

**Hackett Community Association
Committee Meeting at ACT Sports House, Hackett:**

Tuesday 17 November 2009.

Present: James Walker (Chair), Max Huntington, Patrick McNamara, Lorraine Mason, Laura Turnbull, Dorothy Mackenzie, Kieran Vaughan

Apologies: Bruce Smith, Terry de Luca

Minutes of last meeting: Accepted Bruce Smith/James Walker with corrections under Car Parking. Second sentence should read "This may not be an appropriate use of that space..."

Treasurer's Report: Lorraine reported that the closing balance as at 30 October, 2009 in the bank totals \$1,133.16.

Business:

- 1. Monash Drive. National Capital Planning Authority** is calling for submissions to remove Monash Drive off the Territory Plan.
 - One letter of reply needs to be written on our behalf. Will Secretary please write the submission?
 - At every previous consultation and at public meetings the majority of residents of Hackett expressed a wish to get Monash Drive off the Plan.
 - People expressed a wish for Hackett to remain the quiet suburb near to the Nature Reserve of Mt Majura with no expressway between houses and the Park.
 - Other suburbs will be affected if this goes ahead one day so need to send their own submissions.
 - There ensued a long discussion of the traffic problems of Hackett in the early peak hour period – "If Monash Dr. goes we are left with rat running". It's not so much the quantity of traffic but speed. Madigan and Maitland affected mainly, though some people in Phillip Ave can't get out of their driveways. There are no signs saying Maitland is 50 kmh. Need Traffic lights or a pedestrian crossing on Madigan for children crossing from Upper Hackett to the School. Traffic calming in form of bumps or refuges may be a way to slow speeds – but if there is a formal crossing should be lit at night. Max thinks that the ACT Govt would not build a road like this as it would cost too much money. Majura Parkway may alleviate problems of Gungahlin residents need for proper access.

2. Investigation for proposal for bike paths for ACT: Chairman James informed the meeting that there will be a community consultation early in the new year. As there won't be another formal meeting this year we need to be fully briefed on our proposal for increased use of bike paths.

- Hackett (and Watson) are not part of the City's bike path system.
- The end of the bike path from Dickson College is very unsatisfactory and some cyclists end up in the DC carpark.
- Not safe- The bridge needs to be widened.
- The bike path should continue by some route to Hackett Shopping Centre.
- A bike path along the burn behind Ainslie has been suggested. Campbell High students use this dirt path at the moment and they need a safe way to travel away from the roads. Work needs doing to alleviate the dangers of this route especially the gullies. It would be very costly to construct a bitumen path – machinery etc.
- Suggestions and responses need to be asked from the community – perhaps through the newsletter.

3. ACT Roads email. Patrick read this out to the meeting.

- **Traffic Lights** – can't be switched off. Have to be full time not part-time
- **Maitland Street**- plan for restrictions to cars turning down this street off Madigan.
- **Madigan Street**- speed cameras – mobile speed camera vans has been added to list for assessment.
- **ACT Policing** will be asked to focus on the Hackett area.
- Laura suggested that we ask the Secretary to send a letter thanking ACT Roads? We are pleased that they've heard our concerns and we'll watch with interest.
- **Max** asked how lights at Majura/Phillip would discourage people to cut through Hackett streets and there was a discussion on timing of lights so that cars from Antill on Phillip Ave would have preference to cars that have used Madigan and Phillip.

- **The key issue is safety** – especially of children walking to school.
4. **Letter to Blue Gum School** re parking on grass area behind school.
 - Question of who is legally responsible for this area and what is its status.
 - Car parks fill quickly but Parents need part of the car park for “Drop Off” only.
 - Parents are using tracks behind the school so that young chn can be dropped off and picked up.
 - Need to get the stakeholders - Blue Gum, Sports House and HCA together to sit down as there are a number of issues for the school. The verbal approach is a softer approach rather than through letters.
 - Max volunteered to find out the status of the land behind Blue Gum. Then James and Laura will make a time to talk to the Principal.
 5. **Volunteers for Various Working Groups.** This will be left until next year.
 6. **NHW Editor** – Patrick was asked how the position will be filled. He is still asking around for expressions of interest.
 7. **Christmas Get Together for Committee members** - 15 December, 7.30 pm. Venue will be decided and an email sent to all involved.
 8. **The meeting closed at 9.00 pm**
 9. **Next meeting will be third Tuesday in February, 2010.**