

# Oaks Estate Progress Association

-serving our community



**Minutes of the Committee meeting of the Oaks Estate Progress Association held 7.00pm, Wednesday, 4 May 2011, at 35 William St, Oaks Estate.**

**Present.** Peter O’Dea in Chair, Fiona MacGregor, Karen Williams, Sarah Hooper, Christine Prattis (nee Squire), Fran Lethbridge, Bernadette Fitzgerald, Ewan Maidment.

**Apologies:** Mrs Squire, Phil Emerson, Judy & Alex Seack.

**Minutes of previous meeting.** Moved Karen, seconded Berna, that the minutes of the meeting held 10 April be accepted. Carried.

## **Matters arising.**

- 10 blocks. Karen reported that John Bruggeman had received a reply from Jon Stanhope to his letter to sent last November. Stanhope’s letter, dated 6 April, confirms that the land release in Oaks Estate will be delayed until after the Master Plan has been completed. Fiona commented that we should scrutinize the ACT budget papers for release of the 10 blocks. Fiona noted that rates in Oaks Estate will be increased by \$100.
- Old Mobil site. Bernadette asked about the development of the 50 units on the old Mobil site. Karen noted that the development has probably been delayed by lack of infrastructure. Ewan reported that in a letter dated 24 Dec 2010 from Andrew Barr which he had received, Barr states that the original application (DA 200700622) lodged in July 2007 was to subdivide the block into 11 blocks and construct 20 new dwellings. Barr wrote,  
“ACTPLA declined to approve this DA on 22 January 2008 as the site was not deemed suitable for the development and the overall quality was unsatisfactory.”  
“In April 2008 the proponent submitted an application for reconsideration of this decision and revised the proposal including unit titling the site rather than subdivision. In July 2008 ACTPLA approved the application for reconsideration subject to a range of conditions including the requirement for remediation. The approval does not take effect until the site is remediated and declared suitable for residential use. The Environment Protection Authority advise as at the date of this letter that remediation of the site is continuing.”  
It was agreed that we should investigate the details of the revised development proposal.
- Gillespie Park. Peter reported that he had forwarded the OEPA response to TAMS and that work on the Park is scheduled to start in May.
- River corridor. Karen reported that here would be a Catchment Group meeting in May and that she would check whether Garry Byles has contacted the Group. It was also reported that Terry Williams has cut a track along the bank of the river from River St through to the Oaks Estate Road bridge.

## **Other business**

- Michel Starling. The Committee acknowledged the positive input Michel had made on the previous OEPA Committee and expressed its appreciation for his efforts.
- Newsletter. It was agreed that a one-page newsletter be printed and that it list the new committee and report that Oaks Estate is top of the list for ACT master Planning. Newsletter to be placed on the new notice board and distributed to all households.
- Webpage. Sarah confirmed that she would be able to construct a web page for the OEPA and asked for content.
- OEPA records. Karen confirmed that there should be a 2-drawer filing cabinet in the Community Hall meeting room holding OEPA records and original documents for projects, grants, etc. Peter will meet the new South Side Community Services CEO to confirm arrangements for OEPA access to the Community Hall. Peter, Karen and Ewan will meet on Monday 9 May to review OEPA records which are in Peter's custody.
- Annual Returns to Registrar General. Ewan reported that he and Peter have been compiling annual returns for 2009 and 2010. The 2009 return is late and will incur a fine. Ewan will contact Tina Hill, the Public Officer, to ask if she would sign the returns.
- South Side Council. It was agreed that the OEPA make contact re having representation at their meetings.
- George St & River St Flats. A baby died in the flats just before Easter. It was noted that the flats have been more peaceful over the last few years, though some people who live there have serious issues and are not well serviced. Fran reported that the River St crisis/emergency flats have problems from time to time, but are usually self-managed quite well by the residents.
- Theft. Copper wiring stolen from shed being renovated on Railways St.
- Police. Mrs Squire had noticed more regular police patrols in Oaks Estate.
- Fairbairn Avenue bike track. Peter mentioned problem with the maintenance of the track.
- McEwan St. A complaint has been lodged about the caravan permanently parked on the footpath outside the metal workshop.
- Railway St clean-up. Peter will contact TAMS about clean-up. Sarah noted that there is no drainage, no guttering and no footpath on Railway St. It was noted that empty beer bottles are accumulating in the William St cul-de-sac.
- Community Garden. Peter is the new contact point for anyone wishing to rent an allotment in the garden. There will be a curry-night with music in July to raise funds for a new sign to encourage use of the garden.

The meeting closed at 8.00pm.