

North & West Melbourne Association Inc.



**Monthly General Meeting
Tuesday 19th October, 2010
at 7.30pm
Meeting Room, first floor,
North Melbourne Library,
66 Errol Street**

Meeting Chairperson: Kevin Chamberlin

Minutes

1. Welcome and apologies

Attendance Bill Cook, Alba Gatto, Kevin Chamberlin, Janet Graham, Roger Nairn, Michael Horscroft, Ray Cowling, Verena Augusti, Clare Quinn, Geoff Leach. Nan Nankervis, Alan Ashley, Brian Walters. Mary Kehoe, Denys Harroway.

2. Apologies

Julianne Bell, Lorraine Siska, Valerie Gerrand, Mary Kelleher, Madeleine Scully.

2. Confirmation of minutes

- The minutes of the meeting held 21 September 2010 were accepted as a correct record.

3. Matters arising from the minutes of meeting (Not covered elsewhere in the agenda)

Action on Kate Greer's presentation to the last meeting. Michael and Gabby are still to meet to take this matter further.

It was agreed that Ray Cowling be authorised to take up the matter of 69-71 Peel Street with Cr Peter Clarke and other Councillors, in more detail.

The bus review outcomes have now been released. It was agreed that we should authorise Alba to obtain a copy of the full report to supplement the four page summary.

4. Correspondence (Not covered elsewhere)

Responses from the Lord Mayor and the CEO re the West Melbourne Structure Plan and Amendment C122

5. Committee Report

Motion

- That this meeting confirms the appointment of Clare Quinn as Secretary of the Association.

Moved Bill Cook

Seconded Alba Gatto

Carried

A handover to Clare needs to be arranged with Alba.

It was agreed that we should follow up outstanding members. Roger agreed to phone them. We should contact members who have not renewed since 2006. A list needs to be prepared by Alba detailing name, phone number, address and financial status. We acknowledge the constitution states that members should be removed from the list after 2 years of non payment. It was also agreed that we should seek a one year subscription and not seek any back payment. The committee needs to investigate how we might develop a list of interested people who do not wish to be members but who can constitute a email list for special occasions.

- The Committee has booked a stall for the Spring Fling. Frig magnets and the new brochures will be available from the stall. Other activities and displays will be organised. Some display boards have been obtained.

A roster needs to be worked out. The following times were agreed

Kevin – all day Bill -- 12-3 Michael 3-5 Clare 11.30-1.30

Roger 12.30- 2.30 Janet 2.30-5 Nan setup and ?

Others ???

- Budget – Bill reported on the state of the budget and expenditure plans for the rest of the year

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- meeting plans during renovation. The future of the library meeting room availability appears to be somewhat uncertain. We need to clarify the position in regard to the library and the Baptist Church and settle on a stable meeting place for the foreseeable future that can be relied on.

6. Workgroup Reports

• Planning

- **Municipal Strategic Statement** (See submission on the website)
The significance of the is document to the planning scheme was emphasised as were the shortcomings of the consultation phase where there were only city wide meetings and no local community consultations. This is seen as leading to a process of downplaying differences between the communities that make up the City of Melbourne.
- **Structure Plans** (See letter on website) The consultations of the two structure plans affecting our area were similarly blighted in that they were so stage managed that there was little opportunity to address objectively the directions that the structure plans were likely to lead us to, viz a substantial increase in population density in parts of North and West Melbourne that in the official views lend themselves to a significant amount of development. They imply the downgrading of industrial areas , which we regard as working well, into mixed use areas that can be used for further population expansion. This may well include inappropriate links to new stations on the proposed underground railway that are focussed on the population development rather than an improved public transport system, reflecting that the plans are driven by the developers and not the transport needs of the metropolitan area. This is reinforced by the fact that the new link between Footscray and Domain will be in many parts 10 storeys underground and will thus have either no link or a difficult link to existing stations.
- **La Trobe Close redevelopment**-update
Roger Nairn reported on the recent developments including a meeting with Adam Bandt, He has followed up with a meeting with the PM and has attempted to arrange a meeting with Jenny Macklin. At the State level, it appears that final plans have been approved but there is resistance to them being released. Questions have not been answered regarding the nature of the development or the future of the rest of the site or the public private balance that will be implemented. There is a danger it will become a social ghetto and the only sensible outcome will be to rescind the contract.
- **46 Villiers Street** We have applied to be a party at VCAT to continue our objection to this development.
- **St Joseph's CBC** - Nothing further to report.
- **Zagame- King Roden & Stanley Sts** – 259 units and one retail premises. Not much has moved during this month. The advertising period finished on the 29th September. The matter has not yet been referred to the CCSAC (Central City Standing Advisory Committee) whose meeting tonight has been postponed. Issues around the West Melbourne Structure Plan were discussed in relation to the letter from the Lord Mayor. The shortcomings in the adoption of the WMSP into the planning scheme were noted. The change in the relationship between the Council and the community, since the time it was developed was also noted.
- C122/C174
Geoff Leach reported on Angela Williams and his presentation to the Future Melbourne Committee, last week. There remain unanswered questions about how C122 was adopted into the planning scheme and the respective positions of the Council, the Council Officers who negotiated with DPCD and the role and position of DPCD itself. Why was there such a delay in the issue being identified. Who knew what, when. Who communicated what, when. The euphemistic explanation in the CEO's letter, (that there were unanticipated outcomes,) does not adequately explain what happened. It would appear that DPCD may have refused to accept the Council recommendation and that negotiation was not part of the process when it should have been. The adequacy of communication between council officers and the Council would seem also to be open to question.
- 130-140 Errol St

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Our objection has been lodged.

- 141-149 Roden Street

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- **Student Colleges.**

Concerns were expressed about the impact of the decline in overseas students on many of the 'colleges' that have gained planning approval over recent times. Many have been established in facilities that are really too small for the purpose and given some grandiose names. Concern was also expressed about more applications for student accommodation that are coming into the system.

- **59 Lothian Street TP 2010 464**

The development proposal that was opposed in Council last week has been lost. The impact particularly on Verena was regretted. An appeal to VCAT is being explored.

- **118 Ireland St**

This six storey application needs to be investigated further.

- **Business**

- **Social Events-** Christmas gathering.

A number of suggested venues were discussed. Cost should be aimed at the \$35-40 range.

- **Environment -**

Michael reported very positively on the open space development outside St Mary's Star of the Sea in William St.

- **Transport**

- Westlink

Vehicle numbers that are planned to utilise this tunnel are likely to be in the order of 30,000 per day. It is planned by the State Government to ultimately link via the East West Link to Clifton Hill. There are suggestions that there will be a need to widen Dynon Road. The impact on North and West Melbourne as well as other suburbs is likely to be enormous. There has been much ramping up of this project in the West but little consideration in the east in our local area. Denys reported on a separate meeting at the Bowling Club on Westlink.

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- **CoRBA**

At the last meeting of CoRBA most attention was given to reworking the questionnaire for the candidates for the next State election

- **November monthly meeting to be Meet The Candidates (MTC) for the State Election.**

It was agreed that the MTC should be focussed on the lower house seat of Melbourne. It was agreed that the issues should come from the floor and that there should be prior warning as to any special issues that we wished to be covered. The format should be as for the recent Federal event which we regarded as being very successful. Three minutes should be allowed for each speaker, followed by audience questioning. We should book the lodge room in the Town Hall for the event.

7. **General Business**

8. **Time and date of next meeting/Meeting close**

MTC November 16 at 7.30pm