

**Hackett Community Association  
Committee meeting  
14 February 2017**

**Present** – Greg Haughey, Marion Williams, Chris Mobbs, Kay Murphy, Terry de Luca and Bruce Smith

Apologies: Jean Chesson

**Minutes:** The Minutes from November were accepted. Greg reported that he had written to the Hackett shops but there had been no response to the request to develop a joint vision for the future of the shops.

**Treasurer's report:** Terry reported that the current balance is \$2,673.29. Funding from the North Canberra Community Council has not yet been received. The amount in the account is a useful buffer for cash flow.

**Trees at the oval:** Chris reported that the ACT Minister for Transport and City Services (Meegan Fitzharris) had responded to the letter written last year and that a meeting was held with City Services. They recognised the need for the trees to be replaced, but also believed that there is no rush for this to be done. They agreed, however, that while there is no urgency, they will develop a plan to identify the trees for replacement in sequence. They may not replace pines with pines - eucalypts last longer. Chris summarized by saying that the ACT Government will engage with the HCA to seek community views on the plan.

**Bragg Street Park:** Chris reported that he had sent a plan to Patrick Nolan in City Services. They see this park as one of the first parks in Adopt-a-park scheme commencing in 2017-18. Chris to hold a meeting in March with the local community to take this forward.

**Other tree issues:**

- There was a discussion about tape around the trees at Phillip Ave - its positive community action aimed at preserving them. This will result in mature trees over time
- Marian reported that trees in Mills St need to be cut back. It was agreed that this needs to be reported – they are very overgrown. Chris agreed to submit request to Fix my Street.

**Hackett shops:** Chris reported that he had looked at studies of successful shopping centres and also asked if the ACT Government had done any studies. They reported that no, there haven't been any. They pointed to some shopping centres that have been rejuvenated – eg. Ainslie, Curtin, Aranda.

Nick Bakker from the ACT Government came to see the shops with Chris and made a number of observations:

- Under planning we couldn't have another eatery where the Chinese restaurant used to be - this will need a change of lease (Chris said that he would be happy to take up with the ACT Government to see if the price of variation could be lowered)
- Area in front of the shops needs painting, the notice board is useless, the sign needs repainting and perhaps some art works. He will advise on possible avenues for grants.

There was a discussion about whether it would be desirable to have toilets at the shops – there were various reservations about whether this was a good idea:

- they may lead to drugs etc and general unsavoury behaviour
- they would not be an attractive look right at the front of the shops
- Possibly better to focus on general rejuvenation, including murals, sculptures,

It was agreed that we need to engage the shopkeepers on this - they should be part of discussion.

**Forward Planning for events:** Greg talked about the need to articulate the events for the year ahead:

- We should hold the Party at the Shops in late October or early September
- We should hold 3 Contact Days over the year - party at shops would be de facto 4<sup>th</sup>
- We could consider having some Committee meetings at Wilburs- this could be more visible and inviting
- We could move Committee meetings back to the other building, but we would have to get keys from Fyshwick

Greg will draft some dates.

**50 year book:** Greg said he is happy to keep progressing this, but will have to hand on soon. It was agreed that he would hand the material over to Chris:

- We should look at the Curtin 50<sup>th</sup> book as an example.
- We should put a version out and see what people can contribute
- Lots of people have offered, they really need to be brought in to the project

## Events

Terry reported that Clean up Australia will be on 5 March. The focus will be on Antill St and also Kellaway St.

## Other business

**Community garden:** There was a discussion about an initiative to establish a vegetable garden by a group of residents around Gilruth Street. Two views put forward were:

- this is a positive “grassroots” development using underutilized space and should be encouraged
- it is positive, but should have a wider community-focused remit (involving as many people as possible) from the beginning as the basis for a genuine community garden.

**Meeting times:** There was discussion about moving the monthly meetings to Monday or Wednesdays, but the final view was that Tuesdays suit people better.

**Handover from Greg to Chris:** Greg reported that he would be leaving for Perth in late March, and that this would be his second-last meeting. Chris confirmed that he is willing to take over as Chair and this was unanimously supported. Greg and Chris made arrangement to handover the physical assets in Greg’s possession.

In regard to the HCA website, Greg offered to continue to maintain the website from Perth. He also argued that there is a strong case for continuing to have a separate HCA website from the Hackett Community website.

The meeting finished 9.00pm

New agreed actions	Status
Chris to work with ACT Government on Bragg St Park meeting in March	
Need to engage Hackett shopkeepers on whether toilets at shops are a good idea	
Greg to draft dates for forward planning for events	Done – initial email sent 25 February.
Greg to handover to Chris: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- 50<sup>th</sup> year book</li><li>- physical assets of Association</li></ul>	

Greg to continue to maintain website from Perth	Ongoing
<b>Previous agreed actions</b>	
<p>Bruce to write to Government:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• thanking them for path to shops</li> <li>• asking about toilets at shops</li> <li>• asking about electrical outlet at shops</li> <li>• nature strip near Hackett shops</li> </ul>	Done – no response received yet
<p>Greg to write to shops:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• thanking them for donations and other contributions to Party at Shops</li> <li>• stating that we are looking forward to working with them</li> <li>• asking them for suggestions for improvements and joint actions with HCA</li> </ul>	Done – no response received yet
Chris to approach ACT Government to find out how “micro parks” in urban areas and “adopt-a-park” could work in Hackett	Done – as reported in minutes