

Eades Place Report:

Michael Horscroft reported approval that the ailing Poplars and Norfolk Island Hibiscus are to be removed (allergenic), and some other good components of plan including basketball ring, lower fencing for kids area, suitable exercise equip for adolescents, new avenue along footpath.

Action: It was recommended that the NWMA write to Council to thank them (Bill Cook volunteered to do this)

Graffiti Report:

Graffiti Management Plan went to Council July 14. Alba will convene a meeting with Council. One issue was the clarity re who is provided with "automatic clean" - answer is businesses and residents.

Correspondence:

1. Priority Planning: notice re postponement of Arden Lodge hearing.
2. VCAT: new hearing re Arden Lodge development has been set for 5 October 2009.
2. MCC: A consultation re planning application at 39 Lothian St is to be held 200709, 5.30pm.
4. State Library: 1 Tax invoice, for mail box subscription: nwmaobj. We won't pay this - it has been allowed to lapse.
5. State Library: request for NWMA Annual Report 2006/2007
6. State Library: request for NWMA Newsletter March 2009
7. East Melbourne News Winter 2009
8. Dept of Planning & Community Devt: Melbourne Planning Scheme Amendment C141 re Policy for Licensed Premises that require a Permit.

Treasurer's Report:

Bill Cook presented a summary of NWMA Application for Council Funds 2009, which focuses on improving communications within the community.

Means to achieve this: Website most important.

Need for action: Should be able to record the number of "hits" on the site.

The use of North and West Melbourne News will continue. Though we don't contribute financially we do contribute articles and help with distribution. The new process of Graffiti reporting will be a further means of increasing communications.

Need for action: It was noted that there is a need to update the pamphlet advertising the Association, and to circulate it.

Need for action: It was agreed that Ray Cowling's planning lists should be linked to the website as a service to the community.

It was observed that many of our activities could be seen as replacing the old ward Councillor tasks.

Work groups

Planning:

1. 87-101 Roden St dev't to be discussed with neighbouring residents after this meeting.
2. 52-60 Chetwynd St VCAT hearing: Lorraine represented NWMA. An Educational Establishment has applied for permission to teach 140 students, without parking provision, in a residential area. Decision pending.
3. 39 Lothian St: catering business in residential area (though Mixed Use Zone). Applying to work 11pm - 6am in addition to daylight hours. Cooking, deliveries, extraction fan noise, rubbish removal issues etc.
4. 79-89 Leveson St. 14m high instead of 11m.

A brief discussion was held regarding the Miles Lewis Paper: The Citizens Perspective (A response to DACs set up by State Government, removing Planning decisions out of Councils' hands. The paper proposes alternative solution.)

Quotes from the paper:

1. My Council is elected to serve me, not the developer.
2. The onus is on local Government: it should represent the present residents and rate payers.
3. It is not the role of local Government to engage in social engineering.

Action: We ask Bill Cook and Kevin Chamberlin to propose at CoRBA a meeting to which Miles Lewis is invited to speak, focusing on the inner city issues. For example, a special meeting at the Bowling Club, perhaps in October or November. Need to invite press including NWM News.

Action: We should put a link to the Miles Lewis paper on the website, and include a reference to it in our blurb in the NWMNews. Alba will contact Janet Graham to discuss advertising the paper and the special meeting. Kevin Chamberlin will contact Miles Lewis to ask permission for the link.

Social Issues:

Homeless Action Group meeting: Nanette Mitchell talked re Homeless Action Plan and Community Registered Rooming Houses. A body count was made of people sleeping rough - covered 20% of municipality. Passive vs aggressive begging, 50% male:female. Some prefer to steal rather than to beg, which is deemed too humiliating.

It was obvious that Council activity and eg HAG function completely independently and unaware of one another.

Transport Report:

It was reported that the 402 bus is to be rerouted to avoid the new configuration at Errol and Haines/Courtney Sts.

The 401 bus has been suggested to be similarly rerouted but when the Bus Co was contacted it was unaware of this plan.

Footbridge at North Melbourne Railway Station: Bill Cook reported a cyclist had been pulled up by the Police on the road, having been unable to use the closed footbridge.

It was agreed that the Chair for the August meeting will be Kevin Chamberlin.

Item for agenda for the August meeting: Parking issues - Brougham St wrt RCH.

Meeting closed at 9.22pm.