

**JERRABOMBERRA RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION INC**  
**MINUTES**  
**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**  
**20 NOVEMBER 2008**

**1. OPENING**

The President, Margot Sachse, welcomed those present to the meeting.

**2. PRESENT**

Brian Brown, Tania Rynne, Jen Lee, Dwayne Keefe, Lorna Kelly, Phill Henry, Jon Hawkins, Mark Croxford, Lyn Edwards, Doug Gordon, Verona Armstrong, Marian Furner, Kim Howatson, Charles Burne, Graeme Dunbar, John Gordon, Patricia Cahill, Paul Whalan, David Hope, Peter Bacon.

**3. APOLOGIES**

Elizabeth Scrivener, Kathryn Tse, John Bowles.

**4. CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES**

**Motion:** That the Minutes of the 2007 Annual General Meeting be accepted.

**Moved:** Lyn Edwards **Seconded:** Doug Gordon **Carried.**

**5. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS AGM MINUTES**

*a) Canberra International Airport* – A motion was moved at the 2007 AGM that the JRA committee meet to develop a strategy in regard to preparing a submission regarding the Airport's Preliminary Draft Master Plan for 2008. The JRA lodged a submission to the PDMP in February 2008.

*b) Dr. Mike Kelly MP* - The JRA were to write to Dr. Kelly, Member for Eden-Monaro, requesting that Dunns Creek Road be included in the Expenditure Review Committee and also to invite him to attend our March or April meeting. Dr Kelly attended our March 2008 meeting.

*c) Dogs Off Lead* – Margot contacted Queanbeyan City Council (QCC) rangers, on 18 December, with regard to a number of complaints that dogs were roaming the streets off-lead and unaccompanied.

*d) Village Shopping Centre* – Hooning and anti-social behaviour around the service station was drawn to our attention at last year's AGM. Lyn contacted Philippa Moss at QCC who advised that the Queanbeyan and Region Liquor Accord is a working group of the SCAN Committee. This group comprises licensees, the police, Council (Road Safety & Community Safety) and Greater Southern Drink Drive Prevention team. As there was no more meetings scheduled for 2007 and the schedule for 2008 had not been developed we were unable to raise this issue with the Accord. It was advised that this matter has since subsided due to the building of the car wash and take away outlet.

*e) Development in the Jerrabomberra Valley* – The JRA supported the Part 3a application for development in the Jerrabomberra Valley however, Queanbeyan Council will now do the rezoning because the NSW Government has made some changes to the rules whereby if you

are a developer and you have made a political donation over \$1,000, then the rezoning application has to go before a committee for a totally independent assessment. This has been set up by the new Minister for Planning, Kristina Keneally, and as none of these panels have been developed yet it brings into question how long the whole process will take, and this could jeopardise the 2011 commencement date of the school. Village Building Co (VBC) have advised that they have withdrawn their Part 3a application and they will proceed with Council going through a Section 65 process. This could be a slow process but if QCC push it along, it could be done relatively quickly.

Margot has been invited to a meeting on Wednesday 26 November with the developers and Council to proceed to look at Council making a move on the Development Application (DA) for the school. It appears that our State Member, Steve Whan, and Federal Member, Dr Mike Kelly, are keen to get the school development moving and are encouraging QCC to proceed quickly.

*f) Building Work on Jerrabomberra Parkway* – Builders making deliveries to working sites and blocking roads was raised at the 2007 AGM. Margot raised this issue with QCC on 18 December 2007 and they informed us that it was a police matter.

## **6. PRESIDENTS REPORT**

Well 2008 was another busy year for the JRA. We continued to work hard to secure our much needed community facilities and by years end we are actually starting to see some real progress on these issues.

### **Airport draft master plan**

The year started with the Canberra Airport releasing its 2008 draft master plan a week after the Federal Election. This draft master plan detailed a number of dramatic changes that alarmed our community in particular the airports desires to become a 24/7 freight hub with most of the freight planes arriving between midnight and 5am – up to 1 plane movement every 2 minutes. In the draft plan the airport predicts that by 2050 that the air traffic at Canberra Airport would be equivalent to what Sydney airport has today; their desire to be Sydney's second airport and the need for a parallel runway. Unlike Sydney Airport, we don't have a night time curfew and have no protection from the ambitious desires of what is currently a regional inner city airport. The JRA prepared a detailed submission on this draft plan.

### **C4C**

In response to the airport draft plan, the JRA was instrumental in forming Curfew 4 Canberra Inc. Its membership draws on the residents associations of Pialligo, Hackett, Watson, North Canberra, Gungahlin and Jerrabomberra and most recently Burra. The key platform is the introduction of a night time curfew at Canberra Airport as the proposed massive airport expansion will impact on the quality of life for all residents of the Canberra region.

Curfew4Canberra core objectives are

- To secure an 11pm-6am curfew;
- To oppose Canberra Airport becoming a 24 hour freight hub;
- To oppose Canberra Airport becoming Sydney's 2nd Airport;
- To oppose the construction of a parallel (third) runway.

The airport has now lodged the draft master plan with the Minister for Infrastructure and we are waiting if it gets approved.

### **Development in the Jerrabomberra Valley**

David Hope and I met with Minister Sartor in Cooma on 12 February to seek an update on when he would be approving development in the Valley. He acknowledged he was ‘dragging the chain’ but he was unable to give us any indication on when he would make his decision. Litigation between Air Services and Village Building Company was concluded on 10 April and consequently the Canberra Airports Practical Ultimate Capacity ANEF was endorsed for technical accuracy on 12 June by Air Services Australia. The ‘dodgy ANEF’ has now removed the option of the ideal high school site on the western side of the Poplars which was extremely disappointing. Then Minister Sartor lost his portfolio as a result of a reshuffle and a new Planning Minister Kristina Keneally was appointed.

Village submitted to Council a revised development plan in October and finally Council approved the amendment to the Queanbeyan Residential and Economic strategy on 12 November, thus giving the green light to the development in the Valley. The JRA did a presentation to Council on this matter requesting that they fast track the high school so that the school could open in 2011. After many false starts, let’s hope that Council proceed with great speed on this development in early 2009 and make the 2011 school opening date a reality.

### **Googong**

Googong Local Environment Plan was placed on public exhibition in late December. Googong when fully developed will be more than twice the size of Jerrabomberra. The key issue for Jerrabomberra residents is the proposal to turn the Edwin Land Parkway into a four-lane highway to carry all the traffic between Googong and Canberra. With 70 percent of residents heading to the ACT each day, it will be a traffic nightmare for our suburb and makes the construction of Dunns Creek Road absolutely critical. The JRA made a submission.

### **Lanyon Drive**

At last are witnessing construction of the first stage of duplication of Lanyon Drive, some 2.5 years after the ACT Government got the Federal funds. Stage 2 and 3 hopefully will happen a bit sooner, but road works will be part of our life for at least the next couple of years on Lanyon Drive.

### **Meet the candidate’s night at Jerra**

The JRA played a very public role in the campaign when we hosted a ‘*Meet the Candidates Night at Jerra*’ on 10 September. This gave the Jerrabomberra community an opportunity to weigh up and compare candidate’s side by side, as well as discussing issues and raising questions about matters directly affecting our community. The JRA provided each Council candidate with a questionnaire seeking policy positions and a commitment on how each would represent us on various issues. The responses were published on our website to help inform our members and the broader Jerrabomberra community of their positions. The evening was a huge success, with more than 80 people attending to put the candidates under the spotlight. Many residents went out of their way to let the JRA Committee know the evening was of great value, and that many had their voting intentions either confirmed or altered once they were able to hear from candidates first hand.

## **Dunns Creek Road**

One of the last things that the previous Council did was on Wednesday 2 July, when they voted to send the proposed Googong development through to NSW Planning for approval. We are really worried that Googong could now proceed without the transport strategy being completed, and without any community consultation on the outcomes of the traffic study.

So concerned about this outcome that both Brian Brown (vice president) and I made presentations to Council asking them to consider the effects the Googong development will have on Jerrabomberra when Edwin Land Parkway is completed within the next two years.

We pointed out the NSW Department of Planning stated:

*“**Prior to any rezoning of Googong, Tralee South, Environs and Poplars being finalised the Council is to develop a transport strategy to service the new residential and employment lands at south Jerrabomberra and Googong.**”*

When Council was confronted by us with this information and reminded this was a direction from the Department of Planning, did they finally give due consideration to the residents of Jerrabomberra? Unfortunately, no.

The JRA has great concern over the lack of attention given to the clear need for Dunns Creek Road to be a condition of any future development. Jerrabomberra must not become a by-pass for Queanbeyan. We must be bypassed. Nor should our suburb become the main road to Googong.

The JRA's position is Dunns Creek Road **MUST** be a condition of consent for the Googong development, and the future construction of Dunns Creek Road **MUST** be linked to a specific dwelling approval number within Googong, No weasel words or vague escape clauses should be accepted or tolerated.

One of the key issues raised in relation to DCR is cost. The construction of DCR is supported by both our Federal and State members. The JRA has had discussed funding of DCR at both the State and Federal level. Based on our discussions the JRA is confident that our elected State and Federal representatives will fight hard to get funds to ensure DCR is built.

The JRA believes that Council should show full leadership and commitment to the construction of DCR. This will ensure that the cost burden does not fall on Council but rather the Federal and State governments. The developers who will profit from these proposed developments must contribute to the construction of DCR on a per block basis.

We do not want Googong to be another Gungahlin – isolated with poor road infrastructure and the rest of Queanbeyan being the dumping ground for yet another transport planning debacle.

## **Management Plan**

We had great success on the 5 key items we put forward to council for inclusion in the draft management plan. These were the completion of the footpaths on the main roads, further funding to continue with the establishment of Jerrabomberra Park; funding for the implementation of the Malicious Damage Crime Prevention Plan; a guard rail to be constructed on the Jerrabomberra Roundabout; and heating for the toddler's pool.

### **General Donations**

We were also very fortunate to receive \$3,055 from QCC General Donations Scheme. It was the largest amount allocated and will be spent renewing the noticeboards on Tomsitt Drive early in the New Year.

With all the fencing around Stringybark Reserve and Mt Jerrabomberra, the trail bike issue has virtually disappeared however the biggest issue this year was graffiti. We seem to have a couple of people who plaster their 'tag' on just about anything. The toilet block at Madew Oval has copped a real hammering in the past 12 months and whilst Council regularly are out to clean it up, we need to find a more cost effective way to stop a couple of people defacing our community property.

### **Presentations**

We provided an open forum for key community leaders and the community during the year. JRA members were able to meet and discuss various issues with Member for Eden-Monaro Dr Mike Kelly in March, James Singer from Deanes Bus Lines in June and farewelled long standing Queanbeyan Mayor Frank Pangallo in August.

The JRA is seen as a leading regional community advocate on a number of issues and it is praise indeed that we now get requests to speak to other resident and community groups, like last week when Brian and I spoke at BURRA.

This year has been a year of some major achievements with many of our long standing issues coming to fruition. I wish to thank the committee for their hard work to make sure that the views of the JRA are represented.

I wish to thank our secretary Lyn Edwards for her hard work and great support as JRA secretary this year. A big thanks to Brian Brown for 'holding the fort' for the month after Aiden was born as well as for his unwavering enthusiasm and passion to make Jerra a better place.

I would also like David Hope looking after our website. Tania Rynne – thanks for keeping the books and particularly keeping track of our membership lists and email addresses.

Thank you to committee members Paul Whalan, Mark Croxford, Doug Gordon – our power station guru, and Kim Goiser for their continuous help through out the year on everything from the JRA raffle to all the correspondence that we generate. Together we make a great team.

Last but no means least, a huge thank you to my husband Stephen Davie for his support that gives me time to be involved with the JRA.

Thank you

**Motion:** That the Presidents Report be accepted and on behalf of the JRA membership, Brian thanked Margot for her efforts for what has been another busy and very productive year.

**Moved:** Brian Brown **Seconded:** David Hope **Carried.**

## 7. TREASURERS REPORT

Tania tabled the audited statement and advised that over the last year we raised \$30 from the wine tasting, \$1,440 in subscriptions, \$354 from the sale of candles at the Carols by Candlelight, \$959 from the Easter raffle, \$3,055 from the General Donations grant from QCC giving a total of \$6,238 received over the last year. Monies outgoing included \$128 in bank fees, \$150 for signs, \$63 on catering, \$981 for delivery of the Newsletter, \$100 to Curfew 4 Canberra, \$269 for a gazebo, \$70 for annual statement to Fair Trading, \$363 for stationery, \$25 stall fee @ Rotary Fair, \$861 for public liability insurance, \$100 for Easter raffle basket, \$31 for archive storage container, giving the total amount of expenditure at \$3,865-11. The bank balance as at 31 October 2008 was \$6,376-68.

**Motion:** That the Treasurers Report be accepted

**Moved:** Margot Sachse **Seconded:** David Hope **Carried.**

The JRA also took the opportunity to acknowledge the contribution made by Canberra Investment Corporation (CIC) who pays the cost of printing the JRA Newsletter 3 times each year. CIC have been covering the cost of the newsletter for at least the last 12 years and the JRA wish to thank them for their support.

## 8. ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS

All current office bearers vacated their positions. The new committee for 2009 is as follows

<b>PRESIDENT</b>	Margot Sachse
<b>VICE PRESIDENT</b>	Brian Brown
<b>SECRETARY</b>	Lyn Edwards
<b>TREASURER</b>	Tania Rynne (temporary)
<b>PUBLIC OFFICER</b>	Doug Gordon
<b>COMMITTEE MEMBER</b>	David Hope
<b>COMMITTEE MEMBER</b>	Mark Croxford
<b>COMMITTEE MEMBER</b>	Kim Howatson
<b>COMMITTEE MEMBER</b>	Jon Hawkins
<b>COMMITTEE MEMBER</b>	Phill Henry

Margot thanked outgoing committee member and former JRA President, Paul Whalan, for his contribution over the past 5 years.

## 9. GUEST SPEAKER: MAYOR OF QUEANBEYAN, TIM OVERALL

Margot thanked Tim Overall for agreeing to be tonight's guest speaker.

***Change of Business Practice in Council*** – In 1993 the Local Government Act came into being and this Act clearly defined the role of Councillors, Mayors, General Managers and Council staff in very clear terms. Shire Clerks became General Managers with the day-to-day responsibility for implementing the policies of the elected council where, before 1993, the Mayor had been in charge. The General Manager now has clear responsibility for all operational matters. The role of the Mayor is to chair the meetings of Council, hold a leadership position within the community, is the public face of the Council and is responsible for all public affairs and media aspects and is the only person entitled to speak on behalf of

Council, unless another person is delegated the task. The Mayor also has a delegated authority to handle urgent priority matters between Council meetings.

There have been some changes with the newly elected Council and they are doing things a little differently. A number of workshops have been held to ensure that the new Councillors are fully aware of their respective roles – Councillors can't interact directly with staff but can deal with the Directors or General Manager and are encouraged to do so.

Council meetings were previously held every 3 weeks but are now held on the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of every month. On the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of every month a Planning and Development Review Committee (PDRC) meeting is held to consider development applications and planning matters only. The reason for doing that is to have a higher regularity of meetings so as to streamline both processes of handling development applications and ordinary business of council. Both these meetings start at 5.30pm. Tim Overall stressed that the PDRC meeting is not as formal as the Council meeting and there is an opportunity for public presentations and an opportunity to ask questions of the proponent and for plans to be brought out and further explained.

Council have also established a CBD redevelopment committee to look at major matters regarding the town centre. Three expressions of interest have already been lodged for development works involving the 2 council carparks – one behind the Leagues Club and the Morrisett St. car park. The CBD Redevelopment Committee will give consideration to these proposals as well as the CBD master plan.

Council has 20 advisory committees that advise Council on a wide range of matters and a working party has been formed to review them. This review will come before Council next week (26 November).

Margot asked what the procedure was for members of the general public to nominate for a position on these committees. The process will be as it was in the past where the committees would publicly call for interested parties to express an interest to join the committee – this is usually done every 2 years.

A question was raised in regard to recent salary adjustments and as to whom the General Manager is accountable – the General Manager is accountable to the full Council. Council has appointed a Performance Review Panel, the General Manager has a performance agreement linked to his performance contract and the Performance Review Panel sits down with a facilitator to agree the performance parameters on an annual basis. An annual performance report is put to Council at the end of that 12 month timeframe. The General Manager and staff Directors have just been granted pay increases where it was found by independent review that salary levels were out of line with local government across NSW.

***Lack of Engineering Staff*** – The problem of lack of engineering staff has delayed projects across the region, including the Jerrabomberra Community Centre car park and the traffic calming measures on Bicentennial Drive. A couple of these positions have now been filled and also a new Director of Engineering has been appointed to replace Greg Fogarty who is retiring in the New Year.

***Edwin Land Parkway*** - It is hoped that Edwin Land Parkway will go out to tender in March 2009, with construction anticipated to commence around June 2009. The road works should

be finalised by 2010. Tim Overall assured us that when the plans are finalised and made available to Council, the JRA would be given an opportunity to view them and a flyer sent out to all residents informing them of what they were proposing to do and would also provide a display at the shopping centre. We were also given assurances that this process would not happen over Christmas or during the school holidays.

It was suggested that the JRA might host a night with the engineers where the JRA and local residents could view the plans and Tim Overall confirmed that he thought it was a good idea.

***Car park between Gym & Community Centre*** – It is the intention to have this car park completed by the end of this financial year and the plans should be completed by the end of January or February 2009.

***Expansion of Jerrabomberra Community Centre*** – there are plans to double the footprint of the centre at a cost of between \$800,000 and \$1million. There has been consultation with user groups of the Centre and with the JRA however, the JRA have queried whether it is the best way to spend the remaining Section 94 funds. Additional community facilities will be built as part of the new Tralee/Poplars Development so maybe the money could be more wisely spent. The JRA have previously conveyed their views on this matter to the General Manager.

A question from the floor asked whether the extension to the Community Centre would include a preschool and Tim Overall assured us that he would look into this.

Brian Brown noted that the Jerrabomberra Preschool Action Group has already spoken with the General Manager in respect to locating a DOCs approved demountable preschool at the eastern end of the extended community centre; discussions have been underway for some time and are continuing.

***South Jerrabomberra*** – Tim Overall advised that last week the Council endorsed the new revised map for the Residential and Economic Strategy 2031 and Council sought a meeting with the NSW Planning Minister, Kristina Keneally, to table this strategy. Tim Overall and the General Manager had the opportunity to meet with the Minister during the afternoon following the Country Mayors Meeting on 18 November 2008. The importance of Dunns Creek Road was raised with the Minister who advised that she had received representations from both the State Member, Steve Whan, and the Federal Member, Dr Mike Kelly in this regard and was aware of the issue.

***Australian Council of Local Government*** – Margot asked Tim Overall how Council would be spending the \$721,000 received at this Forum. This money has to be spent on community infrastructure and must be expended by September 2009. Tim Overall will be meeting with the General Manager and Senior Directors to discuss this issue and some proposals that have been put forward. There won't be any time to hold community forums and public meetings for input but the Mayor suggested that if anyone has any ideas to send them in. Areas where the money could be spent are sports facilities, sports fields, improved streetscapes, community halls or showgrounds, that can be done within a 6-9 month time frame.

***Local Sporting Facilities*** - Council have already passed a motion to look into and review the city's sporting facilities and come up with a priority plan – this has already begun but will

take several months. A great many ovals and sports amenities have been neglected over the years in terms of upgrade expenditures.

**Graffiti** – Margot commented on the increased incidents of graffiti around Jerrabomberra especially the toilet block at Madew Oval. Is there a possibility that this building can be used to trial non-graffiti paint? Council are looking at the latest products on the market. The problem is rife across the whole of this region, some in Seiffert Oval and Taylor Park has been there over 2 years and this has now been cleaned up. The bus interchange was also covered in graffiti until recently. The council are looking at new policies and measures to help combat this problem.

Dwayne Keefe stated that as part of the Malicious Damage Prevention Strategy (MDPS) last year, one of the things that they were hoping to do was to get more police in Jerrabomberra but in order to do that the crimes have to be logged through the PAL system and be recorded however, in order for a crime to be reported on Council property, Council is the one that has to report it. Tim Geyer has said that it takes, on average, 20 minutes to report each one individually, and as there isn't the manpower to do this, these crimes aren't being reported to the police, therefore we can't get the number of police out here because they say there is no crime in Jerrabomberra. Is it possible that Council members can fax this information to the police so that they are aware of the number of incidents taking place? Tim Overall assured us that he would look into this matter.

Brian Brown asked whether this matter could be put on the agenda for the next Police Accountability Community Team (PACT) meeting – Tim Overall agreed to speak to Tim Geyer about this matter.

**Lanyon Drive** – There was a question from the floor as to what is happening with the duplication of Lanyon Drive. Lanyon Drive is being duplicated in 3 Stages over a period of 2 years and the plans are available for viewing on the RTA website.

Council is currently undertaking a traffic modelling study into the effects of traffic from Googong and Tralee and this predicts what traffic volumes will be occurring as these developments proceed over the years, and is nearing completion. The traffic modelling study is also understood to address traffic planning re the Dunn's Creek Road and northern corridor (Canberra Avenue/Harman via north Oaks Estate to Pialligo Road) by-pass proposals.

**JRA's Interaction with Council** - David Hope asked the Mayor how the JRA could better interact with the Mayor and Council staff to affect decision-making.

Tim Overall stated that the JRA need to make Councillors more aware of exactly what the JRA's role is and how they consult with the community. When dealing with Council, feel free to contact the Mayor directly, and copy the General Manager in if you believe it appropriate. However, if we are dealing with the General Manager on a specific project, then please copy the Mayor in too, if you consider that appropriate. That way all parties will be across all JRA issues.

Brian Brown stressed to Tim Overall, that the JRA is more than happy to assist Council to facilitate meetings in Jerrabomberra or use our extensive networks to help get information out to the community.

Margot thanked the Mayor, Tim Overall, for attending our meeting.

#### **10. GENERAL BUSINESS**

**a) Bendigo Bank** – Brian Brown advised that representatives of the Bank will be at the local shops for anyone who wishes to gain more information or to make a pledge.

**b) Queanbeyan Hospital** – Brian Brown advised that the new Queanbeyan Hospital was opened today and that access maps are now on display at the community notice board outside Woolworths. Brian also advised that he is a community representative on the Queanbeyan Health Services Advisory Committee and as such, is able to take any local health services concerns forward to Greater Southern Area Health Services via this committee. If you have any concerns regarding local health services issues please call Brian on 62999613.

**c) Wine Tasting** – Margot advised that the wine tasting will be held on Friday 28 November from 7-9pm at the community centre and will be a great night.

As there was no further business, the meeting closed at 9.25pm

Dr Mike Kelly AM, MP will be our special guest speaker at our next meeting.

The next meeting of the JRA will be a committee meeting to be held on Wednesday 10 December, 2008 at 7.30 in the Banksia Room at the Community Centre and anyone is welcome to attend.