

Oaks Estate Progress Association

-serving our community



Draft Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Oaks Estate Progress Association held 2.00pm, Sunday, 27 March 2011, at the Oaks Estate Community Hall, William St.

Present. 21 members present: Peter O’Dea in Chair, Jessica O’Dea, Kate O’Dea, Norm Bassmann, Bede Tongs, Garry Tongs, Lillian Squire, Keith Talbot, Elizabeth Paterson, Karen Williams, Phil Emerson, Sarah Hooper, Ewan Maidment, Alex Saeck, Judy Saeck, John Mitchell, Bernadette Fitzgerald, Fiona MacGregor, Rachel Bowat.

Apologies: Wendy Mitchell, Catlin Buxton.

Minutes of previous AGM. Minutes of the AGM held 14 March 2010 were read by Peter O’Dea. It was noted that references to “Oaks” should be amended to read “Oaks Estate”. Moved Norm Bassmann, seconded Keith Talbot, that the minutes of the previous AGM be accepted. Carried.

Matters arising. None.

President’s Report. Copies of a written report by Peter O’Dea were distributed to the meeting.

Mrs Squire said that residents should be aware that Gillespie Park excludes three blocks along Florence Street and the Community Garden. This became clear to her at the meeting with Territory and Municipal Services (TAMS) on 23 February re plans for development of Gillespie Park.

Peter O’Dea confirmed that, according to a letter to the OEPA from Andrew Barr, the three blocks on Florence Street are intended for a multi-story unit development, along with seven other blocks in Hills St and George Street. This is in addition to the proposed construction of 50 town houses on the old Mobil site in Florence Street. Peter O’Dea added that the OEPA is strongly opposed to further multi-unit development in Oaks Estate.

Mrs Squire agreed, stating that one cottage – one block is sufficient for the amenities we have; otherwise the village will be taken over.

Blake from Florence St confirmed that surveyors have been surveying blocks of land off Hill Street at the back of The Oaks.

Karen Williams reported that Andrew Barr had informed her that an Oaks Estate Infrastructure Study is underway and due to be completed in April. Mr Barr said that the ten blocks earmarked for development in Oaks Estate were not within his jurisdiction as Minister for Planning, but part of Mr Stanhope’s portfolio. Karen had not received a

response from Mr Stanhope to her query about the proposed development of those blocks. Karen added that Gary Byles, TAMS Chief Executive, had told her to write to Land & Property Services regarding the proposed development of the ten blocks and she is in the process of doing so.

Karen noted that the ten blocks are for land release in June this year. Karen is pointing out to the authorities that there is no point in developing a Master Plan for Oaks Estate in 2012 if the ten blocks are sold off for intensive development before the Master Plan is completed.

Mrs Squire noted that the blocks in Florence Street and Hill Street are on a water course and can be flooded. Karen observed that the blocks earmarked for sale are above the Molonglo River flood plain.

Norm Bassmann reported that since the tall pine trees at the lower end of George Street have been cut down two groups of officials has surveyed adjacent blocks. He noted that if the blocks were to be developed the road way would have to be extended and the power poles and wiring would have to be shifted.

Mr Bassmann also mentioned that a load of wiring, probably from the power station on Railway Street had been dumped on a concrete slab on the blocks. There had been an attempt to burn the plastic to extract the copper with the result that the area is impossible to mow without damaging mower blades.

Karen Williams gave a report on her meeting with Gary Byles on 25 March to survey damage to the river corridor between The Oaks and the Railway Bridge. Mr Byles agreed that the devastation caused by the flood in December was amongst the worst in the ACT. Karen emphasized the recreational value of the river corridor and pointed out: (1) the dangerous bottle neck of debris between The Oaks and River Street; (2) debris blocking the walking track and surrounds; (3) need to cut grass along the track. She also referred Mr Byles to the *Mologlo River Rescue Plan* published by the Molonglo Catchment Group.

Mr Byles (1) expressed interest in contacting the Molonglo Catchment Group to discuss common goals; (2) supported OEPA participation in remediation work; (3) agreed that in the short term clearing debris and keeping the grass cut along the track were the most easily achievable aims.

Lastly, Karen reported that Mr Byles agreed to look into improving the lighting on the turning circle at the upper end of William Street, near the Community Hall.

Moved Bernadette Fitzgerald, seconded Keith Talbot, that the President's report be accepted. Carried.

Treasurer's Report and Audit Statement. Alex Saeck gave an informal verbal report on behalf of Judith Saeck, the Treasurer. He said that there had been little financial activity over the last financial year. Interest had been received on the OEPA term and cheque accounts. Some stationery had been purchased. A cheque for \$126.00 had been issued, but not cashed, reimbursing a payment made in conjunction with the submission of the OEPA 2009 annual return to the Registrar. The total assets of the OEPA amounted to \$11,559.35.

Peter O'Dea thanked Judy and Alex and proposed that the AGM be adjourned for two weeks, to meet again at 2.00pm on Sunday 10 April at the Community Hall, to consider acceptance of an audited Financial Statement. Moved Ewan Maidment, seconded Garry Tongs, that the recommendation be accepted. Carried.

Election of Office Bearers and Committee Members. Garry Tongs acted as Returning Officer.

President. Peter O’Dea nominated as President, moved Bernadette Fitzgerald, seconded Keith Talbot. There being no further nominations, Peter O’Dea declared elected President.

Treasurer. Judith Saeck nominated as Treasurer, moved Keith Talbot, seconded Elizabeth Paterson. There being no further nominations, Judith Saeck declared Treasurer.

Secretary. Ewan Maidment nominated as Secretary, moved Karen Williams, seconded Alex Saeck. There being no further nominations, Ewan Maidment declared Secretary.

Committee Members.

- Fiona MacGregor, nominated as Committee Member, moved Bernadette Fitzgerald, seconded Elizabeth Peterson.
- Phil Emerson, nominated as Committee Member, moved Fiona MacGregor, seconded Rachel Bowat.
- Bernadette Fitzgerald, nominated as Committee Member, moved Elizabeth Paterson, seconded Karen Williams.
- Alex Saeck, nominated as Committee Member, moved Ewan Maidment, seconded, Keith Talbot.
- Sarah Hooper, nominated as Committee Member, moved Ewan Maidment, seconded Karen Williams.
- Karen Williams, nominated as Committee Member, moved Bernadette Fitzgerald, seconded Rachel Bowat.

There being no further nominations Garry Tongs declared the above Committee Members elected.

General Business.

Garry Tongs asked for a list of the newly elected Office Bearers and Committee Members and their contact details to be attached to the notice for the adjourned general meeting.

It was agreed that Committee meetings would be held on the first Wednesday of each month at 8.00pm in the Community Hall.

The meeting closed at 3.00pm