

**Old Narrabundah Community Council Inc.**

**Monthly Meeting**

Monday, 10 May, 7 – 8.20pm

Tennis Hut, Kootara Crescent

Chair: John Keeley

Attendees: As per Attendance Sheet ([Attachment 1](#))

Apologies: Chris Murray, Allan Swan, Andy Botham, Gary Kent, Lalage Cherry, Sarah Liston

**MINUTES**

Tony L opened the meeting with an acknowledgement of Country, in his Wiradjuri language (later explaining his words in English), including acknowledging the traditional lands of the Ngunnawal people – the traditional owners of the land on which we meet – and Ngunnawal people past and present.

John noted that Alma Murray (Chris's mum), the last of the ONCC originals from 1998, and last of the local Murray Family farm owners, had sadly passed away. The meeting acknowledged her life and contributions and paid respects to Chris and the family.

**Item 1. Public notice board**

Following on from discussion at last month's meeting, members agreed unanimously that the community needed a public notice board at the shops. John will write to local members and TCCS to request support for a community notice board.

**Item 2. Previous minutes and matters arising from March 2021 meeting**

Victoria moved (seconded by Tony B) that the meeting accept the previous minutes, with one amendment to reflect Riks involvement in the community gardens (at item 5). The meeting agreed unanimously. Mark will finalise the April minutes to reflect the agreed amendment.

**Item 3. Vote on materials and equipment management protocol for the tennis courts and gardens**

The draft protocol had been provided to members prior to the April meeting. It was discussed at that meeting and members were given 5 weeks to consider and provide comment, on the understanding that a vote would occur at the next meeting in May. In that time, only one response had been forthcoming (from Rik, received a few hours before the May meeting and proposed vote).

A robust discussion ensued. Rik endorsed the broad sentiment of the protocol but outlined some concerns about perceived exclusivity (coming through some the wording) and highlighting his previous efforts to ensure good management of materials. Tony B also raised some concerns about the text suggesting it could be framed in a more positive light.

Mark (and others) acknowledged past efforts, but did not share the concerns raised – suggesting instead that the protocol was in fact not exclusive, but simply worded to ensure that tennis court-related materials were stored/managed on the tennis court site; with garden-related materials stored/managed at the garden sites. That this would serve as a good basis for future management of both sites, particularly in light of pending tennis court upgrades, and would help to prevent any potential return to the previous/historic cluttered status.

Victoria put a motion (seconded by Tony B) that members be given an additional 2 weeks to consider and provide comments on the draft protocol. Members agreed the motion unanimously. Any comments to be provided to Bron by COB Monday 24 May. After that, if there are any areas or further contention, members will need to meet out-of-session to resolve. The draft protocol will be voted on at the next meeting in June.

Rik mentioned that he was continuing to work on developing partnerships for the gardens. Victoria mentioned that the garden committee had met twice in recent times. Victoria tabled the minutes from those meeting, and wanted to ensure broader visibility of garden efforts by the ONCC committee and

members. Members agreed that the tennis sub-committee, garden sub-committee and overarching ONCC committee should endeavour to be more closely joined up, going forward.

Rik invited members to do a 'walk around' of the sites (at 2.00pm, Sunday 16 May), to share ideas.

#### **Item 4. Update on tennis court upgrade grant application**

John advised that Andy had been in touch with the relevant Department and that an outcome on our grant application was still pending (hopeful of an announcement one way or the other prior to our next ONCC meeting in June).

On other tennis-related matters, John and Mark had met with the tennis coach (Mick) to see how he was going. Mick remains enthusiastic. He has conducted around 15 tennis coaching sessions since he started and wants to maintain a core training group throughout winter – looking to expand and increase tennis participation through spring and the daylight-saving summer months. He keeps a log of his sessions and will pay his hire fees once he gets to 20. John will contact Mick to make arrangements for payment.

#### **Item 5. Update on ONCC website and booking system**

John advised that we have now formally engaged Lance (Gaffer Designs) to maintain the ONCC website (\$385 per year). Bron will continue to manage the website, including drafting website content and coordinating news items which she will then send to Lance to upload – an arrangement that has already led to vastly improved efficiencies.

John advised the good news that Lance is trialling the SquareUp booking system, with confirmation that it is working well under trial conditions. Lance will hold off setting up the account until we go live.

John strongly impressed upon members the need to utilise the [info@narrabundah.org.au](mailto:info@narrabundah.org.au) email address for all community or ONCC related matters/questions. He encouraged members to share this address with other community members as needed. This is the best way to get a response to issues, as it goes directly to John and Bron.

#### **Item 6. Update on Friends of Narrabundah Wetlands**

Tony L noted a Frog Watch event held at the wetlands, on 2 May, attended by around 10 people. He commended the tour and the excellent presentation given on the day. Tony noted that he and Sarah will undertake the ChemCert course and that Sarah would be handing over leadership of the group to Eleanor.

Sarah, Tony L, John and Eleanor will meet to discuss responsibilities attached to her new role. John invited anyone interested in undertaking a First Aid course to let him know, as the Molonglo Catchment Group might be in a position to support along with TCCS Urban Parks and Places Volunteering (UPP).

#### **Item 7. Update on DA approvals in Old Narrabundah**

John reported that the DA to build 4 public housing homes on 2 blocks, at the bottom of Tallara Parkway, had been approved despite public objections. This is a sensitive issue for some neighbours who are close by, and it also, if done in more locations, increases the public housing footprint in the neighbourhood above the current 30 per cent. Increasing public housing should have a commensurate increase in supportive infrastructure and services.

#### **Item 8. Artwork for Narrabundah shop walls**

John advised that he had heard about a proposal to promote artwork on the walls surrounding the steps at the front of the Narrabundah shops. Any such initiative would present a great opportunity to involve the community. John asked if anyone heard anything more on this, to let him know. He referenced the missed opportunity during the 'hands on wall' artwork at the public toilets (where TCCS failed to engage the wider community). Watch this space.

#### **Item 9. Inner South Canberra Community Council update**

John directed members to the ONCC website <https://narrabundah.org.au/> for an update on ISCCC priorities, including a focus on the new 'huge' ACT review on planning (yet another one).

## **Item 10. Other matters**

John reported on financials, noting our current balance at \$3,773, but with a number of bills to acquit (including water bill, water meter, rotary hoe hire and electricity).

John noted that he could not contact a new member, signed up during the festival, because his handwritten email address was not clear enough. He urged members to impress on others the need to write legibly.

Rik noted the Community Gardens Grants applications process was open, but that it would be tricky for us because we needed to demonstrate that we had land use approvals in place, prior to any further development. Rik will have a think about an approach and develop options.

John will contact Ross Burdon (TCCS Sport and Rec) again to follow up our request for tree pruning around the site.

Gol reported on initiatives of the Old Parliament House Tennis Club to engage with its users to promote social tennis nights. When people book the courts, their details go onto a central database and the club can email users from time to time to advise on/generate support for social tennis events. The meeting agreed this could be a good avenue for ONCC to consider, once the tennis club refurbishments were complete.

Peter reported that the 'extreme hoarder' family, who live on one of the main streets in old Narrabundah, now had a trailer truck parked illegally on the corner, presenting a major hazard to other road users (noting that parking infringement notices were sitting on the window, seemingly ignored by the owner). Peter will alert the police to this dangerous hazard.

Roanna raised the issue of how dangerous it was for pedestrians/bicycles to try to cross over Sturt Avenue. There are no safe places to cross anywhere between the Canberra Avenue roundabout and Narrabundah college. It's a dangerous game, especially for children, elderly and disabled, to try to cross this road and better access is needed. Bron will draft a letter to TCCS (with Roanna's input), for John's signature.

**CLOSE**