

CRA PLANNING GROUP MEETING MIINUTES

DATE: 11 February 2019 **VENUE:** 15 Drummond Place Carlton

PRESENT:

Warren Green yes	Mark Cleary yes	Andrew Spencer
Ewan Ogilvy yes	Dennis Toth yes	Clive Miller yes

1 Apologies: ----

1a Special Agenda Item - Resignation of WG as PG Convenor. Warren tabled a list of tasks that he has been undertaking. Dennis suggested that the CRA Committee should/could take a lead on planning issues. Warren will ring Andrew Spencer and Nick from 2 Drummond St to ascertain their future availability to contribute to planning deliberations. Ewan proposed that the CRA should, at the first meeting following the AGM, decide whether they wish the planning committee to continue. **Following extensive discussion during the meeting, Clive then followed up with this analysis of the challenges faced by the Group, an acknowledgement of Warren’s important contribution over many years, and the need for the full CRA Committee to assume greater responsibility for the planning “portfolio”**

“WG announced his resignation as Convenor of the Planning Group effective from 05 March 2019.

The members of the Planning Group acknowledged WG’s leadership and contributions to the work of the Planning Group over the last twenty four years, seven as Convenor, and acknowledged the burden that the role of Convenor has become.

Furthermore, the members were of the opinion that, as planning has been (should be?) a core activity of the Carlton Residents Association and as WG has been the leader and prime motivator of this group for such a long time, that it would be appropriate to recommend to the Committee of the CRA that WG be awarded an honorary life membership of CRA.

WG tabled a list of explicit individual tasks that he routinely carries out (by no means all that he does) and suggested that tasks could be shared between members of the Planning Group. Some discussion ensued between members. However, CM expressed the opinion that this misses the fundamental point that the Planning Group (if it is to continue) needs a leader. The (new) leader can then perform or delegate tasks as appropriate.

None of the members present were willing to accept nomination for the position of Convenor.

WG then put to the members the question “What form should the Planning Group take from now on; what does it achieve and should it continue?” It was agreed by the members that such a question was for the Committee of the CRA to address and decide.

As a newcomer to both Melbourne and planning, CM expressed his personal opinions:

That as a volunteer group of individuals without resources other than its individuals, the Planning Group can only have limited effectiveness. As he sees it, the Planning Group can be

effective only against small individual “domestic” developments; but these are adequately provided for by the rights of objection that exist of neighbours and the like (should they be so inclined) and the paid professional planners in the CoM. Against large developments (with large resources available to influence the outcome of planning decisions) the Planning Group can have little effect (with a few exceptions).

That the planning process as a whole is flawed. The following three examples will suffice to illustrate

1. *there are too many planning guidelines that are “suggested” or “preferred” rather than “mandatory” which means that the parameters for planning decisions are too flexible and amenable to violation by developers with political or financial influence. Specific instances include height limits and setbacks,*
2. *the designation of the “City North” area deprives residents affected by developments of their basic democratic right of objection,*
3. *the on-going CoM Heritage Review has become shambolic, and has represented a major and intolerable burden for EO over the last two years*

That the members of the Planning Group were all of an age that none wished to assume a greater workload and that none of them would be around (for long) to see the Melbourne that is currently being planned. Despite numerous attempts to recruit younger members to the Planning Group there has been a conspicuous absence of interest. It seems hard to believe that of the total number of residents of Carlton (18,000 +) or the total number of members of CRA (circa 200) only five individuals are sufficiently motivated to regularly attend meetings on planning of the community.”

2 NEW PLANNING APPLICATIONS RECEIVED SINCE LAST MEETING (03 Dec)

17 new planning applications (PAs) have been received by CoM for Carlton 3053.

Those identified as warranting assessment are as follows:

TP Reference	Address
TP-2019-2	164 Station St
TP-2019-37	326 Cardigan St
TP-2019-58	212 Rathdowne St
TP-2019-72	40-42 Dorrit St
TP-2015-583/B	391-395 Rathdowne st - Amend permit conditions
TP-2013-337/B	701-713 Swanston St - Rydges Hotel - Amend permit conditions

No information is yet available for these submissions.

3 Detailed documentation has been posted by CoM for other PAs, as follows:

TP-2018-683	70-72 Victoria St – no objection required
TP-2018-699	916-918 Swanston St permit issued
TP-2018-867	206 Drummond St – no objection required
TP-2014-1011/B	377-391 Cardigan St - Clyde Hotel – see note below
TP-2018-1055	40 Carlton St CRA members should assess this application

TP-2014-1011/B Discussion required, **info not yet available**, subject to previous CRA objection, an issue of hours of operation for roof top bar.

4 OBJECTIONS LODGED BY CRA PG SINCE LAST MEETING

TP Reference	Address
TP-2018-892	16-20 Drummond St

TP-2018-892 Meeting discussed the accuracy of images prepared by the applicant; Warren reported that he had prepared a supplementary submission that suggested that these images were misleading. It was also noted that 46 objections had been lodged.

5 PREVIOUS CRA PG OBJECTIONS NOW DECIDED

The following CRA PG objections to PAs have now been decided by CoM or VCAT:

TP-2018-510	60 Palmerston St - Permit issued 14/12/2018
-------------	---

6 PREVIOUS CRA PG OBJECTIONS AWAITING DECISION BY CoM or VCAT

TP Reference	Address
TP-2018-59	6-10 MacArthur PlaceNorth - Awaiting VCAT hearing
TP-2018-449	21-23 Lincoln Sq South - CoM processing
TP-2018-422	111-113 Cardigan St - Advertising
TP-2018-892	16-20 Drummond St - Advertising

7 APPLICATIONS REQUIRING DOCUMENTATION TO PERMIT ASSESSMENT BY CRA PG

TP Reference	Address
TP-2018-443	78 Faraday St
TP-2018-838	94 Carlton St
TP-2013-780/B	143-145 Lygon St
TP-2019-2	164 Station St
TP-2019-37	326 Cardigan St
TP-2014-1011	377-391 Cardigan St - Clyde Hotel
TP-2019-58	212 Rathdowne St
TP-2019-72	40-42 Dorrit St
TP-2015-583/B	391-395 Rathdowne St
TP-2013-337/B	701-703 Swanston St - Rydges Hotel

8 MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES -

TP-2017-616 [4-12 Leicester PI] WG confirmed receiving a copy of the officer's report on this application. Which was distributed to PG members.

9 STRATEGIC PLANNING MATTERS FOR REVIEW

Heritage Review Amendment C258 Melbourne Planning Scheme – the final 2 weeks of hearings commenced this morning [11th Feb]. At this session it was agreed by the Panel Members, that all Parties should be given the opportunity to present commentary on the proposed new Heritage Policy. At this session, the City of Melbourne also suggested that all “C” graded heritage places [within precinct overlays] within the City North Area, should be the subject of a separate review by Lovell Chen [Consultants]. Until the finalization of this review, these properties should retain their letter grading on a transitional basis.

CoM Review of Heritage of Carlton. Nothing further to report

Corkman Hotel. According to an Age article on January 29, 2019, “The developers who knocked over Carlton’s Corkman Irish Pub in 2016 without planning or building permission have pleaded guilty to its illegal destruction. Raman Shaqiri and Stefce Kutlesovski appeared before the Melbourne Magistrates Court on Tuesday. They and their company 160 Leicester each face fines of \$388,000 for their demolition of the pub that was built in 1857.”

“After the 2016 demolition, Melbourne City Council joined with the planning minister to seek an order compelling the pair to rebuild a version of the pub using whatever materials could be salvaged from its wreckage. Legal wrangling has seen a hearing over that order delayed, but it will now be heard by the state planning tribunal in June.”

Melbourne Innovation District - City North ... the CRA is organising a forum at 2.30pm on Sat 23rd Mar. at the KSLCC. More details will be in the next CRA Newsflash.

Planning Challenges faced by Carlton community - offers still stand to meet with officers.

Local laws – Ewan reported that the current Activities Local Law, included provisions that addressed the problem of dilapidated buildings in the municipality. He was awaiting advice from the Council as to if and where these provisions had been used in the Carlton area.

“Magic Tower” proposal for the Royal Society of Victoria site. Dennis reported that he was not permitted to attend meeting convened for RSV Members to discuss this proposal. Ewan reported that he had communicated with both the National Trust and Citizens for Melbourne, in the hope that they may take a leading role in critiquing this proposal.

10 NEXT MEETING: Time and Date: 7pm 4th March. Venue: Dennis is happy to host March meeting, 147 Drummond St Carlton.