



Mr Andrew Barr
Chief Minister
GPO Box 1020
CANBERRA ACT 2601

Dear Mr Barr

Manuka Oval: Manuka Green Proposal

Further to our letter of 12 March concerning the above, I am writing to convey to you the outcome of a public meeting held on 28 April 2016 to consider the Manuka Green proposal.

The meeting, convened by the Inner South Canberra Community Council, was attended by about 400 local residents and other Canberra citizens. Those at the meeting were very angry that the Government had been considering this issue for nearly two years without providing any information to the community most likely to be affected.

We still do not know beyond the broadest outline what is being proposed; the reasons for allowing the proposal to proceed to its current stage; who was on the assessment panel; whether it was dealt with as an investment proposal or an unsolicited bid; or even which Government agency has principal carriage of the proposal and under what guidelines the proposal is being assessed. Clearly under these circumstances the government should cease any work on the proposal at least until these matters have been resolved.

After considerable discussion, the meeting passed the following motions, calling on the ACT Government to:

1. Ensure that any proposal restricts development to sporting facilities and other improvement of Manuka Oval, and not include shops, residential or other development.
2. Reject the GWS/Grocon unsolicited proposal to redevelop the Manuka Oval precinct.

3. Initiate a comprehensive planning process for the Manuka Oval precinct and surrounding areas, in full partnership with the community and relevant stakeholders. It would take into account adjacent heritage and precinct plans, and would seek to agree on:

- a. Objectives for any future development;
- b. Strategies for achieving those objectives; and
- c. Mechanisms for continuing community involvement.

4. Review the current arrangements for any events at Manuka Oval, including for parking, transport and access.

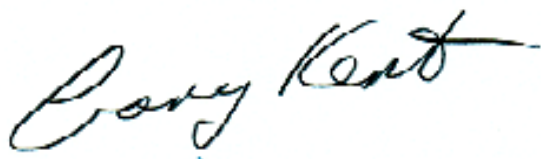
5. Revise the guidelines for unsolicited proposals with a view to strengthening transparency and to ensure the publication of reasons for decisions.

In addition to these motions about the Manuka Oval precinct, the continuing concern for the future of MOCCA was highlighted, which prompted another motion as follows:

6. Ensure that MOCCA, a longstanding community based child care centre, is taken care of financially. [This motion was moved in the context of the Government's proposal to move MOCCA from its current site in Manuka and MOCCA's disinclination to be forced into debt as a consequence of any such move resulting from redevelopment of its current site.]

We look forward to your urgent consideration of these motions and to discussing them with you at our meeting later this month.

Yours sincerely



Gary Kent
Chair ISCCC

4 May 2016

cc Members of the ACT Legislative Assembly