Downer Community Association Management Committee

Minutes of Meeting 2 June 2025

The meeting opened at 7pm, and closed at 8 pm.

Convenor: Robyn Rennie

The meeting opened with an acknowledgment of the traditional owners.

Attendees: Committee members: Robyn Rennie, Leon Arundell, Jacqui Pinkava, Manik Datar, Peter Comisari, John Godwin. **Members:** Aniko Carey, Henrietta Flinn.
Apologies: Miles Boak, Amit Barkay, Amy Barthet, Peter Carey.
No apology from Sue Dyer. Jane Teasey apparently absent until July meeting.

Agenda Item 1: Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting on 5 May 2025 were agreed, and carried.

Agenda Item 2: Review of Action Items

Action addressees from Agenda Items 4 (Treasurer's Report) , and 5 (Centre Management Report), of the previous meeting were unable to attend, and reports were carried forward to the 7 July meeting.

Agenda Item 3: Correspondence- Jacqui Pinkava

There was no incoming correspondence highlighted as agenda items
Noted that DCA experience in setting up our frog pond was sought by a Campbell resident wishing to do similar in a park in Campbell. Information provided.
Outgoing: 31 May- Invitation to the Floriade bulb planting emailed to DCA members.

Agenda Item 4: Treasurer's Report. – Miles Boak (apology)

The Operational a/c balance is $27629.67, and the Savings a/c balance is $71345.41
Major income for the last month was $4183.97 from room hire.
Full report unable to be provided due to absence of Treasurer.

Agenda Item 5: Centre Management Report- Amit Barkay (apology)

There was no report available for this month. Information provided via email, noting a few broken tables and upholstery on chairs splitting.

Agenda Item 6: North Canberra Community Council Report.- Leon Arundell

Leon referred members to the video record of the last NCCC meeting, in which Kurrajong MLA, Elizabeth Lee, discussed a number of relevant issues including:

- the Planning (Territory Priority Project) Amendment Bill 2025.
- Supporting more 'missing middle' homes in Canberra's suburbs: Consultation will be open until about September. The Council might consider making a submission.
- 'Levers' that the ACT Government can use to affect issues such as housing affordability, and 'levers' that are outside the ACT Government's control but are within the Australian Government's control.

- Lease variation charges.
- The need for better processes for assessing and collecting stamp duty. Revenue office debt raising left Canberrans ''confused and upset'': ombudsman.
- District Strategies.
- Consultation issues, eg. scheduling short consultation periods in busy periods ie. lead-up to Christmas.
- The carbon footprint of the ACT, and the Government's agreement to implement only one of the recommendations of the Commissioner for Sustainability and the Environment in relation to Scope 3 emissions.
- The Urban Expansion in the ACT report by the Commissioner for Sustainability and the Environment

Agenda Item 7: Other Business.

a. The working bee for plantings for Floriade 2025 will be held in the Square, on Saturday 7 June at 1pm.

ACTION: Jacqui- Update website to note event and send out email to DCA members. Leon- to post planting event on Facebook.

b. Jacqui Pinkava reported on the number of shrubs apparently stolen again from the Fenton Street Park project.
c. It was agreed that an Action Item record be kept as an aid to the committee, and as a useful available record of actions undertaken by the Association.
d. There was a wide-ranging discussion covering:
    1. the status of the lack of a formal lease from the government (as landlord);
    2. no feedback from the government's inspection (April) of the guttering and verandah of the building;
    3. the large balance of the bank a/c, a long-standing proposal that for the installation of solar panels, and that once the lease arrangements were in place, progress could be made on that proposal. See Action proposed.
e. The need for further action re insurance, on the proposed guidelines for DCA community grants was discussed.

ACTION: Amit to follow up on the inspection of the guttering/verandah.
Jacqui to follow up with Tom Emmerson MLA on March meeting undertakings. DCA to write to the Minister for City and ACT Government Services (Ms Cheyne) to request progress on both the maintenance, and the lease. Letter to Rachel Stephen-Smith re: her promise on recommissioning of local toilets.
Discussion between Miles/Amit/John re the insurance implications attending the proposed grant guidelines.

Next Meeting: 7pm, 7 July 2025

Robyn Rennie
Convenor

John Godwin
Minute Secretary