

**MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE MEETING OF
THE JERRABOMBERRA RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION INC.
26TH APRIL, 2006**

1. PRESENT

Margot Sachse, Lyn Edwards, Jim Horan, David Hope, The Hon. Gary Nairn MP Federal Member for Eden-Monaro & Special Minister of State, 12 JRA members and 3 members of the community.

2. APOLOGIES

Brian Brown, Paul Whalan, Kathryn Tse, Sandy Funston, Val Treverrow, Tom Lewis, Tania Rynne, Adre de Waal.

3. CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES

M.Sachse moved that the previous meetings minutes be accepted with one alteration in regard to 'Speeding on Bicentennial Drive' – it should be noted that there was extensive discussion and concern from residents regarding "hoons" who are defacing our streetscape and putting people in danger by doing burn-outs, dragging and speeding in our streets. Seconded J.Horan.

4. MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

Trail Bikes A meeting took place with Council staff and some Councillors at Stringybark Hill on the 4th April. The local police are going to borrow a trail bike from Wagga and conduct a specific operation to deal with the issue and they need to identify entry and exit points. There has been a notable decrease in the amount of bikes being ridden in the bushland since an article appeared in The Chronicle a couple of weeks ago. Brian Brown made a presentation at the Council meeting on the 19th April, 2006. Council have agreed to put signs up advising that trail bikes are not to be ridden in the bushland.

It was also noted that the gates to Mt. Jerrabomberra are still not being locked.

Concern was also raised regarding the use of chainsaws in the bushland on Stringybark Hill, as cutting down trees is against the conservation values for this area.

With regard to last month's meeting with Mayor Frank Pangallo, the Mayor undertook to get back to us on a few matters – to raise our trail bike concerns with local police, to ascertain where things stand concerning funding for the Jerrabomberra Creek Management Plan, when the gate to Mt. Jerrabomberra will be locked, to ascertain where our submission on the preferred options for the Jerrabomberra Community Centre went, to follow up with Parks & Gardens re: the bird platform for the duck pond and to have notice served on Savills who manage the Jerrabomberra shops to tidy the carpark and surrounding area. Margot to follow up the responses from the Mayor, as we had not received a response prior to our meeting.

5. CORRESPONDENCE IN

Queanbeyan District Hospital – seeking new members for the Local Health Advisory Committee (LHAS)

Queanbeyan City Council – advising next meeting date (1st May) for Mirrabe Project (a group looking at Stringybark Hill and Edwin Land Parkway development.)

ACT Legislative Assembly – inviting us to participate in the inquiry into the proposed nomination of the ACT as a UNESCO Biosphere Reserve.

Philippa Moss QCC – advising that our application for a grant through the Healthy Communities has been successful.

NSW Ombudsman – they are unable to assist us in our complaint about the dwelling at the rear of Copperfield Place and that the Council acted appropriately. M.Sachse moved that we write a letter to Council and this was seconded by L.Edwards *This item is to be placed on the Agenda for the May Meeting, due to not having a quorum.*

Canberra International Airport (email) – runway extension and strengthening works are running to schedule. All pilots should be trained in the RNP procedures by September, 2006 but only Qantas flights using the B737-800 aircraft are able to use the RNP's. They also request to be added to our mailing list for the Jerrabomberra Newsletter.

Queanbeyan City Council (QCC) – we have been invited to attend a workshop of project sustainability which is being run by Healthy Communities, Queanbeyan on 23/5/06.

S.Moore (email) – advising that an ideal place for cricket nets could be the south-eastern corner of Madew Oval.

Canberra International Airport – they are concerned at the lack of consultation on the new shopping outlet at Fyshwick. They advise that the new centre is going to cover an area of 30,000m² – compare this to Canberra Centre which is 20,643m². It was originally planned to be a bulky goods warehouse selling whitegoods etc and has apparently been changed to include clothing.

Jail Free ACT – we received a flier from this group based in Sydney. They have a website – www.justiceaction.org.au

G.Woods (email) – advising us of the destruction caused to the bushland by trail bikes.

Village Building Company – forwarded us a copy of a letter sent to them from the Dept. of Planning advising that there will be an inquiry into future residential development in the Queanbeyan local government area. We have been forwarded a copy of the Terms of Reference into this inquiry.

A.Bishop (email) – expressing concern that no mention was made in our March minutes regarding the extensive discussion at last month's meeting about hoons in the streets.

B.Brown (email) – passing on his thanks to everyone who sent emails in response to the Chronicle article on trail bikes in the bush. This will be discussed again at our May meeting and by then the police operation should have run its course.

6. CORRESPONDENCE OUT

Healthy Communities, Queanbeyan – Margot submitted a second submission linking the Jerra Walking Paths Map Brochure with the “Get on Track” and “Just Walk It” projects.

JRA March Minutes – this was sent out to all members on email, advising them of the next meeting, some advice on trail bikes and the Vision consultation being run by QCC at Riverside Plaza.

Mayor Frank Pangallo – we sent the Mayor a list of issues that he agreed to follow up on our behalf from the last meeting.

General Manager, QCC – advising him of our meeting dates for the rest of the year in order to avoid public meetings falling on these dates.

7. TREASURERS REPORT

It was reported that we made \$927-40 from the Easter Raffle. We currently have a bank balance of \$4,939-71. Outgoings for the month were \$127-50 to ProPamphlets and \$60 for our post office box.

8. GENERAL BUSINESS

Easter Raffle. This annual event was a great success and the winners were as follows

- 1st Prize – Snow Weekend for 2 @ Thredbo Alpine Hotel + dinner Saturday night donated by VILLAGE BUILDING COMPANY won by M.Toone of Queanbeyan
- 2nd Prize – Sands of Gallipoli limited edition Medallion Set donated by THE MILITARY SHOP won by L.Burton of Jerrabomberra
- 3rd Prize – Easter Hamper donated by THE JERRABOMBERRA RESIDENTS ASSN. won by L.Basei of Jerrabomberra
- 4th Prize – Two-person hike tent donated by 1ST JERRABOMBERRA SCOUTS won by P.Livingston of Jerrabomberra
- 5th Prize – 10 x double vision movie hire vouchers donated by VIDEO EZY, JERRABOMBERRA won by B.Gordon of Jerrabomberra
- 6th Prize - \$75 voucher + carry bag donated by BAKERS DELIGHT won by L.Moran of Jerrabomberra
- 7th Prize – 2 x \$25 book vouchers donated by NEXTRA NEWSAGENCY won by B.Manning of Jerrabomberra
- 8th Prize - \$50 meal voucher donated by JERRABOMBERRA HOTEL won by J.McLeod
- 9th Prize - \$30 meat voucher donated by UNIQUE MEATS JERRABOMBERRA won by K.Hocking of Jerrabomberra
- 10th Prize - \$25 gift pack donated by SOUL PATTINSON PHARMACY won by Mr.Kosic of Queanbeyan.

The JRA would like to thank all these businesses for their patronage and congratulations to all the winners.

Review and Update of JRA Objectives. The sub-committee, consisting of Tania, Margot and Paul, met a couple of weeks ago and Tania is preparing the first draft. There will be a special meeting in September to finalise this.

Stateline Programme. Stateline are keen to do a programme on the JRA and they will contact us when they have a spot in their programming.

Queanbeyan Vision Meeting. QCC conducted vision displays recently in the Riverside Plaza & Jerrabomberra Shopping Centre, looking at where residents see Queanbeyan in 15 years time and this was a great success. There will be a public meeting on the 20th May, 2006 at the Bicentennial Hall in Queanbeyan and they would like as many as possible to participate.

Village Building Company (VBC). The shopfront at the Jerra Village Shopping Centre is about to re-open again and the JRA encourage people to have a look at what is proposed for Tralee. It was suggested that the opening hours could be advertised on the JRA noticeboard outside Woolies.

MATTERS DISCUSSED WITH THE HON. GARY NAIRN MP, FEDERAL MEMBER FOR EDEN-MONARO & SPECIAL MINISTER OF STATE

ACT Prison – Gary Nairn advised the meeting that he had sought legal advice in the wake of the ACT Government using their call-in powers to approve the gaol application and he was advised that the ACT Government had acted within their powers. Federally, if the Commonwealth had a use for the land at Hume, and it was in the national interest, then they could compulsorily acquire it. NSW residents are not the only ones affected by the gaol as ACT residents using the Monaro Highway to get to and from work will also be slowed down to 80kph. Gary Nairn said he still had some work to do in this regard and was still prepared to keep applying the pressure on the ACT Government. The ACT Opposition are also against the building of a gaol at Hume and would be trying to have the project deferred as there is some concern regarding the ACT Budget. In March 2006, the NSW and ACT Governments signed a Memorandum of Understanding and Settlement Agreement with regard to a cross-border agreement on water and are now awaiting the Territories Minister, Jim Lloyd, to sign off on the Agreement. A question was raised as to whether the JRA has a role to play in the run-up to the ACT Budget and Gary Nairn advised us to continue making submissions and urge friends and relatives in the ACT to do the same - the more pressure that is brought to bear the more chance of the gaol project being deferred. Gary Nairn also issued us with a copy of a Press Release dated 26th April which criticised the blatant hypocrisy of the ACT Government in the use of its ‘call-in’ powers for the Hume Prison. Mr Nairn referred to a draft Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the ACT & NSW dated May, 2005 which stated that “any proposed development bordering the ACT & NSW must be complementary and, where appropriate, integrated with the existing land uses on either side of the border to minimise land use conflict.....”. The fact that the ACT have plans to build a gaol on the ACT/NSW border is in direct conflict with this and Simon Corbell used his “call-in” powers to fast track the Hume Prison before the development principles in the MoU were made public.

Lanyon Drive – Gary Nairn was asked whether the Commonwealth would be contributing funds to complete the duplication of Lanyon Drive down to the Monaro Highway but he advised that from the Lanyon Drive roundabout (at the end of Tompsitt Drive) down to the railway bridge was the responsibility of the NSW Government and from the railway bridge to the Monaro Highway was the ACT Governments responsibility. Money can be obtained from the Commonwealth through the Roads To Recovery scheme and the ACT Government used this scheme last year to fund the new bridge on the Monaro Highway over Newcastle Street at Fyshwick. The ACT Government could apply for funding to duplicate Lanyon Drive but it is up to them to prioritise their requirements – applications for this funding have to be in by the end of April.

Water Agreement – the ACT Government have had control of Googong Dam for a number of years and this has proved troublesome with regard to NSW development. An agreement was drawn up and signed by NSW and ACT and then sent to Territories Minister Jim Lloyd for his approval. He deferred signing it until he had shown it to Gary Nairn who proposed some amendments to the agreement and the signing of the final agreement should take place fairly soon.

Airport Curfew – it is still of great concern that Canberra Airport doesn't have a curfew and the prospect of freight planes coming into Canberra in the early hours of the morning in the future are a real worry to the JRA. Gary Nairn has promised to monitor the situation but confirmed that due to the small amount of freight movements at the moment, there is no chance of a curfew at this stage. It is anticipated that the rail network will be greatly improved and this could bring Parkes back on as a future freight hub, rather than using Canberra Airport.

Edwin Land Parkway – this proposed road has been on the drawing board since, at least 1973 but it was originally just intended as a road rather than a Queanbeyan by-pass as it is now considered. This was before Jerrabomberra was proposed. There are real concerns about it cutting Jerrabomberra in two and will make pedestrian access to the shopping centre an occurrence fraught with danger. There are also concerns that the proposed volume of traffic and the location of the shopping centre will be a disaster zone. Queanbeyan Council have been using Section 94 money to purchase land for the road as the road will run 2 lanes in each direction right through to the start of the Kings Highway when it is eventually finished – it is proposed to link the new development of Googong with the ACT. This proposed by-pass will totally destroy what Jerrabomberra stands for – a quiet, peaceful community. Whilst Gary stated that this was a Council matter, he suggested that we raise our concerns with the Tralee/Googong development inquiry.

3G Mobile Phone Tower – there are plans underway to construct one of these 23m towers in the centre of the large roundabout. Residents within 100m of the tower were notified about this and a number of objections were passed on to the Council. The Mayor and some Councillors recently did a site inspection with concerned residents. This is the only site that has been considered and no other options were even considered. The downside issues are the waves that these towers emit, the fact that it is right at the entrance to Jerrabomberra and will be an eyesore and the fact that it has to be elevated as this roundabout floods when heavy rain falls. The upside issues are better mobile phone coverage and it will also carry data for broadband. Gary Nairn said that there is evidence to support the fact that they are low risk. The company would pay a rental fee to QCC

but would take no responsibility to maintain it. The Council will have to maintain the site, but it is planned to plant shrubs and make it fit in with the environment. The tower does emit some noise from the air-conditioning units and a review of noise levels will be done prior to the next council meeting.

Margot thanked Gary Nairn for attending.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.30pm.

The next meeting of the JRA will be held on Wednesday 24th May, 2006 at 7.30pm in the Acacia Room at the Community Centre and any JRA member is more than welcome to attend.

