

**Hackett Community Association  
Committee meeting  
9 February 2016**

**Present** – James Walker, Greg Haughey, Marian Williams, Lorraine Mason, Terry de Luca, Chris Mobbs, John Carty, Len Crossfield, Margaret Lawrence and Terry Lawrence.

Apologies: Kay Murphy and Bruce Smith

Minutes: The previous minutes were not considered in the absence of the Secretary.

Treasurer's report – Terry reported that the bank balance is currently \$3,179.24. Terry advised that the BBQ returns were not as high as expected.

Constitution/March Meeting – Greg advised the Committee that the Office of Regulatory Services had confirmed that the Association's had incorrectly ticked that it would be using the Model Rules on formation. This meant that members needed to vote via a Special Resolution to adopt the current Constitution. Greg also advised that 21 days' notice was required and that notices had been placed in the February Hackett Neighbourhood Watch Newsletter and on the Association's website.

Business member certificates/ membership lists – Greg apologised for not being able to finalise the business membership certificates prior to the meeting but would endeavour to do so before the next meeting. He would also update the membership list to identify business members separately.

Community Contact Day – James advised that the next Community Contact Day would be on 30 April and would include a sausage sizzle.

- James suggested following up with usual attendees but would like to see some new attendees as well such as RSPCA, Bush Fires, ACTEW, Red Cross, Action Buses.
- James asked for volunteers to confirm times.
- James asked if anyone knew how to contact Youth for Understanding. John undertook to find contact details.
- John to also follow up with Capital Metro.
- Greg to contact Maureen Hartung and John to follow up with other schools.

Party at the Shops – Greg advised the Committee that the Government will not be funding a Party at the Shops program this year.

- The Committee endorsed the Association holding its own event in late September/early October to maintain momentum in the lead up to the suburbs 55<sup>th</sup> birthday in 2018.
- John and Maureen advised that Wilbur's had recently engaged musician that could be a potential performer for a future event.

Streetscape – Chris expressed concern that the trees adjacent to Hackett Oval are now 50 years old and are progressively dying. He was aware of a pine tree and a eucalypt that had already died.

- James proposed a working group of Chris, Greg and Len to investigate current status of trees and whether they have been included on a government replacement program.

Rubbish Bins – Chris also raised concern that the large waste bins near the scout hall and at the oval were being exploited by illegal dumpers.

- Chris suggested that more green bins should be placed around the oval and will follow up with the Government.
- Chris also advised that it was possible to notify the Government of any illegal dumping through ACT Connect and that any rubbish would normally be taken away within a short period.

Parks – Chris expressed concern that Bragg Street park was not officially named and was somewhat ignored by the Government.

- He suggested that some local residents could act as custodians for the park and oversee improvements to the park such as more play equipment and decorative plants.
- Chris to follow up with Government on the possibility of a custodian group and government funding for improvements.

Committee Membership – Greg advised the committee that Tylie Hodder had resigned from the committee as she had moved suburbs. Chris agreed to fill the committee vacancy.

Party at the Shops – Greg advised the Committee that the Government will not be funding a Party at the Shops program this year.

- The Committee endorsed the Association holding its own event in late September/early October to maintain momentum in the lead up to the suburbs 55<sup>th</sup> birthday in 2018.
- John and Maureen advised that Wilbur's had recently engaged musician that could be a potential performer for a future event.

Crime – Len drew the committee's attention to a spike in criminal activity in Hackett in December in the latest Hackett Neighbourhood Watch Newsletter.

- The Committee agreed to monitor the next month's statistics before acting.
- Len agreed to contact Patrick McNamara to see if the January statistics are high or not.

Community Projects – Greg advised the Committee that he had received an email from Andrew Leigh's office seeking expression of interest for funding. The Committee endorsed the following projects:

- Power point
- Outdoor furniture
- Bust of Sir John Hackett
- Play equipment and landscaping for parks
- Shop sign similar to the electric sign at Dickson College
- Public toilet
- Footpaths at shops

Greg to prepare and submit paper work.

The meeting ended at 9.15pm

**Hackett Community Association  
Special General Meeting  
8 March 2016**

**Present** – James Walker, Greg Haughey, Marion Williams, Lorraine Mason, Chris Mobbs, John Carty, Kay Murphy and Bruce Smith

Apologies: Terry de Luca

The Special General Meeting was convened to discuss the following motion:

*“That the Constitution of the Hackett Community Association (**the Association**) in the form presented to the General Meeting be adopted as the Constitution of the Association in substitution for and to the exclusion of the Association’s existing Constitution.”*

James opened the meeting and explained that the Office of Regulatory Services has confirmed that the Constitution of the HCA, as it is recorded by the ORS, consists only of the Model Rules. We therefore need to approve the Constitution, as it has been understood within the Association, at a General Meeting. James also confirmed that we have a quorum because we are working under the Model Rules.

There was a discussion about whether we should take this opportunity to change quorum requirements in the Constitution, but most felt that 20 was a reasonable number - we should be able to get those numbers and it gives us credibility.

Greg explained that the Constitution has been amended in relation to office bearers – it now has the Chair, Deputy Chair, Secretary, Public Officer and up to 7 other members.

Greg moved the motion, and it was seconded by Kay. It was unanimously passed.

**Hackett Community Association  
Committee meeting  
8 March 2016**

**Present** – James Walker, Greg Haughey, Marion Williams, Len Crossfield, Lorraine Mason, Chris Mobbs, John Carty, Kay Murphy and Bruce Smith

Apologies: Terry de Luca

Minutes: The minutes for the meetings held on 11 August 2015 and 10 November 2015 were accepted.

Two amendments were proposed for the 9 February minutes:

- Len Crossfield attended
- the reference to street trees being 50 years old should be changed to be “trees adjacent to the Hackett Oval are 50 years old”

Both amendments were agreed and the minutes for that meeting were accepted.

Planning for Contact day: James reported that it is looking like there will be a number of participants at the Contact Day to be held on 30 April. He reported that:

- the new ACT Department responsible for transport will attend, as well as the consortium who won the contract for the light rail
- Youth for Understanding and the Scouts may attend
- the ALP will attend; not yet clear about Liberals.
- no response yet from the SES; Friends of Mt Majura; Greens

It was confirmed that it will be held from 9am to 1pm and that there will be a sausage sizzle.

The roster was discussed: Greg and Bruce from 9-10; Marian and Lorraine from 10-11; Lyn and Kay from 11-12; Chris and Len from 12-1. Terry and John will do the BBQ.

Trees in parks: Chris reported that, while the working group is not yet established, he has looked at the Hackett Neighbourhood Plan. It provides the framework for something broader, and is scheduled to be updated in 2018. Chris will ask the question: when is the government going to start the process for 2018? He will approach the Department and find out what is the timeframe. He will also put together a poster for the contact day.

There was a general discussion about the issue and points made included:

- Kay said that she had a call from Labor candidate who lives in suburb – we should engage the candidate on this issue.
- Greg noted that parks and trees are on the agenda for the Government, so we should use this to get some attention to what is happening in Hackett.
- Len said that we need to be clear about objectives and use the planning documentation.

There was also a discussion on naming parks. Points included:

- some people thought parks could be named after people who had made a contribution to Hackett, while others noted that there are quite strict naming conventions in Canberra, and that it is more likely that the parks will be named after scientists
- regardless, consideration should be given to naming parks after women – most streets in Hackett are named after men
- the signs should say something about the person - not just a name

It was agreed that Chris would put something in Neighbourhood Watch on this issue, and that a link to Fix my Street should be put on the website

## Other business

- Caroline from the Orchid and Vine has raised the idea of the movie night. Would need to in summer.
- Neighbour Day is on 27 March. Its objective is to build better relationships – a note could be put on the website
- Tucker box will turn 5. There will be a celebration on 9 April.
- Bruce noted that the North Canberra Community Council has money to support community events – this could be used to support the Tuckerbox event, but also for activities related to the Hackett party and/or the movies at the shops.
- We should discuss a date for the Hackett party at the next meeting

The meeting closed at 8.55pm

**Hackett Community Association  
Committee meeting  
12 April 2016**

**Present** – James Walker, Greg Haughey, Marion Williams, Lorraine Mason, Chris Mobbs, John Carty, Kay Murphy, Terry de Luca and Bruce Smith

Visitor - Leah Dwyer

Apologies: No apologies

**Minutes**: The minutes for 8 March were accepted.

**Treasurers report**. Terry reported that the money for last year's Party at the Shops was paid in November. The current balance is \$3179.30. Terry bought posters for Clean Up Australia Day at a cost of \$30.

**Clean up Australia Day** – Terry reported that good progress was made, and thanked people in HCA who participated.

**North Canberra Community Council (NCCC)**: Bruce reported that the NCCC has been asked to develop a plan for the expenditure of surplus funding by the end of 2016. Proposals put forward in the discussion included:

- funding for a Party at the Shops, including funding for activities (for example, an Honorarium for some people who undertake activities at the party)
- funding for improving the NCCC website
- funding for enhancing and/or publicizing the Hackett community website
- funding for a banner for Hackett Community events

**Hackett community website**: Greg reported progress with the new website, including that it will include all businesses in Hackett, including those not located at the shops, and will include 10 community associations. Greg emphasized that we need to have a more broadly based approach to community.

**Trees in parks**: Chris circulated a paper and talked to it. He reported that he had had discussions with ACT Government officials, and, arising partly from those discussions, noted that:

- there are no plans for a general review of the Hackett Plan, so we will need to go to the Minister
- the trees are around 50 years old and looking worn - what do we replace them with? We need to ensure that they are not all replanted at the same time. There should be action now to enable a seamless transition (similar to what is being done in Haig Park).
- there are public place names protocols
- there are a lot of advantages in naming parks (giving them a stronger identity and recognition in the community, and providing a clearer defence against poor planning and incursions into green spaces)
- there can be problems in getting consensus on names. It would be desirable to do one at a time.
- There are a number of large spaces near the Madigan Street trees – the could incorporate a playground or a kids riding area like North Ainslie School

Chris offered to prepare a flyer to be circulated to nearby streets, and also write a piece in Neighbourhood Watch. He also proposed a poster and a letter to the Minister.

It was agreed to support the recommendations of the paper (moved Bruce/ seconded Terry)

**Hackett Community Association  
Committee meeting  
10 May 2016**

**Present** – James Walker, Greg Haughey, Marion Williams, Lorraine Mason, Chris Mobbs, John Carty, and Bruce Smith

Apologies: Terry de Luca and Kay Murphy

**Minutes:** The minutes for 12 April were accepted.

**Treasurers report.** Lorraine reported that the balance in our account is \$3244.33. We had an increase in funding of \$60, consisting of \$25 from new memberships and \$45 from the BBQ.

**Contact Day report back:** James reported that we did pretty well. There were well over 1000 people over the period (some for short periods). There were 9 tables, with 3 other groups. There was positive feedback – a lot of people were thrilled by the opportunity to meet and talk. The political parties were well represented (one would-be politician commented that it was better than door knocking). The shops did variably – some were the same as normal while others did well (including the Hairdresser, and coffee and tea at Siam Twist). The Friends of Mt Majura display of feral weeds was effective, and the SES got quite a bit of interest. Tucker Box also did well (a lot of people didn't know about it). The Preschool did brilliantly – they sold lot of cakes. We gained 7-9 new members and Neighbourhood Watch got a new member. The new table cover worked well (the Committee thanked Alison).

Things that could be improved:

- Folk dance didn't do very well – they were a bit tucked away
- Transport Canberra were less busy than in the past – they were not well staffed
- We need people there to help other tables set up. Need to have 2 people wandering around helping people setting up.
- We should have vests to help identify ourselves. Someone could get orange vests in Fyshwick?
- We should get ourselves a box to put small things in, such as name tags.
- Blue Gum have said that they would be willing to participate in future, but will need more notice.

James thanked everyone for their hard work. The next Contact Day will be held on 27 August.

**North Canberra Community Council (NCCC) funding bid:** Greg has had discussions about how the NCCC website could be improved, and has met with Mike Hettinger and others. He will be meeting with Lance (Webmaster) on Thursday to scope the work. There was a brief discussion about things HCA could do with additional funding, including funding for activities at the next Party at the Shop and also printing new brochures.

**Names for streets and open spaces:** Chris circulated a written report on progress on this issue (Attachment A). Chris reported that he had met with ACT Place Names. There are a number of advantages to giving names to parks, including that if accidents happen, the place can be easily identified. It would probably be best to start with one part – perhaps the one in Brennan Street.

Chris offered to prepare a one page flyer canvassing possible names for the park and seeking interest in enhancements. Names could include local residents who have made a contribution to Hackett, Canberra or more widely. One possibility, for example, could be Jack Smart, a prominent philosopher who lived near Brennan Street. It would also be possible to have a naming competition.

Chris's discussions with Place Names also covered VC symbols on signs where that is appropriate. The Committee agreed that French Street should have a VC symbol, and they agreed to do that.

**Hackett Oval Precinct:** Chris reported that he has talked to politicians about the Hackett oval precinct. He will prepare a letter to seek the development of a plan for long term management. Issues that need to be addressed include:

- the need to address people parking near trees resulting in compacting soil
- the installation of a children's playground (something for kids to go on while parents watch sport) or a bike riding thing facility similar to the one at North Ainslie school
- a long term plan for the replacement of trees.
- we should also clarify what the sign at the oval (regarding future development) means.

It was agreed that we should seek a meeting to discuss issues and get a precinct approach.

**Planning for AGM:**

- Greg reported that the meeting room we need for the second Tuesday in September has been booked. It was agreed to move the AGM to Wednesday 14 September
- We could have one speaker and a film. James is continuing to search for appropriate films.

**Party at the shops:** Greg led a discussion about planning for the Party. The discussed covered:

- it will need to have a Budget of around \$1000 – we could aim to have the NCCC pay \$500.
- We can also raise money through a raffle – Kay and Lorraine will ask shops about donating prizes
- Funding could cover the cost of clowns and decorations. Professional clowns will cost around \$400
- We need to start lobbying schools - Greg will approach schools
- We need to have a strong focus on kids (the Contact Days are focused on adults)
- We could sell hotdogs?

**Signage:** There was a general discussion about the need to improve our approach to signage for events. The current signs are expensive and don't last well. Possibilities included:

- plastic printed signs (speaking to John Murray?)
- a canvass banner, tied to a tree. What would be the cost to make a canvass sign?
- We could have a large sign saying something like "Party at the Shops this Saturday" so that it doesn't date

Other business:

- There was a short discussion about Mr Fluffy houses in Hackett, and the ways in which the ACT Government is attempting to recoup funding by changing zoning
- Lorraine proposed that photos be taken of number of people at events to document attendance and provide evidence about effectiveness.

Meeting finished 9.00pm

## Hackett Community Association Report on names for public spaces in Hackett

1. On 5 May 2016, Chris Mobbs met Peter Phillips and Sharon Priestly from the ACT Place Names to inspect the Bragg/Brennan St park, in relation to the proposal to develop a name for this park. Peter and Sharon then visited the other open spaces in Hackett (see table below).
2. Formally naming an area does not mean that the Government will commit any additional funds/resources to the area other than what is currently allocated ie it does not change the classification of the site, e.g. a neighbourhood park, and the maintenance standards remain the same.
3. A formal request for naming of a park must be supported by a demonstrated need e.g. naming open spaces can be beneficial to guiding emergency services to an incident in these areas.
4. Rather than trying to name all five open spaces at the same time, the Surveyor-General prefers that any park naming proposals be limited at this stage to one park only. This will enable the activity to be managed within the ACT Place names area existing workload, and provide an opportunity for the HCA to scope and consult on the proposal.
5. Priority would be to start with the Bragg/Brennan St Park, as a pilot before tackling the other open spaces.
6. The park may be named to accord with the nomenclature theme for Hackett (notable deceased Australian scientists); or the name of a deceased person/family who made a significant contribution to the local community; or a word or characteristic associated with the history of the local area. As example, Peter advised that Newton St was also named after Dr Sue Newton who lived in 12 Bragg St some years back – such a name would require endorsement from the family.

Block/Section	Location	Area	Zone (as at 9/5/16)
1/41	Bragg St/Brennan St/Mackenzie St	8900 sq m	PRZ1 Urban Open Space
10/37	Madigan through to Mackenzie St	15868 sq m	PRZ1 UOS
10/23	Harris St/Gilbert St/ French St	5500 sq m	PRZ1 UOS
1/14	27 Calwell St/40 Stanley St	2538 sq m	PRZ1 UOS
1/5	26 Maitland St/cnr Gilruth St	1344 sq m	PRZ1 UOS

### French St

French Street commemorates three individuals with the name of French. One is Corporal John Alexander French who was awarded the Victoria Cross (VC).

Mr Phillips will request Roads ACT to replace the existing signs with VC style road signs.

### Canberra Suburb and St Names book

Mr Phillips provided two copies of this book. A copy is provided to the HCA.

### Next steps

Chris Mobbs, in consultation with other HCA members in Bragg/Brennan St Park area, to prepare a one page flier:

1. canvassing the idea of a name for the park; and
2. seeking interest for undertaking enhancements in this park that will improve the tree and shrub cover and increase the recreation and amenities for park users.

This flier to be put in letter boxes in homes in the area boarded by Grayson, Mackenzie and Maitland Sts inviting people to an on-site community meeting in the Park in the coming months (subject to weather).

Leah said she was willing to pick up the idea of the playground and the trees. She flagged that support could be gauged through the use of Survey Monkey.

**Contact day planning:** James led a discussion on planning for the Contact Day (30 April). He reported that:

- he had approached a number of local schools
- we will probably have around 10 tables
- he has sent invitations to politicians and prospective politicians
- Advertising has gone well, but some notices have been removed
- Action and Capital Metro are coming together
- We should ask HCA members - not just the Committee - to come along and staff the table.

**Date for the Hackett Party:** it was agreed to hold the party on Saturday 29 October.

**Planning for AGM:** There was a discussion about films which could be shown at the AGM on 13 September. Points raised included:

- we could get films out of the Film and Sound Archives, but we would need ensure that they were not too long.
- A film with some relation to Hackett would be ideal – perhaps around 1963. A short documentary - say 15 minutes.
- It would also be possible to download something from YouTube.
- We could put some of the material on the website.

James offered to look for films and Greg and Terry offered to edit.

**Changes to Constitution:** It was agreed that a minor change in the Constitution to update a Reference to legislation could happen without taking it to a general meeting – it would just be a correction.

The meeting ended at 9.00pm.

**Hackett Community Association  
Committee meeting  
14 June 2016**

**Present** – James Walker, Greg Haughey, Lorraine Mason, Len Crossfield, Chris Mobbs, John Carty, Kay Murphy, Terry de Luca and Bruce Smith

Apologies: Marion Williams

**Minutes:** The minutes for 10 March were accepted with the removal of the reference to the sausages at the BBQ.

**Treasurer's report.** Terry reported that the funds of the HCA have increased by 3 cents to \$3244.36

**NCCC funding:** Bruce reported that NCCC has put forward a funding proposal to the ACT Government which includes up to \$1000 for community associations. Greg raised the issue of signs for events and agreed to clarify their cost.

**NCCC Constitution:** James said that he had received a letter from the NCCC about possible changes to its constitution, including the proposal to have residents associations be formally recognized as part of the NCCC. Points raised in discussion included:

- the reference should be to community associations rather than residents associations
- there should be leeway for people who are not members of an association to join

**Hackett oval:** Chris sent a letter to the Minister and has received an acknowledgement. We should get a reply soon. The letter raises a number of issues and Chris looks forward to having a discussion. Chris also noted that someone has knocked down the sign near the oval - we don't know who.

**Hackett Parks:** Chris reported that, in regard to the Bragg St/Brennan St Park, he dropped a flyer in the relevant streets and then had a meeting in the park on the long weekend. About a dozen people offer to work with him on the park. Issues/ideas raised included:

- Shrubs under trees
- Community garden – it would need water
- BBQ - need electricity
- Log walls
- Rock gardens
- Bocce area
- Tables and chairs
- Music in the park
- Naming - aboriginal names or gumtree park

Chris said that he will collect ideas and then feed back into community. He will also look at getting grants - recreational or environmental.

There was then a discussion about whether the Bragg St Park was the best place to begin or whether the focus should be on the park on the main green space near the shops. The argument for the latter was that it is more central, more accessible, and likely to be used by more young people. The argument for Bragg St is that we can start with something more limited and get runs on the board – demonstrate success.

**Environment near shops:** It was agreed that Bruce would write a thank-you note to the Minister for the footpath near the shops, and also add a mention that we hope the toilets are constructed soon.

Concerns by residents of Madigan Gardens about the nature strip in Hackett Place were also discussed. It was noted that we should also be looking at plants on the median strip in Madigan Street. Terry said that he will write to Fix my street.

**Annual General Meeting:** We now have the room booked and it is advertised at the shops. John offered to talk about the Maths Trust.

There was a discussion about positions on the Committee and how to involve more people in the work of the Committee. Points included:

- we could try to get more young people involved - Woden Community Council has a youth council
- local schools might be interested in getting involved.
- someone to represent the shops?

**Party at the Shops (October 29):** Greg led a discussion about planning for the party, including:

- Blue Gum school has said that it will be involved
- Planning for a Jumping castle, face painting, man with slot cars, pantomime, schools - music/gymnastics
- Further possibilities were belly dancers, Irish dancers and Folk dancers.
- John will approach Campbell High, Greg other schools and Terry the Irish dancers.

**Planning for Contact Day:** James reported that he had given Greg the final copy of the report on the last Contact Day for circulation to the Committee. He said that we need to start broadcasting the word. We should let the RSPCA know about it – they could combine with the animal rescue people. Politicians are always good to attend. Greg will email notes to the Liberal Party in Deakin. James will drop copies to other parties. We should email people who we have contacted in the past. We should make more use of the A frames - maybe one of the shops would be willing to put our A frame out each day.

We should also start thinking about what slots we want – we need to have 3 committee members to help set up for the 9.00am slots.

**Hackett Community Association  
Committee meeting  
9 August 2016**

**Present –**

Committee: Greg Haughey, Marian Williams, Chris Mobbs, Kay Murphy, Terry de Luca and Bruce Smith

Members: Dorothy Mackenzie

Visitors: Brett Davis, Tess Horwitz

Apologies: Lorraine Mason, John Carty

Welcome Tess - lives in Bragg St

Mr Fluffy redevelopment: Greg welcomed Tess and Brett, and asked them to talk about the issue of the redevelopment of houses proceeding from the Government's actions on Mr Fluffy.

Tess described the level of concern that residents around Bragg St and Brennan Street have about the possible redevelopment of houses which will be rebuilt following the Mr Fluffy demolitions. That area of Hackett has been particularly hard hit by Mr Fluffy, and residents are still grieving from the loss of long-term residents.

More than 70 people have signed a petition seeking Government consultation about the redevelopment of the blocks. This is an opportunity for high quality development, but it will need to be done properly, with due consideration for heights, scale and setbacks. It will involve very significant changes to the street scape, and developers will be looking to maximize profits. This has particular implications for the possibility of dual occupancy, which may reduce the amount of green space, including setbacks. There is a real ecological value for green spaces, and the increased concrete increases heat.

The next step is that Peter Jones will help to organise group of people to discuss what needs to be done. One of the possibilities is that the Government sets up an information session with planners to help residents understand how it all works

It was agreed to see if it is possible to organise an information session for the AGM.

Minutes – the Minutes were accepted.

Treasurers report – Terry reported that the account stood at \$3,244.42.

Resignation of Chair – The Committee noted the resignation of James Walker from his position as Chair of the Committee, for personal reasons.

There followed a discussion about the need to get younger people onto the Committee in order to renew its membership and keep in touch with issues in the Community. It was agreed that Committee members would try to think of people who might be interested and approach them.

Contact Day: There was a discussion about logistics for the table at the Diversity Day (27 August), and a draft roster was organised.

Annual General Meeting: The AGM will be held on 14 September, and will be advertised in the Neighbourhood Watch. Speakers will be a planner from the Government on Mr Fluffy, John Carty and someone from Neighbourhood Watch.

It was agreed to nominate James for life membership at the AGM, and to give a \$100 book voucher. Life membership would be an appropriate recognition of the contribution he has made to the Association over many years. Bruce will speak to James about attending

Hackett oval precinct: Chris gave an update on developments:

- he had not yet received a reply to his email to Megan Fitzharris
- he had taken advantage of an ad hoc opportunity to speak to Andrew Barr and raised the issues
- Chris, Greg and James met with Steve Doszpot. He made a commitment to look at the issue but we haven't seen anything yet
- In the course of this, Chris has become aware that the zoning of the school area is a bit strange – he will find out more.

Hackett Parks: Chris has prepared a plan for the Bragg St Park and will send it to City Parks to discuss given that the politicians are going into caretaker. One person has raised the possibility of a dog exercise area - but this will need to be well away from houses.

Hackett Shops: Greg has suggested to the Hackett shop keepers that they start up a business association. He will put together a letter /plan about how the HCA might work with them and help to promote the shops, including the use of social media. The key element was to actually put a plan forward.

50 Year book: Greg said he would ask James about continuing work on the book. Greg proposed to get a template for the book, which will allow for an ebook. This will enable photos to go into it and will allow the book to cross platforms. Then will come a stage when we say that that's enough and we finish it.

It was agreed that Greg will buy the template.

Party at the shops: Greg discussed the need to develop a detailed list of actions, which he will work on out of session.

Meeting finished 9.22pm

# HACKETT COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

## 2016 CHAIR'S REPORT

Firstly I would like to acknowledge my predecessor James Walker. James was elected the Chair for 2015-16 but retired very recently for personal reasons. On behalf of the Committee I would like to thank James for his outstanding leadership for the year and also acknowledge his dedication and effort in working towards a better Hackett.

James was a member of the original committee of the HCA was formed in 2003-04. Initially as the History/Archives Officer in keeping with his professional skills and later as Chair from 2008-09 to 2010-11 and then as Deputy Chair when I took over for 3 years and finally as Chair in 2015-16.

Secondly I would like to acknowledge the support of the other Committee members. Without their efforts there would be no Hackett Community Association.

I would also like to acknowledge Lorraine Mason's membership of the Committee. Lorraine first joined the Committee in 2005-06. Initially as a General Committee Member but later as Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer.

### Community Contact Day

This year we introduced quarterly Community Contact Days and we have invited other local organisations and Canberra based community organisations to join in. This change of approach has been an outstanding success.

### Local Organisations

One of the Committee's ongoing concerns has been need to recruit fresh blood, or rather fresh minds and vigour. There is a very real danger that one or more of our community groups could become moribund or disappear completely if this does not happen. Currently, for example, HCA and HNW are largely being led by older retirees, all of whom are slowing down, becoming tired and who could die or leave the suburb at any time. The loss of any of one our community groups would severely diminish the overall effort to foster community spirit in Hackett.

### Websites

We recently established a Hackett Community website to help promote local businesses and organisations separately from the Hackett Community Association which will continue with its own website. It is still work in progress as we fine tune the social media side of the websites but we are hopeful of an increased engagement with residents, businesses and local organisations.

### Shopping Centre

The shopping centre continues to be a vibrant focal centre for local businesses and our community. The recent changes of ownership of the florist shop, the establishment of an

allied health practice and the expansion of Siam Twist have in combination reinvigorated the vibrancy of the shopping centre. The continued vacancy of the old Chinese restaurant is a disappointment and we can only hope that this is leased sooner rather than later.

We continue to push for the installation of a public toilet but the lack of government funding is holding it back. That said we have been told by the Government and other sources that we are at the top of the list and once funding is available it will go ahead.

### Parties at the Shops in March

The next Party at the Shops event is on 29 October. We are planning on a range of activities for children and adults. We have already locked in the Canberra Harmony Choir, the Blue Gum School and the jumping castle.

Finally, I would like to thank everyone here tonight. You are all busy and your attendance comes at some sacrifice and for that we are very appreciative.

Please join the Committee for some light refreshments.

**Hackett Community Association  
Committee meeting  
11 October 2016**

**Present –**

Committee: Greg Haughey, Marion Williams, Kay Murphy, Jean Chesson and Bruce Smith

Members: Derek Rupasinghe

Apologies: Chris Mobbs, John Carty, Terry de Luca

**Minutes:** The minutes of the August meeting were accepted

**Treasurer's report:** There was no Treasurer's report as Terry is overseas. It was noted that \$1000 will come from the North Canberra Community Council.

**Party at the shops:** There was a discussion about planning for the Party at the Shops on 29 October. Greg has taken the lead in organizing. Points covered included:

- It will be held from 9am to 3pm
- the Canberra Harmonic Chorus will be performing
- Campbell High will provide a band
- the vegetable seller from Gilruth Street (Antonia) will have a stall
- the Merici dancers will be coming
- the Jumping castle has been booked
- there will be face painting – we could ask for 1 dollar
- Portaloos have been booked
- there will be a sausage sizzle
- Kay will organise the Raffle (Greg will get raffle books)
- Blue Gum said they will do cake stall
- Need to get brochures out as part of Neighbourhood Watch

**Mr Fluffy homes:** Greg reported that a community meeting was held with planning officials. Key points included:

- planning laws for RZ1 allows for dual occupancy for blocks over 800m
- There is now a lot more flexibility with building than was the case in the past
- There are, however, limits to overshadowing
- Traffic control is difficult because, even though there are a number of blocks quite close to each other, the building is happening at different times

The general view was that if we want control over planning Review, we need to tell the Government what people in Hackett want to have.

Tess will take this issue forward and Greg will keep in touch.

**Annual General Meeting:** There was a general discussion about how the AGM went. The Committee felt that it went well, but we still face the difficulty of getting young people involved.

**Draft survey of Hackett residents:** A survey instrument has been developed by Tess to find out the priorities of Hackett residents. The general feeling was that a survey could be very valuable, though its purpose and scope will need to be carefully determined to get best value.

**Hackett shops:** Greg discussed the need to get more activities going around the shops. He has spoken to Caroline (Florist) about this and she is supportive.

Meeting closed 8.40pm

**Hackett Community Association  
Committee meeting  
8 November 2016**

**Present –**

Committee: Greg Haughey, Kay Murphy, Jean Chesson, Terry de Luca, Chris Mobbs and Bruce Smith

Non-members: Tim Bourke, Rebecca Stockley, Darryl Coonan

Apologies: John Carty, Marian Williams

**Christian Community Presentation**

Two members of the Christian Community, the Rev. Darryl Coonan and Mr Tim Bourke (Treasurer), and Ms Rebecca Stockley (Knight Frank Canberra) attended the meeting and spoke to the proposal by the Church to change the lease on Block 9, Section 12, Holtze Close in Hackett.

Darryl and Tim gave some background about the Christian Community in Hackett:

- The Church was founded post World War 1 linked to the teachings of Rudolph Steiner.
- It has close links with the Orana Steiner School
- There are generally 10-12 adults attending services – there are no indications that it will get significantly bigger
- There are 3 service a week
- There have been no complaints from nearby residents – it is open to everyone and is non-dogmatic
- The building is sometimes used by other groups – including for meditation and yoga
- The Church operates at different times to sports, therefore there are no parking problems.

The Church took over the lease in 1998 – the Girl Guides had stopped using it in 1996. The Church is now in the process of taking over the lease and purchasing the building from the Girl Guides. However, at the time the Church took over the lease, its purpose clauses were not changed so there is no authority to have a place of worship on that site. The Church is therefore seeking a variation to the lease clause and is consulting with the HCA as a local stakeholder.

The Committee asked a number of questions about the Church and its past, and the general view was that the Church is a positive addition to the Hackett Community. It was agreed that the Committee had no objections to the proposal and appreciated the opportunity to be consulted.

Greg opened the remainder of the meeting

**Minutes and matters arising** - the Minutes for 11 October were accepted with the following amendments:

- the reference to “Tess” should read “Tess Horwitz”
- dual occupancy for “Mr Fluffy blocks” is allowed for blocks over 700m

**Treasurer’s report** – Terry reported that the current balance is \$3,015.97.

**Party at the Shops** – there was a general discussion about the Party at the Shops. The general view was that it was a great success, and worked particularly well for families with small children. It was agreed that it should be a recurring event.

We raised \$1,030.70 from the birthday party and made:

- just over \$300 on the BBQ.
- \$614 from the Raffle

- \$77 from face painting

Overall the Association came close to breaking even.

Jane Bayles did the bookshop and would be keen to do it again next year.

Every shop was happy and keen to participate in raffle. It was agreed that we would write letters to the shops to thank them for their donations.

Ari is reported to have said that it should not to happen at the same time as Octoberfest. The problem is, however, that there are major events just about every weekend.

The signs were a big success, and they are reusable in future.

**Hackett oval** – Chris reported that the Government will be in touch when they get to doing something on trees. He noted that it was also good to have made contact with the Christian Community Church and with Bluegum School.

**Community Garden** - Greg and Terry met with Shane Rattenbury about this. Bluegum school could participate. The cost of developing it would need to be met, but money could then be obtained for the lots. It was noted, however, that people in Hackett have big blocks so may have less need of a community garden.

**Parks** – Chris reported that the ACT Greens and Labor agreement mentions micro parks in urban areas and also "adopt a park". Chris will approach them about how this could work in Hackett

**Community survey** – Jean reported on the outcomes of the Community Survey which was undertaken at the Party at the Shops:

- there were 77 completed forms
- People value the reserve, shops, and community
- They are seeking improvements for toilets and playgrounds
- 49 percent were not in favour of high density
- Most people supported the residents association

Demographic results were:

- Length of time in Hackett – median of 3 years
- How many in home – median of 3
- Largest age bracket – 31-45

It was agreed that Bruce would write to the government and ask where do they stand on toilet – this is the highest support for improvement in Hackett. We should also mention the need for an electrical outlet at the shops in the same letter.

**Christmas dinner** – to be held on 13 December

**Reflections by James Walker on work of the HCA** – James had circulated a paper prior to the meeting setting out his thoughts on the work of the Association. The Committee appreciated the thought and effort which had gone into the paper, and agreed with much of it, including the need to give priority to lobbying for toilets at the shops.

There was discussion about James' suggestion that a sign at the shops should be a priority. It was felt that, while a better sign at the shops is desirable, people were not convinced that it should be the responsibility of the HCA – it possibly should be the shopkeepers who take the lead on this. It was noted that, at the Cook shopping centre, shopkeepers have got together to undertake initiatives like this.

It was proposed that we need to engage shopkeepers in a broader Hackett push. In our letter thanking them, we should say that we are looking forward to working with them in future and would

be interested in other suggestions they may have in ideas for improvements (such as food tastings and live music)

There was discussion about whether there has been study of successful shopping centres - Chris agreed to will look to see if there has been research in that area.

Other points in the discussion included:

- agree with James that it is always important to say thank you
- we need to keep on looking at initiatives to increase membership, noting that participation can be very difficult for younger families
- Do we need to just have one website? Possibly HCA should be subset of broader Hackett website
- Our most effective communication tool is Neighbourhood Watch

Meeting closed at 9.25

<b>Agreed actions</b>	<b>Status</b>
Bruce to write to Government: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• thanking them for path to shops</li><li>• asking about toilets at shops</li><li>• asking about electrical outlet at shops</li></ul>	
Greg to write to shops: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• thanking them for donations and other contributions to Party at Shops</li><li>• stating that we are looking forward to working with them</li><li>• asking them for suggestions for improvements and joint actions with HCA</li></ul>	
Chris to approach ACT Government to find out how “micro parks” in urban areas and “adopt-a-park” could work in Hackett	