

Coffee and Chat minutes 20 august 2011

1. Introduction- Cara Horner, President

- Welcome- plan for morning- intro, some info on ACA, Taegen speak and then open to the floor. aim to finish at 12.30pm- 1pm
- Please fill in attendance sheet
- Wait staff will come by with drinks. If you don't want a latte then please go inside to order a tea. help yourself to cake on the table.
- With thanks to VicUrban for support.
- With thanks to Bill for hosting.
- Who the ACA is and the committee

Aurora Community Association

Statement of Purposes

1. To commit to the sustainability and enhancement of the environment.
2. To enhance community cohesion and celebrate the life of the community.
3. To be a forum for decision-making and to give or advocate fair and balanced representation on any issues or services pertaining to the Aurora community.
4. To take a proactive role in developing and maintaining community infrastructure and services to all.
5. To be a conduit for sharing and communication of information and knowledge.
6. To promote action on matters of major concern to the Aurora community such as the immediate construction of a railway line to Epping North until it is completed and operational.

Committee- Goran- Treasurer, Lisa- Secretary, Steven- Public Officer, Kathleen- Committee, Carly- Committee

- Membership- renewals - see Goran
- Positions vacant- Vice President and Committee Member- if interested please contact the association to discuss
- Letterbox drop for newsletters- newsletter now ready. Only 2 pager now with most online.
- Website- soon starting on uploading content – please indicate if interested in helping with this

2. Upcoming social fundraising events- Lisa- Bunnings BBQ 12th November and Trivia night March next year. Would love to have people involved in activities and also in organising as without the funds raised the association will cease, as we need the money for our public liability insurance.

3. End of year function- Kathleen. Need ideas from community on what you would like to have for an end of year function. BBQ lunch suggested. Any other ideas please let us know.

4. VicUrban update- Taegen Hannah- 8317 3568 or Taegen.Hannah@vicurban.vic.gov.au

- 23 Oct spring market. If want to hold stall let Taegen know.
- Home assessments- free energy assessments still available- speak to Taegen about it if interested
- School beginning 2013
- Childcare centre again going to market 'fairly soon'
- Lots of new parks going in in new stages- quite different to ones currently installed.

5. Open to the floor-

- Public transport corridor- poor state of it and also trucks still using
- O'Herns road access- GPS showing open onto estate when in fact not
- Tahirih- Narrow streets in general not working very well with high car ownership/ poor public transport in area
 - Redding rise too narrow and dangerous
 - Taegen says it's based on euro design and needs our behaviours to catch up!
 - Jody said that narrow streets make people slow down
 - Brad asked if roundabouts are an option?
- Landscaping taking too long

- Can they get \$\$ instead?
 - Is this occurring because they wait for many houses in one area to be done at same time?
- Footpaths- many dangerous lumps and bumps in paths.
 - Need to contact council to get fixed
- Roundabouts- grasses too tall
 - Whose responsibility is it for choosing plants?
 - Speak to Rod at council?
- VicUrban now Urban Renewal Authority.
 - Still committed to master plan
 - Please see latest newsletter for summary of Hansard from parliament on issue
- Buses-
 - Frequency especially in peak hour is dismal
 - Penetration into estate is also poor.
 - Taegen and Cara- Cost of extra bus services is high and it seems current state gov isn't committed to improving services.
 - ACA been advocating on behalf of community with gov, bus company, media.
 - Last petition many years ago so perhaps time for another now we have more residents.
- Fibre to the home
 - Communications on the issue have been poor
 - Selva-Not enough info about new service providers
 - Selva-Costs seem too high given we are not choosing to change providers and its being forced onto us. Why should we incur costs?
 - Selva-Could we band together as a community and approach other providers to see what deal we could get?
 - Selva-Carrier equipment should be outside house next to meter box with single cable into house to person equipment cabinet
 - Selva-Keys should be supplied for internal cabinets for the many who don't have them.
 - Selva-Current box is owned by early residents and so VicUrban has no right to lock something which belongs to them
 - Daniel-Telecomm act doesn't give VicUrban the right to be able to lock our stuff away
 - Toni-Maree-Stage 14 improperly connected and don't know if TV will work even when finally connected to FTTH. No phone Internet or TV at present.
 - Nez-Why cant we keep our number? Not good enough.
 - Lianne-Ilnet doesn't do phone only, only Iprimus. This leaves a monopoly for people who don't want Internet and isn't good enough.
 - Vim-Who checks cabling in house- are compliance certs issued?
 - Selva-Internet/ email connection have same password- no privacy
 - Daniel-Why has VicUrban structured the FTTH provision the way they have? Its very messy
 - Mark- 2 providers isn't enough- need more.
 - Taegen- cant force providers to provide use with services.
 - Carol- date on letter fast approaching. What happens if not signed up by the date on the letter?
 - Taegen- thinks nothing will happen
 - Tahirih- costs of new providers-costs with Iprimus 9.95- free modem just postage paid.
 - Tahirih- Higher the plan the more the freebies
 - Tahirih- Don't sign up to 100Mbps plans- cant get that speed on the estate says Daniel Hartley from FTTH team VicUrban- go for 20Mbps
 - Tahirih- Really need to upgrade infrastructure to 100Mbps- ACA to encourage
 - Toni Maree- Disclosure of issues regarding FTTH for home owners at handover should be mandatory
 - Tagean- FTTH hotline- 9331-4575 m-f 9am 5pm

- Cara Horner summarised to the meeting attendees the major points from the FTTH discussion which she thought would constitute a position statement for the ACA. The ACA members voted overwhelmingly in favour of the following points:
 1. The level, timeliness and of content of communication from VicUrban to affected residents on the change of providers has been very poor and better communication and stakeholder consultation is required in future on issues such as these.
 2. Many (most) early stage Aurora residents purchased their FTTH boxes as part of their new home contract and as such the box is owned by these residents. Residents who paid for their own boxes have every right to deny VicUrban access to the box & to stop them from locking the box, as it's their property.
 3. Most residents, regardless of the stage on the estate they live in, have a mixture of carrier equipment and customer equipment in their FTTH box. Locking the box would stop residents from accessing their equipment, thus stopping them from resetting their equipment after power outages or changing the network points patched in.
 4. Reference to the telecommunications act and the legalities of current practices- sorry i cant remember what you and others said about this because of the above three points above,
 4. Carrier equipment should be in a separate box outside the house (next to meter box) with a single cable leading into the customer's (resident's) network box inside the house. Carrier and customer equipment should not be mixed in the one box.
 5. Residents should be able to keep their current arise telephone number when they switch to their new provider- getting a new number is an unnecessary inconvenience to residents
 6. The current duopoly of new service providers offered to residents is not acceptable given that there are many other FTTH providers available. Also, only one of the new providers offers 'phone only' services, a situation which leaves customers requiring phone only services with no choice and in no better situation than currently with Arise
 7. It is disturbing to the ACA and its members that IInet, one of the new service providers, is selling 100Mbps plans to Aurora Residents when, according to Daniel Hartley from VicUrban, the Aurora FTTH infrastructure is unable to deliver these kinds of speeds at this present time. It is unethical that VicUrban are knowingly allowing IInet to sell these plans to Aurora residents when they will not, at this point in time, get the speed they are paying for and we ask for VicUrban to: i) direct IInet to stop offering this plan to Aurora residents until such time that the Aurora FTTH infrastructure is capable of such speeds; and ii) upgrade infrastructure so that we can achieve such speeds using the Aurora FTTH infrastructure.
 8. Keys should be supplied for internal (personal) cabinet for those households who were not supplied with them.
 - Daniel Gibson has volunteered to write a technical letter, which will firstly be distributed, to ACA committee members and FTTH working group members for approval before being distributed to members and VicUrban.
- CFLLC – Haylie- introduced herself and encouraged people to get involved.
manager@cflc.org.au, Tues 9:30-4:30. Thur 9:30-4:30. Sat 9-1pm8320 3973 or 0400 235 529
www.cflc.org.au
- CFLLC garden group- we've got the beds, now lets get planting! Membership free and we have a meeting coming up soon to plan for the plants going into the beds. Contact cflc.garden@gmail.com for more details
- AGM sticky notes exercise- following issues already brought up in past- Cara summarised to Tagean
 1. Telecommunications- price, access to box, providers, changes to providers- 15 sticky notes, 9 pink (major issue) 6 purple (lesser issue)

2. Buses and bus-train connection- 8 sticky notes - 1 pink
3. Rail extension 5 sticky notes- 4
4. Muddy roads x 8 sticky notes- 6 purple
5. Poor communications from VicUrban x 3 sticky notes purple
6. Lack of childcare x2 purple
7. Transition town movement x 1 purple

6. End of chat-

- Upcoming dates- 21st September- general meeting. 23rd October coffee and chat
- Ideas on who do we want to have speak, if possible at our next general meeting?
 - Danielle green
 - Yarra valley water- recycled water
 - Solar panel providers
 - Iprimus/ Inet
 - Mel?
- Close meeting but remind people they can have lunch at the cafe.

Meeting closed 1pm