



Minutes

DERG Meeting

Function Room, 350 High Street, Preston

Wednesday 4 May 2017, 7.00-9.00pm

Item	Discussion	Action
1. Welcome	<p><b>Attendees:</b> Toni Meek, Meg Montague, Kat Lavers, Michele Burton, Cameron Schmelitschek, Philip Sutton, Rhys Dale, Dru Marsh, Slobodanka Stojkovic, Julie O'Brien, Steffan Howe</p> <p><b>Guests:</b> Bhensri Naemiratch, Gavin Mountjoy, Sue Phillips</p> <p><b>Apologies:</b> Cr Trent McCarthy, Scott Warren</p> <p><b>Chair:</b> Libby Hynes</p> <p><b>Minutes:</b> Sam Green</p>	
2. Assembly of Councillors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No conflicts of interest were declared by Cr Le Cerf</li> </ul>	
3. Matters arising from minutes (February 2017)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How the parking framework policy (including car share policy) interacts with planning / development requirements (see Appendix 1)</li> <li>• A brief synopsis regarding how sustainability is treated in each 'non-environmental' strategy / policy / plan to be reviewed to be provided to DERG by departments undertaking reviews. This will provide DERG with a framework for discussion.               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ Each strategy presented to DERG for input/review will include discussion about how environmental sustainability is to be considered in that strategy, as evidenced in the presentation about the review of Council's Health and Wellbeing Strategy.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	
4. Health and Wellbeing Plan Consultation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It is mandatory that Council has a Health and Wellbeing Strategy</li> <li>• The strategy is reviewed every 4 years, at the same time as the Council Plan is reviewed/rewritten.</li> <li>• The strategy connects the natural environment with wellbeing.</li> <li>• See attached presentation for details.</li> <li>• Feedback required:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ What can we do to best contribute to healthy natural environments in Darebin?</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DERG members to provide feedback to Sam by Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> May 2017.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o What can Council do to promote and support equal opportunity for health and wellbeing outcomes for residents and for the environment?</li> <li>• Further discussion: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Parks Victoria investigating the connection between mental and physical health and natural spaces including looking for opportunities for people to get back into nature</li> <li>o And other similar programs like the 'Get Outside Program' run by Tasmania Parks and Wildlife and 'Nature Kids'</li> <li>o Suggestion that citizenship ceremony participants plant the trees they receive at the ceremony somewhere in Darebin and therefore make space to connect with environment</li> <li>o Sustainable transport and safety connection – people feel safer if more people are out and about – Council can contribute to sense of safety by achieving positive sustainable transport outcomes</li> <li>o Issue with trail bike riders on bikepaths noted</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	
<p><b>5. Climate Change Strategy Review</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• See attached presentation for details.</li> <li>• Will the removal of the carbon budget and timeline to achieve zero emissions reduce the sense of urgency and so inspiration for people to take action? Or will it do the opposite, and remove any paralysis which might come with ambitious/stretch targets?</li> <li>• Carbon drawdown not mentioned but vital.</li> <li>• There is possibly a role for council in reconnecting residents to what and who needs protecting – for example - what will it take to achieve the protection of Pacific Islanders or the Great Barrier Reef – in answering these questions, the sense of urgency is obvious, and thus timelines not needed.</li> <li>• There has not yet been a decision about how the \$20 million needed for solar programs will be raised. Council could borrow money and the low loan cost could be passed back to participants who are not low income residents</li> <li>• Rental properties may be included in the next solar saver program but it is difficult to get agreement from landlords. Instead it might include community solar programs and /or buying solar from other properties</li> </ul>	<p>Draft climate emergency plan will be circulated to DERG members when available (anticipated mid May) – for discussion at June DERG meeting.</p>

	(electricity trading)	
<b>6. Stop Adani Campaign</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Council is supporting the Stop Adani campaign including putting pressure on state and federal governments and Westpac bank to oppose the Adani Carmichael coal mine.</li> <li>• Council wants to align investment policy with divestment from fossil fuels policy – the two policies currently contradict each other</li> <li>• As part of the campaign, Council in partnership with Darebin Climate Action Now is hosting a screening of ‘Guarding the Galilee’ and panel discussion including representatives from 350.org, SEED Indigenous Youth Climate Network, Doctors for the Environment and Darebin Climate Action Now. Register for the event online - <a href="https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/film-screening-guarding-the-galilee-tickets-33567759071">https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/film-screening-guarding-the-galilee-tickets-33567759071</a></li> </ul>	
<b>7. Council Procurement Policy and Environmental Purchasing Code</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review of the environmental purchasing code to include more specific and tailored information to ensure that Council departments can consider environmental sustainability when purchasing goods and services.</li> <li>• The top 10 council purchases will be identified and then the environment team will work with these teams to develop tailored information/how-to guides/templates</li> <li>• Also opportunity to work with suppliers of top 10 purchases</li> <li>• Feedback required: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ Provide information/ideas relating to specific requirements of environmental purchasing</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DERG members to provide feedback to Sam by Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> May 2017.</li> </ul>
<b>8. General issues</b>		
<b>8.1 Council Minutes Table of Contents</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Electric vehicles in Darebin – a report went to Council outlining possible strategies to increase the uptake of electric vehicles in Darebin. The current costs and availability of cars are limiting. Council has asked for another report in 2018.</li> <li>• The amount collected for the state government landfill levy far surpasses what Council has received in grants from the levy fund. Council is advocating for its fair share from this fund.</li> <li>• Re-design of St Georges Road – DERG members keen to have input into understorey plant planning. There is interest in replacing exotic species with non-exotic/indigenous species. Also an interest in</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Toni to investigate and report back on Melbourne Water’s plans for St Georges Road planting.</li> </ul>

	<p>maintaining temporary path when new bike path is installed so that there can be separate pedestrian and bike paths.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There is interest in planting out the grassed area covering water assets along Cheddar Road. This issue was investigated some years ago but Melbourne Water resisted the idea. Council may investigate this option again.</li> </ul>	
<b>8.2 Project updates</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Good to see that some water projects are progressing</li> <li>• Discussion about carp kill and implications for bird and other marine life at Edwardes Lake.</li> </ul>	
<b>9. Other Business</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No other business.</li> </ul>	
<b>10. Date of next meeting</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> June 2017, Preston offices (Rooftop Room, Northcote Town Hall, High Street, Northcote)</li> </ul>	

## Appendix 1

How does the parking framework policy (including car share policy) interact with planning / development requirements?

Parking provision requirements are set out in Clause 52.06 of the Planning Scheme. These rates apply to the whole of Victoria and it is fair to say that they are a pretty blunt instrument and haven't been reviewed in a very, very long time. Clause 52.06 is here:

[http://planning-schemes.delwp.vic.gov.au/schemes/vpps/52\\_06.pdf](http://planning-schemes.delwp.vic.gov.au/schemes/vpps/52_06.pdf)

Broadly speaking, Clause 52.06 states that car parking must be provided in accordance with the rates contained in Table 1 to Clause 52.06, prior to the commencement of a new use or extension of an existing use. Typical examples are:

- Dwellings- 1 space per 1 bedroom dwelling; 2 spaces for 3 or more bedroom dwellings; 1 visitor space per 5 dwellings;
- Child care centre - 0.22 spaces per child
- Restaurant – 0.4 spaces to each patron permitted.

A permit can be granted to waive or reduce car parking requirements contained in Clause 52.06. This is subject to an applicant providing Council with a Car Parking Demand Assessment that demonstrates that their need for car parking won't be as great as what is set out in the Scheme. These applications are assessed on their merits and planning often refer these applications to Transport Engineering. We can use a Parking Overlay to vary the 52.06 rates, but we don't currently have any in our Scheme.

Council is currently reviewing our approach to implementing car share to increase access for our community. Mechanisms to increase car share as part of new developments may be a way to achieve this. It is likely that this will be voluntarily, or via permit requirement on Planning Permit applications, in lieu of providing required number of spaces under Clause 52.06 (Car Parking). This is particularly likely to be the case when there is a significant reduction from the requirements in Clause 52.06 or the development is proposed to be 'car free'. This would be implemented on a case by case basis. (we discussed that there is a preference for on street bays open to the public and this may not be able to be part of planning permit) A report is due to go to Council in June reporting on this review.