project. A laptop computer was purchased, which then required repairs. There is also a liability of about \$1,000 for accounts related to the hall e.g. waste disposal, electricity cleaning etc. These accounts should be paid by the July meeting

Roma Hosking asked if funds could be made available towards the cost of publishing a special edition of *Gunsmoke* this year; one with little advertising and input from community organisations and service providers. Note: Roma and July to work on a submission to the Social Capital sub-committee re this item (this may not happen until after Roma returns from Russia).

A request for funding of \$7,000 was received from Gungahlin Regional Services to carry out some artwork, but this request could not be supported because of the labour and administrative costs involved. The Social Capital sub-committee agreed that it may be possible to cover the cost of purchasing the material for the artwork.

### **President's Report**

Ian Ruecroft reported that it had been a quiet month. He had appeared before the Standing Committee on Legal Issues re the size of the Legislative Assembly, making the suggestion that all of Gungahlin fall within one electorate. The justification for increasing the size of the L of A is a fairly complicated issue and Ian will keep the Council briefed on any outcomes.

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**ACTION 1:** Ian Ruecroft will provide a summary on the Legislative Assembly electorate issue for the GCC website, and will attach a summary to the GCC Minutes next month.

### **"Gunsmoke"**

Roma Hosking has received some offers of help for *Gunsmoke* for which she is very grateful. She advised that the current Treasurer will be leaving at the end of this financial year and that there is an urgent need to replace her. Audrey Guy offered her services for this role. The meeting thanked Audrey for her generous offer.

### **Airport Noise Abatement Group**

Peter Coggan, who represents the GCC on this Group, provided an update. He attended a meeting on 6 June which looked at establishing a routine for procedure of the quarterly meetings. He advised that a Noise and Flight Path Monitoring System would be installed at three sites, with one (hopefully) in north Canberra or in the gap between Mt Ainslie and Mt Majura. He displayed "Highway in the sky" graphs showing how far

technology has come in three years in monitoring heights, noise and flight paths of aircraft. There is a move towards an 11pm – 6am curfew but it unlikely that this will be accepted by the Canberra International Airport. The Group is also urging wider noise abatement zones to cover the projected new Gungahlin suburbs.

**ACTION 2:** Peter Coggan agreed to provide an article on the noise abatement issue to Roma Hosking for the next issue of *Gunsmoke*.

#### **Planning the ACT Together (PACTT)**

The GCC resigned some time ago from PACTT because it didn't have a Constitution and there was concern the PACTT could have adopted policies that may have been difficult for Gungahlin community to support. Ian has been involved with the development of the now almost completed PACTT Constitution, which reflects the changes that the GCC wanted. Ian suggested it might now be a good time to develop the relationship along positive lines. The Constitution will be in its final stage in one to two months and ready for appraisal by a GCC working group. Ian will advise when the Constitution is finalised and available for further discussion.

PACTT offers a forum where it may be possible for many issues to be resolved, such as the transport issue for Gungahlin. Issues have to be looked at in a whole of ACT aspect and there appears to be a reasonable amount of support for PACTT within the new government.

#### **Transport**

The President advised that the GCC recently published two transport-related issues in the latest *Gunsmoke* – one about the Light Rail and the other about transport corridors. It was felt that this was information the Community should be aware of, given the inequitable situation at present, and the future transport problems being an ever larger issue.

#### **Flower Festival**

Barry Dee suggested that the Gungahlin Town Centre would benefit from some “softer” touches, such as flower beds similar to Federation Square. He suggested that the GDA, GCC, or both, could run a competition for shops and businesses for the best flower beds. Discussion followed regarding sponsored garden beds, vandalism, security and public liability issues. Anne McGrath from the GDA thought it was a good idea and

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agreed to work with the Council to progress it. Barry Dee and Ian Ruecroft agreed to prepare a submission for a grant from the Social Capital funds. An article regarding the beautifying suggestion will be prepared for publication in the next *Gunsmoke*. Anne suggested Canberra Urban Parks & Spaces (CUPS) may be interested and that Magnet Mart and the Raiders Club could also be approached. She explained that there is an intention to establish a centralised management organisation with responsibility for formal organisation with formal representation to cover things like security, cleaning, etc. and this could include beautifying the area. An update on progress will be provided to the next meeting.

#### **ACTION 3:**

- i) Anne McGrath to work with the GCC to further the beautification plan for the Town Centre.
- ii) Barry Dee and Ian Ruecroft to prepare grant submission for Social Capital funding for the beautification of the Town Centre.
- iii) Ian Ruecroft and Barry Dee to prepare an article for the next issue of *Gunsmoke*.

#### **GUEST SPEAKERS**

##### **Sgt Brian McGahey, Gungahlin Police Station**

Sgt McGahey introduced himself and gave a brief description of his working career, much of which has been spent in the ACT. He is now the Officer in Charge of the Gungahlin Police Station, which has ten young and enthusiastic officers on rostered duties, and two staff manning the front office. The station is open 8am – 7pm Monday to

Friday and until 1pm on Saturday. Sgt McGahey provided an update on local crime and stressed that the police require information and feedback from the Gungahlin community at all times to assist them in their policing. He advised that the community will be seeing a higher police presence in the area. Sgt McGahey answered questions from the floor regarding callout times for a police response (around 25 minutes depending upon priorities); additional officers (very expensive); and availability of a visual GPS and up-to-date maps to assist the police in identifying where they need to be. He informed the meeting that the three services (police, ambulance and fire brigade) are all working together to cover the ACT.

The President thanked Sgt McGahey for his attendance and for providing an interesting and informative presentation.

#### **Telecommunications Workshop**

The recent Telecommunications Workshop held by Senator Bob McMullin, Kate Lundy and Katy Gallagher was extremely well attended and it was evident that no-one was happy with the status quo. No issues were resolved but a lot were aired. Ian asked Katie Gallagher (on behalf of the GCC) "What did the ACT government intend to do to resolve the current problems and what could be done to avoid duplication of the problems for the 80% of Gungahlin not yet developed". Katy undertook to get back to Ian at a later date.

#### **Transport Workshop**

Gungahlin's Liberal Party is having a Transport Workshop (organised by Helen Cross) on the 3<sup>rd</sup> August – venue to be advised.

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#### **GCC Membership fee**

The idea of having a \$2 "joining fee" instead of the present membership fee will be raised at the Annual General Meeting scheduled for August. The membership fee does not achieve anything and is difficult to administer.

#### **Car Markets**

Some areas in Gungahlin have become unofficial car markets where people park their cars and advertise them for sale. It was agreed that it is desirable for a designated area to be set aside for this purpose. Anne McGrath advised that she is looking into this matter and obtaining advice on licence arrangements. She will report back to the GCC with an update and details will be advertised in *Gunsmoke* when available.

#### **Aged Care facilities**

Barry Dee asked what land use policy changes would be needed to build an aged care facility in Gungahlin. Anne McGrath advised that no policy changes were needed. She said that the building of an aged care facility is on the agenda for the GDA as part of the ongoing plan for the Town Centre and they would like to identify an area for such a facility. Comments from the floor stressed that this should ideally be near to the Town Centre, close to shops, the library, transport, not hilly, and the area needs to be identified urgently so that suitable areas are not built out.

#### **Gungahlin Development Authority**

Audrey Guy asked for more information to be made available about the GDA regarding its composition and role as there seemed to be some confusion. Anne McGrath said she was happy to provide this information and will provide an article for publication in the next issue of *Gunsmoke*.

**ACTION 4:** Anne McGrath to provide information regarding the composition and role of the GDA for the next issue of *Gunsmoke*.

#### **Inter-agency meeting**

The Gungahlin Regional Services recently ran an inter-agency meeting and a query was raised as to what notification is made of these meetings to the general public. The last meeting was run by PALM and people should make their complaints to them as there is a means for them to advertise (*Gunsmoke*).

## **ACTAB**

The possibility of ACTAB moving into Gungahlin was discussed. Ian Ruecroft agreed to write on behalf of the GCC to the Chief Minister, with a copy to MLAs, to put pressure on them and urging the relocation of ACTAB to Gungahlin. There was discussion re the requirement for a second telecommunications link before ACTAB would move to Gungahlin.

### **Town Centre square**

Jonathon Reynolds spoke on this issue as a member of the Gungahlin Equality Party. He outlined a proposal to change the layout of the Gungahlin Town Centre from the main street configuration to a town square, to address some of the present transport and traffic issues. He described how this would work. He said the Gungahlin Equality Party had undertaken a survey which showed that 95% of respondents preferred the idea of the town square option. Mr Reynolds wishes to pursue through the GCC, endorsement of a town square as opposed to the main street.

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Ann McGrath advised the meeting that the tender process, currently underway, could not be stopped and that the GDA was committed to the existing main street proposal. Jonathon Reynolds pointed out that within the EOI documents released by the GDA there was no such commitment.

Ann McGrath advised the meeting that a change to the Territory Plan would be required to implement the town square proposal even though the GTC was defined land, and regardless that the town square proposal was inconsistent with Territory Plan Variation 53 (regarding Gungahlin and the town centre central area)

Ann McGrath suggested that the GDA would not consider the town square proposal as there had been ample opportunity in the past for community consultation. Peter Coggan voiced the opinion that if the GDA were not going to consider community input with regard to letting of the tender documents and what was wanted for the Gungahlin town centre, then the community could consider getting court injunctions to force the issue and block release of the tender.

A GCC sponsored workshop was suggested for open discussion of this matter. Various parties could be invited to contribute, including the GDA, giving an overall summary including an historical background and forward planning expectations. The following motions were put forward:

**MOTION:** That the GCC write to the GDA requesting information about the proposed tender process and development plans in regard to the tendering of retail and commercial sites around the Gungahlin Town Centre.

**PROPOSED:** Peter Coggan **SECONDED:** Shirley Goodall **CARRIED**

**MOTION:** That the GCC sponsor a workshop in relation to the notion of a town square where various parties, including the GDA, are invited to speak.

**PROPOSED:** Roma Hosking **SECONDED:** Peter Coggan **CARRIED**

The GCC Executive has the responsibility to implement this proposal, and to choose and advise a date and venue in due course. Anne McGrath should by then have the results of the recent GDA survey re the community's preferred options for the development of the Town Centre.

### **Yerribi Estate I**

Lloyd Walker raised the subject of the very narrow streets which have been put in on this estate. Anne McGrath pointed out that the ACTCODE 2 would have had to have been adhered to, allowing 7.5 metres and not 5.5 metres in width. The following motion was agreed:

**MOTION:** That the GCC write to the relevant authority protesting about the width of roads in Yerribi Estate I.

**PROPOSED:** Lloyd Walker **SECONDED:** Barry Dee **CARRIED**

Anne McGrath agreed to give a half-hour presentation to the GCC public meeting in July

regarding the Yerribi Estate stage 2.

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### **Gold Creek Homestead**

Audrey Guy advised she has written to Simon Corbell asking who is on the recently formed committee set up by PALM and DECS following a recent meeting, who elected the members and why DECS is involved. A lot of time and effort has gone into the issue of the future of the Gold Creek Homestead and now a committee appears to be looking at it again without the involvement and without consulting the GCC or the local community.

### **Close of Meeting**

The meeting closed at 9.50pm

### **Next Meeting**

The next Public Meeting will be held on 10 July 2002.

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## **MOTIONS**

### **Motion Proposer Seconder**

That the Minutes from the meeting of 8/5/02 be accepted.

Lloyd Walker Barry Dee

That the GCC write to the GDA requesting information about the proposed tender process and development plans in regard to the tendering of retail and commercial sites around the Gungahlin Town Centre.

Peter Coggan Shirley Goodall

That the GCC sponsor a workshop in relation to the notion of a town square where various parties, including the GDA, are invited to speak.

Roma Hosking Peter Coggan

That the GCC write to the relevant authority protesting about the width of roads in Yerribi Estate I.

Lloyd Walker Barry Dee

## **ACTIONS**

### **Action Actionee**

1. Provide a summary on the Legislative Assembly electorate issue for the GCC website, and attach a summary to the GCC Minutes next month.

Ian Ruecroft

2. Provide an article on the noise abatement issue to Roma Hosking for the next issue of *Gunsmoke*.

Peter Coggan

Action 3.

i) Anne McGrath to work with the GCC to further the beautification plan for the Town Centre.

ii) Barry Dee and Ian Ruecroft to prepare grant submission for Social Capital funding for the beautification of the Town Centre.

iii) Ian Ruecroft and Barry Dee to prepare an article on for the next issue of *Gunsmoke*.

Anne McGrath

Barry Dee / Ian Ruecroft

Ian Ruecroft / Barry Dee

4. Provide information regarding the composition and role of the GDA for the next issue of *Gunsmoke*.  
Anne McGrath