

**Hackett Community Association
Annual General Meeting**

**7.30pm, Tuesday 29 September 2009
St Margaret's Church Hall**

Present: [as recorded in attendance book]

[Note: this meeting following an initial meeting on 22 September, which was not quorate - largely due to incredibly inclement weather]

James Walker opened the meeting and welcomed everyone

Minutes of AGM of 20 September, accepted (Bruce/Dorothy)

Treasurer's report

Lorraine reported that the balance for the Association is \$1,030.16. Report accepted (Lorraine/Terry)

Chair's Report: (attached)

In his verbal report James highlighted a number of key developments for HCA over the last year:

- Not enough use made of working groups
- Difficult to generate interest in community activities for a number of reasons:
 - Hackett not a community yet
 - Increase in younger families - less time to spend on community activities
 - Also strong NIMBY factor
- Some very successful activities:
 - Waltraud's work with FoMM
 - Jochen's work with NCCC
 - Dorothy's work with Neighbourhood Watch
- In contrast, the Sir John Hackett Essay Competition was not successful
- Another success was the Hackett section of the NCCC website
- Traffic has got worse over the year:
 - a public meeting was held in November, but limited agreement about how to move forward - objections even to traffic lights
 - some relief may be provided with Majura Parkway, but that will be limited, and has issues of its own
 - some good recent publicity on TV and radio
- Additional highlights for the community over the last year were:
 - Arrival of the Majura SES at the old Band Hut
 - HCA's support for a community garden
 - Success of National Tree Day and Clean Up Australia Day

Future challenges

- Traffic problems will continue - working group will need support
- Possible Hackett 50 year book
- Streamlined bike path access
- Toilets at shops
- Tables and seats under trees at shops
- Polling place for Hackett

James also extended his congratulations to people in Hackett honoured for their volunteer work.

Chair's report accepted (James/Jochen)

Jochen also moved a vote of thanks for the work of the Committee over the last year.

Amendment to Constitution

It was agreed to amend section 8 of the HCA Constitution to add a clause stipulating that:

“The Committee may remove from the membership roll anyone who has, for 2 years, ceased to participate in the Association through either:

- (a) not paying their annual subscription; or
- (b) other criteria determined by the Committee”

Elections:

- **Chair:** James Walker
- **Deputy Chair:** Max Huntington
- **Treasurer:** Lorraine Mason
- **Assistant Treasurer:** Terry de Luca
- **Secretary:** Bruce Smith
- **Assistant Secretary:** Dorothy Mackenzie
- **Public Officer:** Laura Turnbull
- **General Committee:** Waltraud Pix, Jochen Zeil, Keiran Vaughan

General business

50 year book: will need to set up a working group to support this project.

Frequency and nature of meetings: Terry proposed that meetings be held every second month, which will decrease the pressure on people. In addition:

- James suggested that there be a couple of daytime events for people who can't get out at night. These could be in place of some committee meetings and could take the form of a “Meet the Committee” morning at the local café (when open)
- Jochen suggested that in “off months” we organise a talk instead from politicians or community activists

Email distribution: It was agreed that email addressees should be done as “BCC”, and that all emails go through the Secretary (with a phone call to him to notify)

Christmas dinner: agreed that we should have one this year.

Casuarina trail: Waltraud said that the new trail would be launched this Friday by the Chief Minister - the Committee congratulated Waltraud on this achievement.

CHAIR'S REPORT

Administration

Nine Committee meetings have been held since the last AGM. Average attendance was 6 Committee members and 1.5 HCA members.

During the year the Committee had to move from the Friends of Blue Gum Lounge to ACT Sports House, where it currently meets, on the 3rd Tuesday of most months. All HCA members are entitled to attend the Committee meetings and may be invited to speak.

This year not enough use was made of working groups and the Committee had to deal with subjects which would have been better left to the groups.

Overview of activities

The last year was a very mixed one for Hackett. Unfortunately HCA is still a community association representing a suburb which is not really a community. There is still a great deal of indifference and unfortunately of NIMBY. Some of our representatives are not really aware of us until something happens.

On the other hand, we also have a very active group of people who are working very hard indeed on Hackett's behalf both in HCA and in other groups, and they have had some successes.

Our Sir John Hackett essay competition was, alas, a complete flop as there were no entries in spite of considerable publicity and encouragement from outside Hackett.

NCCC have created a North Canberra website <http://northcanberra.org.au/> and Hackett and HCA have their own segments. Those having internet access are encouraged to access the site for up-to-date information.

Our traffic problems continue. HCA has continued to explore relief options with Roads ACT and held a public meeting at the Friends of Blue Gum School Lounge in November. At the meeting there were a large number of options put forward, most of which also received objections. While there was general agreement that something needed to be done, there was also considerable disagreement as to what (with a great deal of NIMBY). Traffic lights at the intersection of Phillip and Majura Avenues seems to be the preferred options, but even this has been objected to. Roads ACT put traffic lights forward for the current ACT Budget but this was not successful. Roads ACT will try again next year.

Roads ACT has responded to a number of questions that HCA has put forward and these will be discussed later in the meeting. Some relief may be provided in the longer term by the development of Majura Parkway, but this has a number of problems of its own (these are being addressed by the NCCC).

Over the last few weeks the traffic problem has received some media attention with the Chair being approached by the ABC and the *Canberra Chronicle*. On Wednesday

16th the Chair was interviewed by the ABC and part of this interview was carried on the news on ABC-FM and 666 the next morning. Thursday also saw the Chair and the NCCC Chair being interviewed at the Majura/Phillip Ave intersection and this carried on ABC-1 news that night and on the ABC website.

Traffic will be an on-going problem for Hackett, especially as the past weekend saw the announcement that the ACT's population was expected to reach 400,000 by 2020.

A major development in the suburb's life this year has been the arrival of the Majura SES at the old Band Hut. At the November committee meeting SES representatives attended to brief us. HCA was represented at the opening of their new base.

During the year HCA was asked to support the creation of a community garden and the Committee agreed to do so. While the application to the ACT Government was unsuccessful, the Committee still supports this project in the longer term.

HCA was asked to support the Clean Up Australia Day and agreed to do so.

The Future

Traffic concerns will continue to be a subject for HCA activity and any member who wishes to be involved should join the working group. Other items for consideration could include: a Hackett 50 year book; more streamlined bike path access from Hackett to the city; public toilets at the shops - the shopkeepers have been after this for some time; tables and seats under the trees at the shops - if finances permit perhaps HCA could meet part of the cost; a polling place for Hackett. Other matters, which people wish to be considered, should be sent to the Secretary.

James Walker
Chair

22 September 2009