



Darebin Appropriate Development Association

Web: <http://www.darebinada.org>

Meeting Notes: 10th of December, 2014

Present: Marion Coffey, Keith Coffey, Chris Erlandson, Maria Poletti, Nola Martin, Craig Walters, Maria McKinnon, Sally Mendes

Apologies: Laara Eames

1. Business Arising:

- a. New Zoning wash-up: Next step is to make direct contact with Brian Tees. Letter from DADA, introduction, indicating we would like to meet, before the election to discuss planning and development issues – **Action:** Maria write and follow up with a call to Richard Wynne and Dan Andrews then invite Robin Scott and Fiona Richardson.
- b. Golden Guys seem a popular idea but not at the moment, perhaps another time. Chris has suggested we go to council with the idea of an award for best sustainability practice **Action:** Chris to research other councils and bring back ideas to us to then take to council. Scrap book idea for our web site where people can send in photos of poor development, before and after shots, basic details like address, developers names, details of faults, what is planned.etc. **Action:** Maria
- c. Draft Amendment C147 – Residential Growth Zones, **Feedback** from Chris garden apartments proposed by council at 4 stories high, they have a bit more amenity with step backs. Lack details in the amendments. Proposals seem to be more about lot consolidation. From Maria: 2 telling comment from Yvonne Rust in her right of reply to the panel. 1. 'Darebin has more than enough growth for 20 years plus with planning applications already in the works' 2. When discussing the quality of development design she said 'max out the yield on site' is the type of design council is confronted with every day rather than good design examples.
- d. Craig suggested we should become incorporated for our own protection. **Action:** Craig will organize papers for next meeting. We will fill out forms at next meeting.
- e. Council flooded with planning applications; **Action:** Questions at Council Meeting: Meeting; 17th November, Maria, Keith, Chris, Nola. 4 questions. Done, letter replies circulated. Follow-up with a statement that information was not satisfactory and we want a meeting. **Action:** Nola is going to request some FOI on the spending of funds.
- f. Blog: **Action:** Maria to begin a blog linked to the website.
- g. No Shade for a Decade; Melli rally? Suggested a separate rally in January dates to be confirmed.
- h. **Action:** Over-development Demonstration to be organized outside council chambers, Tuesday, 16th December, 11am. Bring your placard to protest about the 10% NRZ. Spokesperson- Maria to contact press. To be discussed further next meeting. Agrees to postpone this until after a meeting with Richard Wynne.
- i. New, permanent, Preston Leader reporter is Harrison Tippet. Editor Andre is also new. **Action:** Maria to contact both.

2. New Business:

- a. **State Election** wrap up: Richard Wynne new planning minister, suggest we request a meeting, **Action:** Maria to write
- b. **Strategy for next council elections:** to be discussed further next meeting. Need to work out how to make money for DADA to billboards for next election. Scorecard on development, printed and letterboxed, or posters and website.

- c. **Empty House Tax:** Suggestion occupancy rate is low and council should charge a tax for empty houses given the drought of rental accommodation. Or double rates on empty houses.
- d. **Catalyst:** Discussed the program and the great ideas shown to develop sustainable cities along the eastern rail link that will cope with the population growth. Also very telling comments about development in Melbourne and how our suburbs don't need to be infilled if the main corridors are developed to just 6 stories.

3. Council Report:

- a. Have passed a motion to meet with Richard Wynne regarding the rezoning wash up.
- b. No word on the CEO employment position, decision to be made at 13th December meeting.

4. Other:

- a. DADA Signs, made by Michelle Cimoli for the neighbourhood

5. Press:

6. Objector Updates:

- a. **137 & 60 Mansfield St Thornbury:** both development rejected unanimously by council.
- b. **629-633 Plenty rd,** 6 storey of 1/2 bed apartments, also rejected unanimously by council.
- c. **470-480 High St Northcote corner High and Dennis** objections due in by the 12th build a 7 story apartment block plus a lift well that goes up another 25 metres, blocks views from all nations park, has a café and shops, not enough car parks, 43 apartments mostly 1 and 2 beds, **Action:** Maria M send Maria P a filled objection form to email the network.

7. Strategy Ideas

- a. Presenting Council with a bill for work done by objectors that should have been covered by planning department
- b. DADA awards for the 'best' Darebin planning decisions, the Golden Guy award for development monstrosities in Darebin 2014. Start collecting photos of nominations now.
- c. Suggested we keep a list of issues of incompetence by council planning officers. Maybe something on the website that people fill in and at budget time we send it to the CEO.

Next Meeting: 7.00pm, Wednesday, January 14th with No Shade for A Decade to prepare for protest and February 11th at 33 Dean Street, Preston.

