

**Minutes of General Meeting**

Wednesday, 7 December 2011

1. The Chair, Dr Jenny Stewart welcomed attendees.

**Apologies** were received from Steve Doszpot MLA, Caroline Le Couteur MLA, Luciano Lombardo and Bill Smith.

2. **Record of WVCC Meeting held on 2 November 2011**

The record of the meeting held on 2 November 2011, as circulated, was accepted—moved by Bill O’Brien; seconded by Mike Reddy.

3. **The Draft Planning Strategy**

Catherine Kiernan from the Environment and Sustainable Development Directorate gave a presentation on the Draft Planning Strategy and stressed that the deadline for comments was 18 December. The strategy aimed to make Canberra a compact and efficient city and would guide Canberra’s development for the next 30 years and beyond.

Ms Kiernan explained that the strategy stressed the relationship between land-use planning and transport. It was proposed that medium density development would be concentrated along rapid transport routes.

Ms Kiernan fielded questions from the meeting on the following issues:

- how Cohen fitted into the strategy;
- the importance of ageing in place;
- densification;
- the Walter Burley Griffin vision; and
- Town Centre master plans.

4. **The Draft Transport Policy**

Kristin Blume from the Environment and Sustainable Development Directorate gave a presentation on the Draft Transport Policy. Her presentation concentrated on the development of public transport. Key documents relating to the presentation are:

Transport for Canberra draft policy:  
<http://www.transport.act.gov.au/policy.html>

Supporting studies for Transport for Canberra:  
<http://www.transport.act.gov.au/references.html>

Light rail/Northbourne Avenue study:  
[http://www.transport.act.gov.au/studies\\_projects/northbourne\\_study.html](http://www.transport.act.gov.au/studies_projects/northbourne_study.html)

Minister Corbell's CURF seminar on a sustainable garden city:  
[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kHO2Z\\_gYXh4](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kHO2Z_gYXh4)

Ms Blume fielded questions from the meeting on the following topics:

- transport for an ageing population;
- short-term vs long-term parking in city centres;
- rapid transport routes;
- cycling; and
- students walking to school.

5. ***Canberra Loves 40 per cent forum***

Mike Reddy (WVCC Vice President) reported on the forum held on 23 November at the Legislative Assembly building. He felt that there was more chance for the reduction in emissions to be met with an alliance of like-minded community groups keeping the Government honest.

6. **Combined Community Councils Meeting - 3 December**

Dr Stewart reported that the meeting hosted by the Inner South Canberra Community Council on 3 December 2011 dealt with:

- ACT's Draft Planning Strategy;
- the Draft Transport Policy;
- Tralee development; and
- the 2012 ACT Assembly elections

7. **Planning Report**

The Planning and Building Legislation Amendment Bill (No. 2) put forward by ACT Greens' MLA, Caroline Le Couteur had just been passed by the Legislative Assembly. The two key features of these amendments are:

- pre-development application consultation with the community for larger developments was now compulsory; and
- more stringent signage rules to inform residents affected by planned works.

8. **Development Applications**

DA 201120310 (10 Corinna St, Phillip)—proposes change of use from professional/commercial offices to non-retail commercial (e.g. hotel or restaurant). Deadline for comments: 5 Jan 2012.

DA201120741 (Balloons Aloft site, Phillip)—proposes two new buildings (9 and 12 storeys) with 278 residential units; a childcare centre; and

commercial uses. Concept plans were presented to the Council in May 2011. Deadline for comments: 6 Jan 2012.

9. **Treasurer's Report**

The Treasurer, Henry Hatch, reported that there were no significant changes to WVCC's financial position since the November meeting.

10. There was no other business.

11. **The next meeting** of the WVCC will be held at the Woden Hellenic Club on Wednesday, 1 February 2012, commencing 7.30 pm.