

WHITE GUM VALLEY PRECINCT

Minutes for Meeting held 7.30pm Tuesday 2nd October, 2012 @ The White Gum Valley Primary School

ATTENDANCE:

People Attending: 15 community members As per attached Attendance and E-mail Sheet
Apologies: Brad Pettitt, Dave Coggin, Ingrid Waltham
Co-Convenor: Roy Lewisson / Nick Turner
Minutes: Nick Turner

Item 1.

Fremantle Community Wind Farm Presentation

Fremantle Community Wind Farm is a community group who are seeking to get interest in establishing a wind farm at Fremantle Port.

A previous proposal had planning approval but this has now lapsed.

This is a small project, which is one reason why it hasn't progressed previously. However, a combination of factors, including the exchange rate and the inception of carbon pricing have improved the prospect of establishment. Further, The project is only viable because of investment from previous proponent (\$500K) delivering key information, such as site survey and wind data.

The wind farm will generate enough power to supply about 3000 homes.

Plan to apply the established Bendigo Bank business model. Plan to raise 8 to 10 million dollars from community members, the balance from banks. Revenue from the project is shared with community investors. Surplus earnings are transferred to a community investment account. This model is working in many parts of the world

The key reason the current revival of the project has not progressed is because there is no commercial agreement in place for access to Fremantle Ports land.

FCWF have lobbied the Premier. The Port is in his Electorate and he has expressed support for the proposal.

Fremantle Council has reviewed the project and would be interested in being an investor if it progressed.

FCWF invited attendees to visit the website at <http://www.fremantlewindfarm.com.au> to learn more.

Noise was raised as a potential issue. Modelling has indicated that this will not impact on the local community.

Subsonic noise was also discussed. This has been raised as a major issue for some developments, while at the same time there are wind farms that have operated for years in close proximity to people with no ill effects.

Item 2.

Minilya Ave Post Pox Update

This has been reinstated. A win for community action. Well done everybody!

Item 3

Update on Local Planning Issues

Proposed Widening of Stirling Highway between Carrington Street and High Street

Report supplied by Councillor Ingrid Waltham. Council has approved in principle an improved option called the Safe Systems Approach – it's safer, less expensive, avoids knocking down privately owned homes and offers up some potentially positive benefits for the community which may ameliorate some of the hardship. Some realignment of the golf course will still be required and hence some follow on impacts to Booyemberra Park. FERN will be relocated, but with some constructive and creative community input these issues should be able to resolved with least harm. The plans will go out for public consultation, beginning with workshops with stakeholders – including WGV precinct. City of Fremantle will be in contact soon regarding this.

Feeling is that this is as positive an outcome as we could have hoped for. It's a compromise but a massive improvement on what the Minister was assuring us would happen twelve months ago.

It was noted that the Mayor and Councilor Waltham have played a significant role in getting this significant compromise.

It was also noted that the impact on Booyembera Park will need focus - we will push for “creative” solutions that have least impact

Kim Beazley Site

Previous workshops have identified keep community sheds, keep as many trees as possible, mixture or large and small blocks, access from Hope and Watkins Street. Feedback from Landcorp on proposals is anticipated in the next few months.

Knutsford Street Precinct

The first release of blocks from this development has been announced. It appears that this will fit with the “feel” of the Valley.

Superblock

No feedback from Homeswest. Demolitions continue. Last purchase of private residence by Homeswest has progressed.

Feeling was that there is a need to start engaging on this so the Valley can have input on the direction of the development.

Discussion highlighted that there are significant pockets of land which will be developed in the Valley in the near future, and it is really important that these enhance rather than detract from the feel of our suburb.

Item 4.

Play Equipment for Booyembera Park

Rob Dobson presented three options for play equipment at the park. There is a budget of \$70,000 for this. Proposed play area is located to the north end of the park near the barbecues. Rob requested that precinct members with a strong view contact him on preferred options.

Item 5

Representation on Inner Harbour Community Liaison Group

Meets monthly. Roy asked for community members to approach him after the meeting if they want to attend. Mary Chila (WGV Resident) showed interest and has submitted an application to join the committee as the WGV Precinct Representative.

Item 6

Noticeboards in the Valley

These will be modified to be the same as the one's in Booyembera Park, with a simple metal sheet so posters can be glued and cleaned off every few months.

Item 7

Next Meeting

Next meeting will be in two months' time. 4th December

The meeting concluded at 8.40 p.m.

***Nick Turner
Co-Convenor
White Gum Valley Precinct***