

Report to members of the NRDCAA in accordance with Part 4 clause 24 (2) (b).

The NRDCAA committee with the support of the membership and others have been very active locally and taken a strong stance in our endeavours to represent the interest of the residents and ratepayers, when requested and as required.

Our main focus is on over development by HCC without adequate infrastructure west of the river. This over development has led to very heavy traffic congestion, particularly in peak hours. The peak hours can stretch in the morning for up to two and a half hours and up to three and quarter hours in the afternoon leading into the night.

In addition we have had grave concerns with the continuing housing creep, particularly at North Richmond, the lack of care and attention by Council to Redbank Creek, Navua Reserve and the lack of action and interest by a majority of Liberal councillors in protecting rich farming lands such as Yobarnie which according to Professor Stuart Hill is the first organic farm in Australia.

Like Thompson's Square, it's heritage should be preserved, enhanced and promoted as a tourist attraction.

We have endeavoured to achieve our objectives by being active, informative and accurate within the community, encouraging the residents and ratepayers to be noisy, informed and encouraging their neighbours and friends to also take an interest in their community. We reject complacency.

How have we been active?

The committee and the membership have been represented and involved in:

The "Fair Trading" report for financial year 2010 was lodged.

The political Forum 10th of March 2011,

Held monthly meetings of the NRDCAA except for December 2011 and March 2012,

The March 2012 meeting was cancelled because the committee felt it was more important to attend the State Government Community Cabinet at Springwood. Mary Buckett, Margaret and Bryan Smith attended and were able to meet with Local Government Minister Page and express our concern with the conflict of interest with two liberal councillors who are also members of the State Parliament.

Bryan was also able to put a question to Minister Hazzard in the broader forum with regards to development laws and regulations.

Members, residents, and ratepayers attended Council meetings and spoke on development and planning issues for Kurmond, North Richmond and Glossodia and other issues. This has reflected in the NRDCAA being an active, involved community group. The NRDCAA has also filled the vacuum of those Councillors who are not representing the residents and ratepayer's interest.

Some of the correspondence to HCC and others on a number of issues including;

Graffiti on Franklins building and size of the sign,

Traffic congestion in and around North Richmond,

Traffic congestion in Riverview Street. Major problems when delivery trucks arrive,,

Correspondence to all Councillors re Aged Care changes,

Correspondence to HCC re Pecks Road footpaths and other issues,

Correspondence to Mr Bassett member for Londonderry and Mr Furlo ALP spokesperson for Roads and Ports re dates for discussion re SMH article 13 July 2011. No reply,

Correspondence forwarded to Councillors and Members of Parliament re extreme traffic congestion. August 2011,

Correspondence forwarded to Mark Regent (Builddev) re consultative mechanism. August 2011.

Hawkesbury Residential Land Strategy consultative process was conducted with nine other community groups. The Director of City Planning attended and represented Council. Three consultative groups meetings were conducted in January 2011. It appeared positive at the time. The test is in the use of the document. It has not lived up to our expectations

Assisted bringing some community groups together recognising others groups and concerns. Positive outcome.

NRDCAA involved in Grose Vale resident's concerns with development at Benedict X1V.

Review of insurance and incorporation,

Invited Business Manager Damien Tomlinson to May 11 meeting to give us some clues on using the press,

Concerns with changes to Nursing home (reduction of beds) and changes in road layout, May 11. Bryan and Margaret Smith must be sincerely thanked for the hours/days of research to deal with this change and protect the community's interest as best we can. The majority of liberal councillors are not supportive of our endeavours. Formal submission lodged.

Bryan smith addressed Council meeting on the submission June/July 2011.

Hawkesbury Health Service advisory board presented in July 11. The monthly meeting was utilised as a community focus group for the feed back to HHS.

NRDCAA affiliates with Hawkesbury Environmental Network (HENS),

Council flag their intention in Business paper to back flip on Mayoral Minute, "no rezoning west of the river...." NRDCAA address Council, obtains reprieve for a short period whilst consultation with Community groups and Director City Planning Matthew Owens. Consultation after one meeting nipped in the bud. The majority of Councillors, all Liberals, back flip on Mayoral minute. August 2011,

NRDCAA meeting receives report on the initial consultative group meeting with NRJP. September 2011,.

Jane Uff updates web site. More information is now available on the site. See www.nrdacc.org.au; Jane does this work in her own time. We need to thank Jane for her work which assists us get the message out.

Petition launched online and hard copy. November 2011. 2703 petitioner's signatures along with 571 on line petitioner's intentions were presented To Councillor Ford Mayor of HCC and General Manager Mr, P, Jackson on the 27th of March. That is a total of 3274 petitioners opposed to rezoning of land west of the river in accordance with the petition's intent. We must continue on with the petition.

A special thanks to a number of people including non members.

NRDCAA erected a "Sick of the Traffic" sign on a property owned by Russell Jarvie at the corner of March and Bosworth Street. The compliance officers from HCC requested Russell remove the sign as it was non compliant. We have sought from Council the requirements to have the sign comply.

NRDCAA distributed over 2000 leaflets encouraging residents and ratepayers to sign the petition on line. The pamphlets were printed by Peter Fisk at cost. The Henry family also assisted with the photo copying. We thank them both for their contributions..

North Richmond Joint Project reneges on agreement to present to NRDCAA meeting. Members of the committee referred to hand outs provided by NRJP to present to the NRDCAA October meeting. Members expressed disappointment, but resolves to maintain communication with NRJP. October 2011,

NRDCAA members attend community information session on the development proposal for Yobarnie, conducted by Straight talk and other experts. OCT 2011

NRDCAA membership receives a presentation from Director of City Planning, Matthew Owens on the Gateway process. Complicated. November 2011,

NRDCAA resolves to form Redbank Creek committee. A survey was completed earlier this year. Continue to liaise with HCC and other groups.

NRDCAA January 2012 meeting invited Councillor Ford Mayor of HCC to attend and answer question forwarded to him well prior to the meeting. The Mayor's presentation was poor and non responsive to community's concerns. Very disappointing.

The Treasurer will present her report at this meeting.

The raffle at each meeting has assisted us with our finances plus at least two donations.

I would like to express my appreciation to members of the committee, Colleen Turnbull Secretary, Mary Buckett Vice President elect, Margaret Smith Treasurer, Committee members Bryan Smith, John Maguire, Beatriz Insausti. Others have assisted the committee progress activities over the period. If I name people I will most likely leave some out. They know who they are.

I would like to thank John Maguire from Enniskillen Orchard at Grose Vale who has donated produce for the raffle each month. In addition the Turnbull supply raffle prizes, biscuits and tea after meetings have been very generous along with Henrys' and Peter Fisk.

The above represents a snap shot of issues over the last year. Our efforts are a NRDCAA team effort, with lots of helpers.

Michael Want President April 2011.