

Aurora Community Association Coffee and Chat Minutes 17th June 2012

CFLLC 3pm-4.30pm

3.00pm- socialising/ afternoon tea (cake and coffee) is ordered and served

3.20pm- Welcome- Coffee and Chat supported by Places Victoria

-Toilets

-Phones onto silent please

-Intros of committee in attendance- Cara, Lisa, Kathleen, Kathleen, Steve

3.25pm- Places Victoria update- made by Cara Horner on behalf of Places Victoria who were unable to provide representation for the meeting.

- Sales for May increased due to the final rush by first home buyers to secure the first home buyers grant. 21 sales were secured.
- Stage 21 civil works in Section D has commenced with titles expected in February 2013.
- Stage 17 civil works are progressing with titles expected in February 2013.
- Planning Permit application for the extension of Harvest Home Road including the proposed primary school site, has been lodged with Council with first comments having been received. Civil works are likely to commence by the end of 2012.
- Landscape works have commenced which fulfil Council permit obligations for both Section C and D. Works include: Edgars Creek landscaping; street trees for Stage 19A, 19B, 20, 27 and 28; Stage 28 conservation reserve and Stages 17A and 20 parks. All works are scheduled for completion through July to September 2012.

-Cara had conversation with Peter Ghurkin (Senior Development Manager – Aurora) about bus stop bus stop changes and use of existing bus stops/ extension of bus service- they are investigating with Dept. transport, reservoir buses, council about what is going on and will get back to us when they have got to the bottom of things.

-Communication/ work with Places Victoria (PV) has been difficult since Taegan Hannah has been moved off the Aurora Project. Some attendees expressed their disappointment over PV not coming again to another event (sponsored by them) and wondered why they were not engaging with us. Cara indicated that the people the ACA now have to deal with are higher level managers much higher than Taegan and are thus harder to communicate with and get attending events. She also felt that there may be an underlying issue that has yet to surface/ be communicated, though this hasn't been mentioned to her by anyone in PV.

3.50pm- local issues

1. AGM 25th July 7.30pm, CFLLC- Cara Horner

new president and committee required in July. All positions made vacant and then people are nominated- old members may stand again if they wish, new members will need to step up. Cara Horner will not be standing for President this year and so someone needs to move into this role. Without a committee then the ACA can't function and will cease to exist. Please support your local community association and consider being on the committee for the next financial year. Go to <http://www.aurora.asn.au/association-structure/> for details on the roles and contact the ACA on enquiry@aurora.asn.au to discuss or any of the ACA committee (Cara, Lisa, Goran, Steve, Kathleen and Carly).

2. ACA memberships- Cara Horner

memberships are up for renewal at the start of each new financial year/ AGM. Please bring your membership dues along to the AGM.

3. Winter Newsletter- Cara Horner and Lisa Hall

Next newsletter will be soon produced- if you have anything for the newsletter please email it through to Lisa at enquiry@aurora.asn.au and we can get it in there for you- it will also have a business card corner if you wish to advertise your business for a small fee. **Cut-off date for**

newsletter items is Friday 29th June.

4. Letterbox drop for AGM- Cara Horner

We need some assistance with letterbox dropping newsletter/ AGM invite - will be required during 14-22 July (Covers 2 weekends).

5. Car boot sale- Cara Horner and Brad Costin

Idea at last general meeting about holding a carboot sale, hopefully as an annual fundraising event (in spring), to help people de-clutter and get unwanted items to people who want them or onto a charity for sale. Majority of people at meeting thought it was a good idea and would support it. Now looking for small group of people to investigate and drive the initiative. If interested please contact the ACA On enquiry@aurora.asn.au

6. Neighbourhood watch- Lisa Mifsud and Tony Francis

-Lisa and Tony have volunteered to be the coordinator and assistant coordinator respectively for a fledgling Neighbourhood Watch (NW) group in Epping North. After an initial community meeting with Les Mathieson, the Victoria Police NW coordinator for this municipality, they have also attended two other Whittlesea City NW meetings in the past month. They felt that since all of the smaller NW groups have been made to merge into one larger group (before we got involved) that things seem to be very confused and lacking direction. Les has been away on holidays and Lisa is going to speak to him on his return about the state of affairs- she is unsure if she/ the Epping North residents want to get involved/ will be able to work with the Whittlesea City group at this present time. Lisa still hopes to have the Epping North NW group function despite the issues at a higher level, with a more local focus on the Aurora estate for the time being.

-Lisa plans to put something into the ACA newsletter about the new NW group for Epping North and they also need helpers for a letterbox drop in next couple of weeks for the Whittlesea City NW newsletter.

-If you are interested in being involved with the Epping North NW group or would like to help out with the newsletter letterbox drop then please get in touch with the ACA on enquiry@aurora.asn.au and we will pass the details onto Lisa. You can find out more information on NW at <http://www.aurora.asn.au/groups-clubs/nw-epping-north/>

7. Power Group Purchasing- Kathleen Ager

group together as a community to purchase electricity in 'bulk' and get it at a cheaper rate. Group of community members have been meeting and speaking with Chris from Power Group Purchasing to work out the best way forward in getting a better rate for electricity and gas. Email enquiry@aurora.asn.au if you are interested.

8. Epping Pet Owners Club- Kerryn and Dan Rudolph

A group of people who love pets and care about their welfare!

Kerryn and Dan have set up a facebook page for people who are part of the group.

There has also been some interest shown by dog owners in a regular 'doggie dates' for socialising of dogs up at the off leash dog area.

If interested please get in contact with Dan at danrudolph@gmail.com

9. CFLLC Community Garden- Brad Costin

-Garden group meets last Sunday of each month, 10.30am- midday at CFLLC. All welcome.

-Also will be hosting the Epping food swap at the meeting each month- bring along excess fruit and veggies and swap it for something else!

Free to join and participate. Details cflc.garden@gmail.com

10. Solar Panel issues- petition/ list of people willing to take part in group legal action against makers of Dux. Lisa Hall

Lisa has been delayed in having a meeting about the solar hot water issues and getting a petition started. She plans to email people who have shown interest in the coming week. If you want to

get involved just email the ACA enquiry@aurora.asn.au and you will be put onto the contact list and Lisa will be in touch

11. Council controlled issues- opportunity to bring up issues for ACA to feed into council

- its important when you **ring council with a complaint that you get a job ID number** so that they actually have to enter it into the system. The call takes a little longer (as they enter it on the spot) but at least if you have this number you should be pretty much guaranteed that action will be taken and you can also track progress with the issue at a later date.

- issue of street light not working- this is an issue for the electricity wholesaler SP Ausnet though on occasions council may also get involved. Best bet is to report a faulty street light via the Faults & Emergencies number – 131799 or via email using streetlight@sp-ausnet.com.au

Information required:

- street address that the light is located outside of
- light identification number from the pole (this number is on the metal plate attached to each pole and is at about face height)
- Please note that each faulty light must be reported separately.

- Some roundabouts still have poor visibility- contact parks section of council

-Some swales still not working- again contact council to keep them updated on the success of remediation works already undertaken.

12. FTTH VCAT applications- Ahmet Alkan

-a group of Aurora residents have banded together to create a VCAT application template for those people who want to take action against Places Victoria in regards to the locking of their FTTH cabinets i.e. to get keys for the cabinets or to have them unlocked.

-they are working to make individual applications to VCAT in order to obtain access to the fibre equipment cabinets in our residences, as Places Victoria currently disallows access.

-they will be lodging their individual applications in the last week of June (between 25-29 June). By lodging the applications close together they are hoping that VCAT will merge the cases so we can collectively mount a better and stronger case against the unfair practice of locking residents out of their own communications equipment.

-In order assist everyone who is interested in making an application to VCAT, they have prepared a template of the application form with most sections pre-filled. They have also drafted some explanatory wording to assist with elaborating on the issues and the court order we are seeking from VCAT. Residents may use this as-is, or they can choose to explain their own issues/cases as the applications will be individual. However if people can keep the objective of the claims focused on gaining access to the cabinets and the equipment contained within (excluding the ONT device), we believe we will have a better chance of success.

-The resident group driving the applications acknowledges and respects that ACA is not formally involved with this action and cannot / will not participate as a body.

- if you are interested in taking action then please contact Ahmet Alkan on acafb1907-fibre@yahoo.com

13. Any other business not covered already

-**Raja Ouldel- Protest for the upgrade of Epping Road**, meeting 10am Monday 18th July 2012, CFA (corner O'Herns road and High Streets Epping)

-**Raja Ouldel will be running for council elections** this year- she will be a candidate for West Ward (our ward). She will be coming by door knocking in coming months to meet you.

4.40pm- Socialising/ finish up cakes and event close