

THE CARLTON RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION INC.

September 2020

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Visit your city in lockdown:

Stunning Melbourne photos from on high. Melbourne street art during lockdown

Argyle Square Spring 2010



Support the Queen Vic market:

Check out all the <u>traders doing home</u> <u>delivery</u> and shop online. Live within 5kms? Pre-order produce and deli essentials for <u>contactless pick up.</u>



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From the President

To our members and friends.



Antoinette Sagaria

In the last edition of Newsflash, I spoke of the challenging start to the year we've had due to Covid-19. I write to you again from the confines of my home, in the strictest lockdown experienced in Australia, hoping that we emerge in a much safer place.

While it has been a confronting few months since our last edition, the CRA has remained busy with various endeavours hoping to improve and protect our forever changed community.

I had the pleasure of once again meeting with the Lord Mayor Sally Capp and the heads of various organisations and community groups within the City of Melbourne on zoom. I took the opportunity to discuss the ongoing issue of student housing and the rather high vacancy rate we are now faced with, due to Covid-19.

The concern for the CRA and our wider community is what will become of these vacant properties as time goes on? While no bold statements were made on the issue by either side, we are working with council and constantly monitoring any applications that may require further consideration.

These meetings have provided a wonderful means of not only accessing our city council but also the other community groups who have shared interests and concerns.

As a result of these regular meetings, we were again given the opportunity to meet with all the community groups in order to discuss how we might be able to better work together on mutual concerns. This was a very fruitful exercise in gaining support and guidance on issues that are council wide. We would like to thank the Lord Mayor for her facilitating role. We see this as being an exciting step forward for our association.

Further to meetings with council associations, the City of Melbourne has also facilitated a program to bring international students and resident groups together in a meaningful and mutually beneficial way.

This work was undertaken through a three week LIVE Projects program, an initiative of Study Melbourne in collaboration with The University of Melbourne and Practera. The project is named "A City For People" and aims at ensuring that Melbourne is a city that welcomes all. It was an incredibly rewarding exercise and we look forward to the contribution of international students to the CRA and the wider community. I would like to particularly thank Fiona Darling from the City of Melbourne for facilitating this.

The challenges of Covid have been oppressive on our Carlton, and on our traders. I have been invited to the board of Carlton Inc, our Carlton traders association to advocate for a revitalized Carlton for both traders and the wider community. It has been wonderful to



LIVE Project Students with Antoinette Sagaria

collaborate with Carlton Inc and look to advocate and balance the needs and wants of not only our residents but the suburb as a whole. We are looking at ways to revitalise the commercial precincts of Carlton to ensure that the vibrancy and culture which we hold so dear is not lost through these difficult times.

On behalf of the CRA, I would like to thank our members for their ongoing support and I endeavour to continue the good work we do, via zoom, phone and email until we can all meet again face to face.



The CRA Planning Group needs you!

A volunteer planner or architect would be perfect to help with:

- Assessing Planning Applications
- Assessing changes to the City of Melbourne Scheme
- and more

Email us with an offer: planningcra@gmail.com

Carlton Primary School is transformed.
See the great new facilities, hear from principals and teachers here. Please pass this on to families who might be interested in enrolling a child for 2021.

Planning - Heritage

Heritage Policies Review Planning Scheme Amendment (C258) now Gazetted

After FIVE years of stakeholder engagement, including countless meetings with Council staff and Councillors, presentations to Council Committee Meetings and involvement as a Party at the Independent Panel Hearing, the State Government finally approved the Amendment on Friday 10 July.

In practical terms, the Association will now have an uphill battle defending many heritage buildings from being substantially (or totally) demolished. Also, in many locations, there will be no guarantee that new buildings will respect their heritage neighbours.

Association Members will now be able to determine what heritage grading has been applied (anywhere in the Municipality) on a 'permanent' or interim basis by referring to the two Heritage Place Inventories. These may be found at the following web-link: https://www.planning.vic.gov.au/schemes-and-amendments/browse-amendments/guery=C258melb&search_mode=id#Amendments--C258melb

- Melbourne C258melb Incorp Doc Heritage Places Inventory Feb 2020 Part A Approval Gazetted, &
- Melbourne C258melb Incorp Doc Heritage Places Inventory Feb 2020 Part B Approval Gazetted

This web-link also includes links to the two relevant local heritage policies

- 22 lpp05 melb (Heritage Places outside the Capital City Zone)
- 22_lpp04_melb (Heritage Places in the Capital City Zone which includes the City North area of Carlton)

The impact on the Carlton Community of the new Inventories and Policies cannot be over emphasised. According to the **Lovell Chen (October 2015)** *Methodology Report p5*, of the 2,481 Heritage Places graded 'C' located in the suburban precinct overlays, ALMOST HALF (1200) were located in Carlton. Further, with the exception of the Parkville Precinct, ALL the other 'C' graded places were subject to review.

Sadly for Carlton, following the Lovell Chen Review, the majority of these 'C' graded places were no longer considered significant in their own right (a translation outcome VERY different from that which resulted from the West Melbourne Heritage Review).

We know that the 'C' graded heritage places had **previously** been regarded as 'Significant in their own right' because many of these heritage places occupied individual Heritage Overlays (that is, were NOT within a Heritage Precinct Overlay).

According to information tabled by the City of Melbourne at the Panel Hearing, Carlton had 42 Individual Heritage Overlays that were occupied by 'C' graded Heritage Places; and many of these included terrace rows. (Council Document: 55 01 Gradings Table C Graded Buildings in Individual HOs)

Does this matter? The new grading Category of Contributory results in a heritage place having no significance in its own right. According to the Planning Panel: 'The property then effectively becomes a valuable element of the wider precinct – the latter being the significant heritage place – in much the same way as identified features of significance on an individual building are identified as contributing to the overall significance of the building.'

But, as individual Statements of Significance are NOT prepared for Contributory Heritage Places, there will be NO clarity at all about what or how ANY element of the Heritage Place contributes to the wider precinct. In this situation, key provisions of the revised local heritage policy will become inoperable. Quite simply, the Responsible Authority will have no way of knowing which elements of the place should be conserved in any demolition application (for example).



Site of the Former Carlton Inn - 15 July 2020

These are just SOME of the challenges that the CRA will face in the years to come. **Ewan Ogilvy 5 August 2020**

The former Carlton Inn (HO85) occupied the Leicester and Pelham Street Corner. It was demolished illegally in mid-October 2016, and has been a bomb site ever since. The adjacent Heritage Places to the East and South are currently Graded Significant and are of Local Significance. While the revised Heritage Policy for the City North area includes some laudable policy statements, because these policies are only advisory, the final outcome for this site will be a significant test of the efficacy of this policy.

Royal Exhibition Buildings (REB) and Carlton Gardens (CG)

Carlton Residents Association Discussion Paper Response to the Review of the Royal Exhibition Buildings and Carlton Gardens World Heritage Management Plan.

The Carlton Residents Association would like to offer sincere thanks for the opportunity to be included in the consultation for this significant review and look forward to further involvement.

Response to WORLD HERITAGE MANAGEMENT PLAN

We believe that a high degree of coordination is needed for the management of the Royal Exhibition Buildings, the Museum, The Carlton Gardens and the World Heritage Environs Area (WHEA).

Some residents believe that there are some shortcomings in management at the moment. These could be remedied within the existing structure or by adopting another management model.

We do not offer any suggested details here.

Responses to the Four Component Documents that assist in the overall management of REB&CG.

Attachment A. Conservation Management Plan. (Museum of Victoria (MV) & City of Melbourne (COM))

We do not encourage any commercial activities in the REB, Museum and Carlton Gardens other than the existing uses. For special exhibitions there is of course, the need for commercial uses for the duration of the exhibition. For example in the annual Garden Show.

- Signage projects would have to be very carefully handled as they can easily lead to visual pollution as well as an invitation to destruction by graffiti vandals.
- Introduction of World Heritage days could be very worthwhile.
- Periodic assessment of tree health is crucial.

Attachment B. Carlton Gardens Master Plan. (COM)

- We recommend that the whole area of the Carlton Gardens as well as the Exhibition Reserve be managed by one body.
- Fully agree with retention of the tennis courts, basketball court and playground.
- The state of the aging trees is of great concern can we share the arborist who looks after the Fitzroy or Botanical gardens?
- Many residents of Carlton have been using the gardens for 50+ years, and while many improvements have been noticed we believe this unique site deserves at least as much care and attention as the nearby Fitzroy gardens and the Botanical gardens.

Attachment C. REB & Exhibition Reserve Master Plan (MV)

- Management should arrange a well designed screen with retractable gates to screen the waste bins on the south side of the REB.
- As stated in Attachment A, signage projects would have to be very carefully handled as they can easily lead to visual pollution as well as an invitation to destruction by graffiti "artists".
- Capital works prioritised the gravel forecourt is an ugly dust bowl (fine in Paris but not here) and we would suggest some beautifully designed capital works as befitting its status.

Attachment D. World Heritage Strategy Plan

- Buffer Zone. We support the rewording of the Statement of Significance and also agree that this statement should apply to the whole buffer zone. The concept of an area of greater sensitivity within the World Heritage Environs Area should now apply to the whole WHEA.
- The World Heritage Environs Areas are currently controlled by the planning schemes of Melbourne and Yarra. The controls cover heritage protection, building form and sight lines to and from the REB. The two Councils take the Planning Scheme controls for WHEA into account when assessing planning applications.
- A change is needed so that the REB and the CG are made a referral authority. As Heritage Victoria has the necessary expertise, they could become the referral authority acting on your behalf. This will give weight to the control in the WHEA in line with the World Heritage obligations.

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- Other Changes. The Referral Authority status should also be introduced for changes made by the Victorian Government bodies or by the two Municipalities (and in rarer cases by the Commonwealth). The changes could include the following Buildings or structures on Municipal or Government land sub- stations, council buildings etc. Public areas including roads and parks. This would include road works, signs, landscaping etc. Public transport and associated structures. Hospitals, educational buildings etc. Heritage and other buildings on streets surrounding Carlton are particularly important including both private and public uses such as St. Vincent's Hospital.
- Design and Development Overlays (DDO). Because of the World Status and State significance of the site and its environs, we urge the Minister for Planning and the Melbourne City Council to amend planning schemes and be ever diligent and protective of the whole environs area. The recent approval by the Minister for Planning of the Heritage Policies Review Planning Scheme (C258) is nothing short of a disaster for the Heritage of the City of Melbourne. The impact on the Carlton Community of the new inventories and
- Visual Aspects of the Site. We fully agree that the visibility of the REB is an important aspect of its prominence especially within the buffer zone and the locations for view considerations of the Dome and Drum must include all transport intersections. This is another reason for extending the WHEA.

policies cannot be over emphasised.

- Planning Scheme Amendments. We agree that the preparation and approval amendment of planning (C154) and (C118) within the WHEA is carefully and openly dealt with the approval of all stakeholders.
- Best Practice. We agree that the REB is a rare and outstanding building. A site such as this, worthy of World Significance should be mentioned in clause 15.03 of the State Planning scheme (Heritage) and in the State Policies for Tourism and Community Facilities.
- The CRA has made submissions regarding the WHEA that include the extension of the WHEA, in line with your consultant's recommendations. Also the inclusion of pockets of land that are currently not included such as 125-139 Rathdowne Street, Carlton.
- Description. It is our understanding that the 125 139 Rathdowne St., a significant early 20th century three storied brick building, is the former Children's Hospital nurses' home and then became St Nicholas Hospital. (See plaque at the corner of Pelham and Rathdowne Streets)
- Design and Development Overlays. We propose that a consistent set of DDOs covering all areas of the WHEA be marked as a top priority.
- Governance and Management Control. We can see an urgent need for State level management controls especially in the areas of the Carlton Precinct Heritage Overlay (H01).



One suggested change is that the Area of Greater Sensitivity be increased to the west side of Drummond Street, outlined in red.

Trish O'Loughlin, Peter Sanders, Ewan Ogilvy for CRA July 2020

Carlton Community Support Services

There are a number of agencies currently working to address the needs of a diverse Carlton community. While some of these are suffering during the pandemic, it is a good time to learn more about these agencies.

CAN

Church of All Nations is situated right beside the Carlton estate, and has a long history of supporting the residents of Carlton with emergency support, women's programmes, a homework club, a No Interest Loans scheme, computer classes, and a drop in space.

You can make a donation here



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The Carlton Neighbourhood Learning Centre. (CNLC)

The Carlton Neighborhood Learning Centre is a community managed not-for profit organization. The organization provides a broad and varied program, which includes community development and general interest courses, IT courses and access to nationally recognized training, the provision of information and referral and community space.

The CNLC also offers:

Community Activities

English Language

Adult Literacy

Creativity and Wellbeing

Sustainability

Computer classes

Community Development

Information and Referral

Carlton Compost Hub

Carlton Cluckers (Chickens)



Main CNLC site at 20 Princes Street, Carlton

Provision of Community garden spaces

Venue Hire

In addition to this, the CNLC offers a range of government subsidised courses for adult learners including Accredited English as an Additional Language.

The CNLC provides a supported, local learning environment in a community setting, both at their main site which is located at 20 Princes Street, Carlton as well as on sites located at the Carlton housing estates and the Kathleen Syme Library and Community Centre.

Unfortunately the compost hub is currently closed due to the virus

Visit the website to find out more; https://cnlc.org.au/

Does this offer an opportunity to help a community in need?

Now is the time to consider how we, the residents, might play a part in the renewal of Carlton after Covid.

Local agencies supporting residents during Melbourne's COVID-19 crisis

Lockdown is hard. There's the isolation, disruption from regular work, school and activities, and anxiety about virus itself. So, imagine how much harder it would be if you faced the possibility of going into hard lockdown. That was the situation thousands of Carlton public housing estate residents faced in early July.

Residents and local agencies in Carlton feared the lockdown at the local public housing estate after nine towers in Flemington and North Melbourne went into hard lockdown on 4 July 2020. The restrictions were put in place because of the increased risk of transmission in the towers with multiple shared facilities like lifts, corridors, rubbish facilities and laundry rooms. The acting Australian Chief Medical Officer, Paul Kelly, likened the towers to vertical cruise ships.

But the hard lockdown was highly contested. There were issues with the lack of notice and information provided to residents, lack of translation and interpretation and lack of culturally appropriate food. So how to stop the same thing happening to residents in Carlton?

Carlton Local Agencies Network (CLAN) saw the risk of an outbreak of coronavirus in the Carlton Estates early. Elle Morrell, the Network convenor, started to organise the potential network response from 7 July 2020. The network met to discuss immediate issues and needs for Carlton residents, lessons from the Flemington/North Melbourne situation, how to prepare for an outbreak and how to coordinate CLAN's response effectively.

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The situation moved rapidly and CLAN agencies quickly turned to organising testing. High rates of testing would help to identify the level of risk and appropriate response. St Vincent's set up a testing centre at 510 Lygon St on 9 July 2020. However, there were low levels of turnout. CLAN negotiated with Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) to organise resident community volunteers to door knock in partnership with DHHS staff. Volunteers trained and in full PPE went door-to-door to engage with residents. When there was still low turnout due to fear of contracting COVID-19 by travelling down to the testing room, CLAN advocated with residents for door to door testing by nurses. After nearly two weeks all the towers resident's had been offered to be tested at their door.

There were fairly high levels of COVID-19 cases at the estate, up to 64 cases were reported at one time. Getting support for people who tested positive was another key endeavour as many people needed information in language, relied on pandemic leave to support their family if they were working and needed assistance getting food. Some were offered the chance to go to hotel quarantine but others felt the need to look after their children at home, even though they were ill. Church of All Nations (CAN) and the Australian Muslim Social Services Agency (AMSSA) did incredible work organising essential supplies for those Carlton residents who needed to isolate.

Other engagement initiatives that CLAN undertook during this period included getting DHHS to install hand sanitiser dispensers on every level of the 9 towers. There was much concern by residents that this had not been completed back in March. The Make it Work employment initiative on the housing estate negotiated with DHHS to recruit 18 residents to work as cohealth concierges at the entrances to the towers asking people how they were, giving out the CLAN support services leaflet and handing out masks and showing the correct way to use them. This has also proved a vital communication mechanism for DHHS to understand the current issues for residents. CLAN also advocated early on for masks to be delivered to everyone's door and an additional delivery was done in the week of August 10 with reusable masks. One issue that has not been resolved as yet is the need by residents for a laundry service due to contamination fears of using shared laundries.

CLAN's engagement approach was directed by empowering resident's voices and needs as central to the response on the estate. Linking residents and elevating their needs and concerns to the attention of the DHHS bureaucracy was a fundamental objective of CLAN's work which shaped DHHS engagement with the community in Carlton. Via daily online CLAN briefings with up to 15 agencies, community leaders and organisations, such as the Islamic Youth Organisation, were invited to help lead the response. Coordinating information exchange, volunteers to disseminate food and hosting resident forums helped facilitate a cooperative approach that was strengthened by the shared experience represented by the CLAN network.

Getting computers to those who need them most



CLAN also supported students to keep learning over this period. Carlton Primary School and Carlton Neighbourhood Learning Centre had identified school students, adult English students, job seekers and other disadvantaged community members with no devices during the last lockdown. It is very difficult for these students to continue learning in lockdown.

CLAN set up a Digital Engagement Working Group in March to start addressing lack of access to technology and was able to fast-track the provision of refurbished computers from the University of Melbourne to the community when a hard lockdown looked imminent. The devices were supplied in support of the Memorardum of Understanding (MOU) between CLAN, the City of Melbourne and

the University of Melbourne, whose staff worked hard to make sure the computers were delivered to the school to be handed out to identified families in need. Families were beside themselves with the donations. Families called afterwards to share their happiness and the children kept checking that they were able to keep the computers! What a wonderful outcome in such an unsure time, and an incredible affirmation of the strength of community networks and relationships in Carlton.

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Carlton businesses still open to make sure we are being well fed and looked after.

Dear friends and residents of Carlton, (from Carlton Inc. Traders association for the Carlton business district)
The usual hustle and bustle might be missing, but many vendors in Melbourne's iconic food, beverage and culture precinct, Carlton, are still operating. A wide array of suburbs lie within Carlton's 5km radius * making it possible for more Melburnians to enjoy the street's famous hospitality.

Renowned Lygon Street favourites are still open for takeaway trade for all your essential Italian deli, pantry items and dishes. These include **D.O.C Gastronomia** (Deli, Espresso and Pizza), **King and Godfree, Tiamo, Universal Restaurant, Stuzzichino** and old favourite **Café Notturno.**

Modern Italian favourite **Heart Attack & Vine** is also open daily for takeaway and delivery and is operating an online grocer, stocking everything from wine, preserves, tinned tomatoes and even toilet paper. They also offer pizza by the slice Friday and Saturday nights, coinciding with their new late-night bottle shop hours of 5-9pm.

If you're looking to diverge off the path of Italian cuisine, hatted Japanese restaurant **Kazuki's** has been taken over by its sister restaurant Sakana, and is offering delicious dishes like soft shell crab bao, okonomiyaki and Basque cheesecake with yuzu jelly, all for takeaway.

Or try cult Lebanese **Abla's**, offering up their delectable dishes from Thursday to Saturdays to take home, including fattoush, tabouleh, falafel and kafta.

For a café style feed, **St Charly** and **Parco** are still serving up coffee and great takeaway meals like cakes, smashed avo, pea-mint & halloumi fritters, and steel cut oats. **Billy's Corner Store** will also satisfy any Friday night fish and chip cravings, available for pick up and through Deliveroo.

To satisfy your sweet tooth, iconic Lygon St institution **Brunetti's** is still slinging their famous cakes and pastries for takeaway, and gelateria **Pidapipo** is offering a range of mini gelato cakes for a limited time to help lift the lockdown mood. In collaboration with artist Beci Orpin, the cakes are available for pick up in-store or for delivery through Uber Eats.

It's not all about food and drinks, there's something for the kids too. Local children's party organisers **Dream a Princess** is offering virtual kids parties for those who are celebrating in lockdown. Packages include a video call meet and greet with their favourite character, storytelling, song and dance and even a special gift to be sent out in the mailbox for their special day.

And, if it's a grown up's birthday or celebration, **Grattan Flowers** are delivering Monday to Friday, and orders placed online before 10am will be delivered the same day.

Retail stores **Husk**, **Forza Italia**, **Bonaparte Menswear** are open for click and collect or online order for home delivery.

Despite the isolation, supporting local businesses, in a safe way, has never been easier and more important. Suburbs that sit within the Carlton 5km radius include: Carlton, Carlton North, Princes Hill, Parkville, Melbourne, East Melbourne, Brunswick, Brunswick West, Brunswick East, Northcote, Clifton Hill, Fairfield, Collingwood, Fitzroy, Abbotsford, Richmond, Cremorne, South Yarra, South Melbourne, Albert Park, Port Melbourne, South Wharf, Docklands, North Melbourne, Flemington, Ascot Vale, Travancore.

*Please check to confirm that your address is in the Carlton bubble before travelling and stay home if you are feeling unwell.

Thank you for your support! +61 3 9070 5250 ww

Carlton Inc.

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info@carltoninc.org.au

CRA Planning Group no longer lodging objections to all town planning applications.

The new Planning Reference Group aims to identify the relevant town planning applications considered potentially inappropriate, and categorise them as either:

- A Significantly detrimental to the public realm to warrant CRA and resident involvement.
- B Not significantly detrimental to the public realm, but have the potential to be locally detrimental to residents/properties adjacent to or in close proximity to the subject site.

The reference group will take no further action in relation to 'B' above except to provide advice to affected members on request. Members are asked to assess any detrimental impact and respond if appropriate.

To keep abreast of lodged applications please click <u>here</u> to refer to the **Summary of Reviewed CoM TP Applications** on the CRA website .

The CRA website also provides aids for members to formulate individual objections. Read more here.

Safety in Carlton

CRA and PCCC (Police Community Consultation Committee) have a long standing relationship but meetings have not been held due to lockdown. North Melbourne Police have noted that car thefts and theft of goods from cars have spiked considerably during lockdown. Members are asked to be mindful of keeping valuables locked out of sight should their cars be left on the street whether during the day or at night.

Snap Send Solve

The CRA committee members are all avid users of the application 'Snap Send Solve' which allows you to report and record various types of incidences to the relevant authority. Items such as graffiti, dumped rubbish, damaged footpaths etc are all covered along with many more. We encourage our members to download the application onto their mobiles and start reporting issues as they arise.

Find out more here.

A message from Jacquie Watts, current CoM Councillor

Greeting CRA members

In these most challenging of times, my personal perspective, the need to maintain one's sense of 'belonging' to community seems to be heightened. The Carlton streets are empty, familiar shops shut and vacated, neighbours anonymous behind masks.

Often the news is dismal but the CRA is a constant!

As is Council – although functioning as a much changed institution. The majority of staff are now working from home, in 'zoom' overload, connecting as best they can.



Jacquie Watts

At a recent meeting, Council took the historic step of requiring ALL Councillors to participate in the first ever fully remote Future Melbourne Committee (FMC) meeting. A technological and logistical challenge - mostly successful - except when three different councillors briefly lost connection to the meeting. Since the Chair is required to visually sight and name all Councillors as they vote, the proceedings had to pause until connection with any 'lost' councillor resumed. Not entirely satisfactory - but safer all around. COVID-19 is clearly 're-writing the rule books' in many ways.

How lasting these changes will be is unknown. Given the COVID-19 related dangers and difficulties associated with high-rise living (e.g. shared lifts, common facilities and public spaces etc.), will the future Council need to re-assess any Structure Plans or policies which enable such high-rise developments?

Given that many buildings (e.g. purpose-built student accommodation, offices etc.) are likely to be become redundant, will the future Council need to re-think "*Change of Use*" applications? What of the vacant retail and hospitality venues? What re-purposing of buildings should Council enable and/or encourage?

Municipal elections remain scheduled for October, the future Council will take office hopefully post-Lockdown Stage 4 but unlikely to be in a pandemic free city. It will have many serious and complex matters to consider immediately — in the short, medium and longer term. In my view, the October municipal elections should have been postponed for six months. Incumbent candidates will be greatly and unfairly advantaged and worse, those who may have contemplated standing may be deterred from doing so in the stressful months ahead.

As a long-standing advocate for community engagement, my view is that this is indeed regrettable – and should be avoided. I wrote to the new Minister for Local Government, outlining the many compelling reasons why postponement would be in the best interests of the community and why it would result in more equitable, representative local government. It seems this advice has been ignored.

Having experienced the onset of COVID-19, I am well aware of the issues future Council will face in 'rebooting' the complex socio-economic life of our municipality. Given the Minister has decided to proceed with the election in October, then it is my intention to stand, once again, for Council, to bring to the future Council, what I have learned thus far, in these unpredictable challenging times.

Do keep well everyone. Kind regards Jackie Watts 0400 305 323

VCAT and Council An ongoing problem:

In the year 2019-20, 11 planning permit applications were lodged with VCAT because the CoM failed to make a decision within the required statutory timeframe.(ie.10 business days for VICSMART applications and 60 days for all others). This represented 1% of all applications for permit.

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