



MINUTES
Ordinary General Meeting, Tuesday 20 March 2018, 7.35pm

Present: Kevin Chamberlin, Sebastian Clark, Bill Cook, Cecilia Gason, Valerie Gerrand, Enid Hookey, Michael Horscroft, Rosemary John, Duncan Rouch, Lorraine Siska, Geraldine Suter and John Widmer

Apologies: Nicholas Atkins, Emmy Chung, Ray Cowling, Melanie Del Monaco, Stephen Farrugia, Peter Gerrand, Janet Graham, Stephen Hatcher, Jan Lacey, Jacques Peril, Margaret Peril, Jane Poynter, Gerard Rodgers, Sue Scarfe, Jacqueline Stevenson, Helen Sweeting and Caro Thompson

Chair Kevin Chamberlin welcomed attendees to the meeting. He passed on apologies from Janet, the Assistant Secretary, and Jane, Secretary to the Association.

1. Confirmation of minutes of previous meeting held on 20 February 2018

Moved Michael Horscroft, seconded Valerie Gerrand:

That confirmation of the minutes of the 20 February Ordinary General Meeting be deferred until the next meeting.

Carried.

2. Abbotsford Street Public Housing Development, North Melbourne

Kevin tabled a document written by Dr Valerie Gerrand which highlighted the points raised in Dr Duncan Rouch's presentation in February 2018. Essentially, it provided further information and background regarding the model, stats and the value of the 'Housing First' approach and highlighted that funding is needed to increase public housing across Victoria. It stimulated discussion of examples in the local community.

There was a reminder that the next Protect Abbotsford Street Estate meeting would be held on Sunday 25 March at 2.30pm. A pamphlet was distributed to participants.

3. Goldsmiths Development, corner King and Hawke streets, West Melbourne

There was no new update from council on this. It was discussed that the heritage study had given the building a D grading, that a decision would most likely come through soon.

It was agreed that CoM Lord Mayor candidates should be asked their opinion on this application.

4. Traffic: Speed limits — VicRoads and Melbourne City Council

Valerie Gerrand discussed a response she had received from Haig Poulson, Traffic Engineer at the City of Melbourne, including that the reason the 60 km/h speed limit was being retained in Curzon Street was because that section of road was in the jurisdiction of Victoria Roads. It was also discussed that Curzon Street between King and Miller streets will go down to the 40 km/h limit. It was raised that this wasn't consistent with other speed limit changes and that more speed data needs to be collected.

It was determined that Bill Cook would try and get someone from CoM, preferably Haig Poulson, to come to the Association to talk about traffic and to put this item on the next meeting's agenda.

Moved Michael Horscroft, seconded Valerie Gerrand:

That Bill Cook be authorised to request that Haig Poulson, or another representative from the City of Melbourne, attend an Association meeting to discuss traffic and speed limits in North and West Melbourne.

Carried.

5. Committee Report: Street standings, retail displays and community atmosphere — Melbourne City Council policy

It was discussed that a trader on Queensberry Street had been asked by the council to remove items that he had located on the footpath outside his store because he didn't have a permit. It was discussed that there wasn't a permit available for him to apply for that was appropriate. It was determined that more needed to be done to stop small businesses from moving out of the Errol Street precinct and to recommend that council has more consistent approaches to permits.

Lorraine Siska is to invite CoM to discuss their policies on permits.

Moved Lorraine Siska, seconded Valerie Gerrard:

That Lorraine be authorised to invite the City of Melbourne to engage in a discussion about permits for street standings and retail displays and their contribution to community atmosphere.

Carried.

6. Reports from affiliated organisations

a) CoRBA (Coalition of Resident and Business Associations)

Bill reported that CoRBA had spoken about processes that were in place at the local council for digitising files. He said there had been some instances reported where not all the material was stored.

He also noted that CoRBA is asking three questions to each candidate who is applying for Lord Mayor and if anyone at the Association has any questions to ask that they be provided to him via email to the Secretary.

An opinion was voiced that one of the questions should be directed to fixing the voting procedure under which businesses get two votes each, while CoM residents only get one.

Kevin noted that a practice note issued by the State Government could change this.

b) Friends of the Moonee Pond Creek

John Widmer shared that parcels of land along the creek were being rezoned as residential land especially by VicTrack and that this should be monitored by NWMA. He also reported that the creek is in a really good state. He pointed out that Melbourne Water is doing a good job, and the area is being maintained.

7. Discussion of correspondence circulated in the last month and received by hand

None noted at the meeting.

8. General Business

None.

9. Annual General Meeting in April — Committee vacancies and nominations

Kevin raised that he would like to draw attention to the fact that the Association is looking for new committee members and that there were vacancies. He welcomed everyone to nominate to become part of the committee. It was noted that everyone should make sure that they are financial (a member) and would be very welcome to become a committee member.

10. Time, date and venue of next ordinary general meeting

Tuesday 17 April 2018, following the Annual General Meeting (7.15pm for 7.30pm start), at the Bastow Institute, 603–615 Queensberry Street, North Melbourne.

Meeting closed 8.40pm.