Minutes
Downer Community Association Committee meeting
7 pm Monday 5 October 2026

1. Welcome

2. Attendance and apologies

Attendance: Committee members Miles Boak (A/ Chair, Treasurer), Jacqui Pinkava (Public Officer) Jane Teasey, Bea Brickhill, Others Aniko Carey and Mary Hedges

Apologies: Robyn Rennie, Amit Barkay, Leon Arundell, Amy Barthet. Absent- Rayma Victor.

Acceptance of minutes:

The minutes of previous meeting -7 September 2026 were accepted.

3. Action Items arising from previous meetings

See list of Action Items below

Of note- The E-Petition on Downer shops pedestrian safety closed on 30 September. Advised by Office of Thomas Emerson that as 200 signatures received the petition will be tabled during next week's sitting. The government will therefore be required to provide a response. Awaiting confirmation from Emerson's office that this has occurred.

4. Centre Management Report

The current Centre Coordinator, Amy Barthet is leaving at years end. We received three excellent applications for the advertised position. Rosemary was selected and is currently shadowing Amy in preparation for taking on the role.

5. Correspondence report (Jacqui Pinkava)

11 Sept- SEEChange Office Manager- heater not working. Forwarded to info@dca...

14 Sept- Emerson Office- advising that we have passed 200 signature which –

…" means that the petition will be tabled during next week's sitting, and the government will be required to provide a response"

15 Sept- Mustafa Hamady- Tender Loving Care Aged Care- wanting to book a room for 24 Sept. Replied with link to Spacetoco and cc info@dca...

18 Sept- M Hamady again- asking Amy to give him an update if he can book.

30 Sept- Christine Butterfield – wanting DCA to advertise the social games run by Northside Cmty Services.

2 Oct- Rob Miller- sending link to Downer Weather - https://weather.downer.st/ Request to Lance to have link on website home page.

Two membership requests (via the website) processed. Indicating that the website is being viewed.

Outgoing

10 Sept- E-Bulletin on extension to E-Petition

6. Chair's report

No report available

7. Treasurers report (Miles Boak)

Miles reported that we made a profit of $1455 over the September period.

That major expenses were utilities and wages. A donation of $690 was provided to the Dickson Residents Group for the research into Dickson's 100th year commemoration project.

In readiness for the AGM on 30 November, our auditor Graeme Lindner has been contacted and advised that the DCA accounts are ready for submitted upon his request.

8. North Canberra Community Council (NCCC) report

The September General meeting approved all grant requests, subject to the government grant being paid.
Leon is convening a subcommittee to draft a submission to the Inquiry into electoral representation in the ACT (due 30 October).
Guest speaker and MLA for Kurrajong, Rebecca Vassarotti, discussed a range of issues including:

- the benefits of taking community views into account, following consultation
- A series of deliberative democracy "town halls" that Rebecca is hosting.
- The transfer of part of the Lyneham public oval to Brindabella Christian College
- Lack of public ability to observe decision-making on development applications in the ACT
- Redevelopment of the Braddon Bowling Club
- The benefits of community-driven changes to the planning system, rather than developer-driven changes

Next meetings: Committee meeting 7 pm 21 October (online)
Annual General Meeting 18 November (Campbell High School library and online)

9. Other Business

AGM

Clarification that the AGM will be held at 7 pm on 30 November, preceded by a barbecue from 6pm. Amit is away for a month in that period. Miles to organise food and drinks and operation of BBQs.

The Downer Square Update-

- Miles had a meeting with Amy Sweeting ACT Parks. This has been completed. They also trimmed the hedges and mulched the garden beds.
- On the question of what to do with the Floriade area once the flowering is over? Given the abundance of weeds it was decided (post meeting discussion with Amit) that we will mow it regularly in summer to keep it tidy. The long-term maintenance of the area is yet to be resolved.
- Post the committee meeting, John Godwin, resident of The Bradfield has suggested a more robust treatment for the rammed earth pathway. For discussion at next meeting.

Noise compliant by residents of Goodwin -

- It is noted that the complaint also included noise from the Downer Centre on Monday nights as well as Gang Gang.
- Miles to write a letter on behalf of DCA expressing support for the Gang Gang music program and pointing out it was in operational before Goodwin Retirement Village was built.

The meeting closed at 7.45 pm

Next Committee Meeting: 7 pm Monday 2 November 2026.

CONTINUOUS RECORD OF ACTION ITEMS

Completed action items

Completed action	Meeting
Robyn: Petition on safety of the precinct road nearest Gang Gang and the park**.** Robyn to find out who creates/loads the e-petition.	Feb 2026
Robyn- sent Aniko Carey the information sheet about the DCA to give to new Downer residents.	July 2026
Miles- 2026 Heritage Grants - new interpretive signs. No further action required.	Aug 2025
Amy- draft duty statement for Centre-Coordinator position.	July 2026
Amy- follow up with Majura Women's Group re decoration of renovated library	July 2026
Jacqui- Follow up with Lia Zhao on her offer to do a free digital literacy course.	May 2026
Amit- finalise the Downer Centre lease agreement. **Jacqui**- Grant program for worthwhile/ community enhancing activities loaded onto the DCA website. **Jacqui-** Submitted to NCCC request for reimbursement of $288 for a large weather-proof placard advertising the Floriade Planting community activity to be considered for their 2026/7 grant program. Also requested $600 additional funds for new Clean-up Downer placards.	July 2026 10 July 10 July
Jacqui and Leon- advertise for new Centre-Coordinator position via website, emails and Facebook.	August 2026

Pending action items

Pending action	Meeting	Status
Amit & Amy; Arrange for Rosemary to become familiar with Centre management procedures	Sep 2026	
Robyn- send thanks to Jim Dehlsen for library renovation	July 2026	.
Amit- Purchase a new refrigerator up to the value of $1,000.	Aug 2026	Amit looking for a suitable fridge

Pending action	Meeting	Status
Miles- volunteered to organise BBQ- food drink and equipment.	Oct 2026	
Unallocated- mow former Floriade planting area and discuss weed management.	Oct	
Jacqui- arrange for link to Downer Weather Station on DCA website	Oct	Done
Miles to write a letter on behalf of DCA expressing support for the Gang Gang music program and pointing out it was in operational before Goodwin Retirement Village was built.	Oct	