

Newtown Residents' Assn

Minutes of Meeting of 19 November 2012

Present:	17 members and 3 guests / visitors
Apologies:	
Guest Speak:	Ian Shearer (Sustainability Trust)

	Business	Decisions / Actions
1	E-Waste	
	Ian Shearer (Sustainability Trust) spoke about the e-waste collection service that the Trust provides. He described how some residents' associations worked with the Trust to combine this with their inorganic rubbish collection day. It was noted that Newtown did not have an inorganic rubbish collection day. Options were discussed for either the NRA to organise an inorganic collection, or for it to support the Trust's collection service separately.	It was agreed that these would be considered further in the New Year. Depending on volunteers & Festival commitments
2	Town Belt Management Plan	
	It was reported that WCC had started consultations on a revised Town Belt Management Plan, and had flagged the possibility of it promoting amendments to the legislation under which the town belt was administered. In discussion a variety of issues and perspectives were raised. It was clear that different members had different philosophies on this and that an agreed NRA position may be difficult to achieve.	It was agreed that the NRA should lodge a submission focused primarily on registering the NRA's ongoing interest in the process.
3	Liquor License Applications	
	The application for a takeaway liquor licence in Newtown Ave was discussed.	It was agreed that an objection would be lodged by the NRA.
4	Bus Route Pre-Consultation	
	It was reported that NRA reps had attended a pre-consultation with Cllr Ponter and staff of GW. This had been designed as an opportunity for the GW staff to test where their thinking was going in terms of their firming up proposals. The next stage of formal consultation will be in the New Year. The impression we gained with was that what was likely to emerge would involve less radical change than earlier suggested with fewer "hubbed" services in the Southern suburbs.	NFA at this stage. Watching brief.
5	Survey of Issues in the Suburb	
	Nick Jennings raised the idea of a possible survey to identify issues in the suburb. There was general support for the idea and agreement that this could be followed up in the New Year.	Further discussions with Nick Scope to be explored :- budget and extent of detail

6	Basin Reserve Flyover Meeting	
	Attendees were reminded of the public meeting on Wednesday 21 November at St Josephs.	
7	John St Retailers / New Countdown Supermarket	
	<p>There was an extensive discussion of the issues around the reconfiguration of the John St intersections and its impact on local retailers. These included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Signage, and the disparity between those at the new supermarket compared to what other local retailers (subject to the heritage area rules) were allowed: • Parking, and whether the commitments given earlier by the developers were being honoured: • The character elements of the new street landscaping, and whether these actually reflected existing WCC policy: • Traffic engineering, especially the finish date for the work, and the hours of work of the contractors: • The loss of business suffered by local retailers and the possibility of compensation: • The seeming lack of co-ordination among the 3 projects (road, water, and data cabling) affecting the intersection: • What was going to happen next, given reports that work on the water main may be extensive and ongoing. 	<p>It was agreed that an urgent community meeting would be arranged, to try to settle all the issues around the intersection (spanning the roading, water and data cabling projects). This should include representatives of WCC councillors and officials, and representatives of the supermarket owners.</p> <p>Chair to report to next meeting on the outcomes.</p>
8	Newtown History Project	
	The point that this had been a long running project was raised and it was suggested that this needed to be brought to a conclusion.	<p>Key member of Newtown Festival "staff" is a 4th year history student and depending on her Summer Scholarships she will work through the collating and scanning over the summer recess.</p> <p>The pre-paid Architecture grad will be deployed secondary to this so we target his skills on layout and presentation - that way we will get web presentation of book excerpts, poster outtakes and "The book" as Laura Rosier intended</p>

9	Christmas Carols	
	Attendees were reminded of the Christmas carols being held at government House 7 Dec. (Rainday Mon 10 Dec)	Note this is the 1 st time use of this key Newtown venue & members are encouraged to attend, and bring their friends...
10	Newtown Business Assn	
	Attendees were reminded of the meeting on 20 November.	
11	NRA Christmas Meeting	
	This would be a social meet at Bar Edward on 10 December	Note this same evening = Newtown Carols at Government House "Rainday"
12	Newtown Festival Update	
	It was noted that planning was underway for the 2013 Festival and Fair Day on 3 March. At this stage the aim was an event of similar scale to last year, although as always what could be put together depending on what was fundable.	Grant applications with exact amounts (once final quotes are available) will be circulated to the exec for confirmation resolutions by email