

**Albert Hall Public Meeting  
Thursday 24 May 2007 commencing at 5.30pm**

*Venue: Albert Hall, Canberra*

**Minutes of Meeting**

**1. Welcome and introduction**

Mr Chris Chenoweth opened the meeting and welcomed those present. He announced that the meeting was hosted by the National Trust of Australia (ACT) in conjunction with Friends of the Albert Hall and that he had been asked by those groups to be the independent chair of the meeting.

He stressed that his role is to facilitate the participation of those present; to allow speakers from the front table to make some comments; and to enable the meeting to pass resolutions.

Apologies: The Chair announced apologies from the Hon Margaret Reid; Mr Bob McMullan MP, Member for Fraser; Ms Annette Ellis MP, Member for Canberra; Mr Jon Stanhope MLA, ACT Chief Minister; Mr John Hargreaves MLA, ACT Minister for Territory and Municipal Services; and Mr Steve Pratt MLA.

The Chair also announced apologies from the following people but noted that they are being represented by others: Mr Bill Stefaniak MLA, Leader of the ACT Opposition; Mr Brendan Smyth MLA; and Mr Eric Martin, President of the National Trust (ACT).

Attendance: The Chair acknowledged the presence of Mrs Vicki Dunne MLA, ACT Shadow Minister for Heritage; Dr Deb Foskey MLA, Leader, ACT Greens; Mr Zed Seselja MLA, Shadow Minister for Planning; Mr Simon Corbell MLA, Minister for Police and Emergency Services and Attorney General; and Mrs Jacqui Burke MLA, Deputy Leader of the ACT Opposition.

In addition the following speakers were seated at the front table: Dr Michael Pearson (ACT Heritage Council); Ms Rosemary Willett, (Walter Burley Griffin Society); Senator Gary Humphries; Senator Kate Lundy; Senate candidate Ms Kerry Tucker; Mr Andrew Barr MLA, Minister for Planning (accompanied by Mr Neil Savery, Chief Planning Executive, ACTPLA and Mr Steve Ryan, Director, Property Branch, Dept of Territory and Municipal Services); and Ms Annabelle Pegrum, CEO, NCA (accompanied by Mr Todd Rohl, Managing Director, Planning and Urban Design, NCA) .

Designated speakers from the floor included Ms Di Johnstone and Dr Lenore Coltheart, both of the Friends of the Albert Hall.

A specific count of the audience was not made, but the estimated attendance was around 300 people. There were representatives of all 11 partner groups in the public meeting,

numerous organisations who were current or past users of Albert Hall and organisations with an interest in the future of the Albert Hall Precinct

## 2. Opening remarks

The Chair introduced Ms Di Johnstone and asked her to speak about the significance of the meeting and why it has been called.

During her speech Ms Johstone:

- Explained that the purpose of the public meeting is to remind our politicians and planners how important Albert Hall is in the civic and cultural life of our community; and also of the attachment of the community to the Albert Hall precinct.
- Acknowledged the traditional owners of this land.
- Welcomed the panellists and distinguished guests
- Thanked meeting partners and supporters.
- Described the Friends of the Albert Hall as a grass roots community organisation which has a passionate commitment to the Albert Hall, and that its members are equally passionate about their opposition to the NCA's draft plan for the precinct – DA 53.
- Reminded the NCA that 3367 people, not only from Canberra, had signed the petition in opposition to DA 53.
- Stressed that although the NCA has made some changes to its original DA 53 it is now time for them to withdraw it and start again.
- Stressed that Albert Hall is our Town Hall; cultural and community groups, representing in total thousands of people, and covering the gamut of community life in this city, used Albert Hall; and that it must remain in public hands.
- Once Albert Hall accommodated up to 450 functions a year, most involving small community and cultural groups. It could do so again.
- Highlighted the major flaws of the current tender and impact on community use
- Warmly welcomed the ACT Government's nomination of Albert Hall for the National Heritage List announced today.

- Asked people to stay after the formal meeting and announced that, in the spirit of the Albert Hall we fondly recall, there will be supper and a chance to mingle and meet.

The Chair then introduced Dr Lenore Coltheart to provide the meeting with some details of the history of Albert Hall. In doing so Dr Coltheart recalled the exciting time she has had listening to a range of stories from a lot of people about their involvement with Albert Hall. On the history of the Albert Hall Dr Coltheart made the following points about Albert Hall:

- Built in 1927.
- Opened on Empire Day 1928 and named after the Duke of York – later to become George VI.
- Visited by Princess Elizabeth as a Regal belle of a gala Civic Ball in 1954.
- Site of FCATSI conference 40 years ago when Prime Minister Holt announced acceptance by government to hold a historic referendum on Aboriginal citizenship.

Dr Coltheart stressed that tonight's event is much more than a wander down nostalgia lane. It's an opportunity to endorse the significance of the Albert Hall Heritage Precinct to the national capital and to the people of the ACT and our region.

Dr Coltheart encouraged people to go to the Website and tell their stories about their connection to Albert Hall.

Dr Coltheart pointed to the importance of:

- The NCA withdrawing Draft Amendment 53 and initiating a fresh planning process for the Albert Hall area.
- The NCA undertaking a comprehensive Heritage study of the precinct.
- Ensuring that Albert Hall is appropriately cared for by the ACT Government.
- Developing a vision for Albert Hall into the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.

Dr Coltheart stressed the need for the two levels of Government to work together and to consult the community on the future of our Albert Hall.

### **3. Heritage Panel**

Dr Michael Pearson, ACT Heritage Council

Dr Pearson advised the meeting that:

- While the Albert Hall was on the ACT Heritage Register, only the building, and not the surrounding grounds or trees, is included.
- Because the Albert Hall is in a Designated Area, legally the ACT Heritage Council does not have its usual formal role of advising on development. The place is also on the Register of the National Estate, but this now has no direct legal impact and will be abolished in 2012.
- A Conservation Management Plan and Landscape Plan (CMLP) has been prepared for Albert Hall and its surrounds, which extends beyond the heritage listed area. NCA is bound by the National Capital Plan to ensure that its planning policies and development conditions conform to any CMLP; however, this only applies to the Registered Area, not to the surrounding landscape.
- The Heritage Council is concerned that DA53 is based on insufficient background heritage assessment of the whole area, and that the development indicated in DA53 puts at risk heritage values in the surrounding landscape.
- The Heritage Council has concerns that the NCA is still considering 2-4 story buildings in the vicinity of the Albert Hall.
- The Heritage Council is also concerned generally about Heritage Listings in Designated Areas. The Heritage Council is looking at options available to it to improve the outcomes at Albert Hall, and in Designated Areas generally. Dr Pearson explained that one option for Albert Hall is to enlarge the area to be covered by the listing so that it is in line with the CMLP area. This would bind NCA to ensuring that its planning policies and development conditions conform.
- The CMLP is a very powerful tool in Designated Areas, so it is important to get it right.

Ms Rosemarie Willett, Walter Burley Griffin Society

Ms Willett spoke of the Griffins' three passions that sustained their total commitment to their profession. They were nature, democracy and art. They believed these were fundamental to every day human life and the plan for Canberra was conceived to foster this way of life.

Ms Willett explained that in applying these passions:

- human beings should live in harmony with nature;
- democracy through 'independence of thought' requires government to take into account feedback from consultation; and
- art, 'doing things right', requires urban planning and architecture to be based on intelligent creativity.

(Relevant extracts from Ms Willett's talk which describe these three passions in greater detail are attached)

Ms Willett stressed that the Albert Hall in its present landscape reflects the Griffin Legacy: it does not detract from the vista of Parliament House; it sits in open space that is central to the Griffin Plan; it is in open space close to urban density; and it is located in a park for the people

On the contrary, NCA's DA 53 does not reflect the Griffin legacy. She announced that the Walter Burley Griffin Society is prepared to give its full support to the NCA, but only for proposals commensurate with the high standards set by the Griffins.

Ms Willett concluded by stating that (the Griffin Plan is) "Demonstrably one of the great works of art of the twentieth century ..." "One where even the angels should fear to tread."

#### **4. Federal Panel**

##### Senator Gary Humphries

Senator Humphries stressed that Albert Hall is important part of the inner area of the city and that it has been part of the cultural and social development of Canberra. He added that he was concerned about DA 53 when it was first put forward.

Senator Humphries said that he was pleased that the NCA had decided not to proceed with the planned eight storey building and that the intention was now to have a public lakeside park between the Albert Hall and the lake.

He added that he understood the passionate view in the community and in response to community concern about the original DA53 and had consulted with the Friends of the Albert Hall and others. He is now pleased that the NCA has pulled back on the retail and commercial aspects and that the chief use of the Albert Hall has been retained.

He then spoke about the way forward. In this context Senator Humphries stressed that community consultation should educate the final decision. He welcomed the prospect of greater heritage protection and said that the NCA's plan make explicit that Albert Hall must be protected according to the requirements of the ACT Heritage register.

Senator Humphries added that the ACT Government is better placed to manage the use of the Hall, which is clearly not under threat. He is looking forward to the next consultation phase. He also mentioned that the focus of planning for the larger area must firmly take into account the security of the National Parliament

Senator Kate Lundy

Senator Lundy advised the meeting that as a member of the Joint Standing Committee (JSC) on the National Capital and External Territories she was very focussed on NCA process and responses to process. She was frustrated at the NCA's and the Federal Government's responses to process. She cited several examples of where the unanimous decisions of the JSC were disregarded by the NCA and the Minister.

Senator Lundy stated that the NCA is not responsive or especially accountable to the community of the ACT. The NCA did not make a sufficient effort to promote consultation. The reaction of the community on this issue was a symptom of the NCA's lack of responsiveness to the community and she welcomed the Friends initiative to have the public meeting.

She pointed out that the JSC only has advisory powers to the Minister and its views are often ignored.

In concluding, Senator Lundy commended that consultation was the best way to change the NCA and that a strong public voice is needed to hold the NCA to account.

Ms Kerrie Tucker – Greens' candidate for the Senate

Ms Tucker acknowledged the traditional owners of the land, mentioning this weekend's 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the successful referendum in 1967.

Ms Tucker advised the meeting that Senator Bob Brown had moved an amendment to disallow the Griffin Legacy Amendments to give more time for community concerns to be addressed. She stressed that the Greens share the concerns of many people who fear these amendments could lead to inappropriate development, which would destroy the unique and beautiful character of our city in the landscape.

Ms Tucker stressed that thanks to the strong community outcry DA 53 has been subject to a more dynamic consultation process, which has in turn led to some changes from the NCA. However she added that there are fundamental flaws in how planning is done in our city.

Ms Tucker added that clearly the ACT and Federal Governments need to work more closely together to fill the gaps in heritage protection and to ensure the protection of Albert Hall and other heritage places in Designated Areas.

On processes for planning in the ACT, Ms Tucker stressed that landscape, heritage, environmental and social objectives need to be enshrined in statute and the planning processes must become more democratic and transparent or we run the risk of selling the National Capital's aspiration to be a unique beautiful and sustainable city for a mess of development.

## **5. ACT Government Panel**

### Mr Andrew Barr MLA, ACT Minister for Planning

Mr Barr told the meeting that the ACT Government acknowledges the value of Albert Hall and that the Conservation Management and Landscape Plan (CMLP) had been included in the tender process for the Hall.

Mr Barr advised the meeting that the Government has:

- Called for tenders for the management of Albert Hall and that those tenders had closed today.
- Included in the tender documentation was a requirement for public use.
- Asked for the Albert Hall to be listed on the National Register.
- Expressed its concerns to the NCA about the impact of its proposals on traffic, parking and heritage.

Mr Barr assured the meeting that the ACT Government would seek to resolve these issues and continue to work with the NCA on a satisfactory outcome for Albert Hall and its precinct.

## **6. National Capital Authority Panel**

### Ms Annabelle Pegrum, Chief Executive, NCA.

Ms Pegrum stated that while she was grateful for the meeting there had been some inaccurate and cavalier statements made over the past few months implying that Albert Hall was at risk of demolition.

Ms Pegrum then reflected on her personal involvement with the refurbishment of the Albert Hall in the early 1970's as the ACT government architect. She assured the meeting that under the DA 53 process the Albert Hall is not under threat of demolition and that if it were she would be one of the first people to throw herself under the bulldozer.

Ms Pegrum then gave some background to DA53. Points made included:

- There has been a review of the Parliamentary Triangle over the last ten years.
- In 2005 ACT Government approached the NCA about Albert Hall funding and about viable options for its use
- An Expression of Interest was promulgated in December of that year.
- There had been meetings in response and the NCA had decided that Albert Hall should not be considered in isolation from the rest of the precinct.

- It is the NCA's view that the Albert Hall should be considered as part of a zone with the other two elements being the Hyatt Hotel and the Croquet Club; and hence the DA had covered the whole of the Precinct.
- That the Precinct should be developed in accordance with its significance.
- The importance of Albert Hall within the precinct is reflected in the fact that the overall Precinct has been named the Albert Hall Precinct despite the fact that the Albert Hall only occupies 0.6 hectares of an overall precinct area of 20 hectares.
- This gave status to the Albert Hall and responded directly to its heritage status as well as to the need to incorporate mixed use and open space
- The increased usage of Albert Hall has been fully discussed with the ACT Government – current and ad hoc uses should be fully and actively maintained
- The NCA had also consulted with key stakeholders and had not consulted with the community before the DA's publication as they had not been able to get the required information to do this.

Regarding DA 53, Ms Pegrum stressed that the draft is just that - a draft - and that the NCA will continue to consult with all stakeholders and the community on its content. The NCA would consult again when the DA is re-released and before it is finalised. It was important to get it right and simply stopping the process was not good enough.

Ms Pegrum mentioned that in drawing up DA 53 the NCA had consulted with the Hyatt Hotel, the Canberra Croquet Club and the Chinese Embassy.

She added that, since the issue of DA 53, the NCA has listened to the community and has amended the draft in a number of respects. The proposal for a 25metre landmark building to the North has been abandoned and the primary use of Albert Hall is now not commercial.

Ms Pegrum stressed that balance of the land to the north of Albert Hall would be reconsidered as a lakeside public park, subject to the views of the ACT government on landuse and Albert Hall would continue to be used as a cultural facility with some commercial uses.

Ms Pegrum added that it is very important for the community to have a say on the future use of Albert Hall. She stressed that the NCA's list of possible uses for the Albert Hall is like a menu and that it is for the ACT Government to chose from that menu as to what actual uses will take place.

On the way forward, Ms Pegrum confirmed that the NCA will be holding three workshops – one on Heritage, one on Traffic and one on Urban Design.

In relation to heritage, Ms Pegrum advised the meeting that the ACT Government has prepared 3 or 4 drafts of a Conservation Management and Landscape Plan for Albert Hall, but none of them have been publicly released. She mentioned there were intended to be buildings to the south and west of Albert Hall

On traffic, Ms Pegrum confirmed that more traffic analysis is taking place and that there will be more consultation on the clover leaf to the north of Albert Hall.

On urban design, Ms Pegrum stated that the draft DA includes height limits of buildings.

In closing Ms Pegrum announced that DA 53 is to be re-released to enable the consultation process to continue.

## 7. Questions and Discussion

Q Ms Angela Giblin stated that the Albert Hall is not up to modern standards for musical performances such as recitals and asked whether it will be possible to upgrade the hall for that purpose?

A Ms **Annabelle Pegrum** responded that, from a planning perspective, under the current plan such an upgrade would be possible but that it would be subject to the ACT Government's Conservation Management and Landscape Plan whether such an upgrade could be put into effect.

Q Mrs Kathy Pascoe from the ACT Embroiders' Guild expressed concern about the impact of the tender for her organisation and asked whether current bookings such as those made by the Guild would be honoured under the new tender arrangements?

A Mr **Andrew Barr** responded that there will be continuing consultation about community use of the Hall, but that it is his understanding that existing bookings would be honoured.

Q. Mr Kevin Gill commented that the facilities of Albert Hall were not up to scratch and that he understood that it would cost \$1-\$2 m to fix. He asked Andrew Barr what funds had been allocated for this purpose?

A. Mr **Andrew Barr** acknowledged that further maintenance work needs to be done and advised that this has been factored into the tender process.

Q. In a follow-up question Mr Kevin Gill sought clarification that the next contractor would be required to undertake refurbishments and capital works?

- A. Mr **Andrew Barr** responded that the ACT Government proposed that refurbishing etc would be met by the contractor and that the terms of the tender also allow for some capital expenditure.
- Q. Mr John Garden referred to the content of the tender which provides for up to 50 days of community use and not more than 110 days for retail activity. He stressed that this could mean that retail activity could occupy all weekends and community use could be just one day during the week. Given that, he asked Andrew Barr whether the ACT Government could re-visit the tender process and take into account the fact that the NCA is still in consultation about the Precinct?
- A. Mr **Andrew Barr** stated that while it was not possible to re-open the tender process the tenderer would be required to maintain the building and provide a level of access to the community.
- Q. Mrs Kay Beckwith commented that the very poor condition of the ceiling in the ladies cloak room was indicative of the overall neglect of the building and which had a negative impact on community use of Albert Hall. She invited Mr Barr to inspect the condition of that room.
- A. Mr **Andrew Barr** responded that while the condition of the building was of concern it would be the responsibility of the tenderer to address this.
- Q. Mr Les Selkirk, who is involved in running fairs at Albert Hall, expressed concern about the state of Albert Hall and asked both Senators for information about cultural grants for heritage buildings.
- A. **Senator Humphries** responded that there was a program for such grants and that some could be used here. But there are limits – and this would not be cover for \$1million. **Senator Lundy** went on to say that she would be happy to co-sign a letter with Senator Humphries recommending such grants and that she would advise the Friends of the Albert Hall about the program.
- Q. Mr Tony Lamb noted the inclusion of the adjacent parking lot in proposed development in DA 53 and asked if the parking lot was an integral part of the Albert Hall?
- A. Ms **Annabelle Pegrum** advised that the parking area was not included in the National Estate, but it has been included in the DA53 as has the Hyatt.
- Q. Ms Janet Jeffs, a restaurant entrepreneur expressed concern that the ACT Government was placing too much reliance on the tender process to address the refurbishment needs of Albert Hall. She said that she had considered tendering but the maintenance requirements within the process made it a farce and not

financially viable. She suggested that the only tenderer who could possibly meet all the requirements would be the Hyatt.

- A. Mr **Andrew Barr** responded to this statement that he has no idea at this stage who has or has not lodged a tender.
- Q. Mr Mike Hettinger noted the negative impact of traffic changes envisaged by DA53 and asked the NCA for clarification about the proposed traffic changes.
- A. Ms **Annabelle Pegrum** responded that an entire workshop would be devoted to traffic issues. She added that further traffic analysis would be undertaken. She also commented that King Edward Terrace had never been intended for through traffic.
- Q. Mr John Carroll, Monaro Folk Society, who is involved in running numerous dances at Albert Hall expressed concern about the tender process and asked Andrew Barr about the number of tenders received?
- A. Mr **Andrew Barr** reiterated that he has no direct responsibility for the tender process, but that any tenders received would have to meet the guidelines relating to community access and maintenance. The Government would make that assessment.
- Q. Dr Bruce Kent advised the meeting that in a period of 25 minutes before the meeting he had counted 750 cars using the Flynn Drive clover leaf. His question was whether the ACT Government was concerned about the effects of the loss of clover leaf on the traffic flow along Commonwealth Avenue?
- A. Mr **Andrew Barr** responded that the ACT Government is concerned about this and that it has raised the issue with the NCA. Ms **Annabelle Pegrum** replied that 6500 cars used the Commonwealth Avenue a day and that the proposed traffic workshop would address these issues.
- Q. Mr Graham O'Loghlin (President, Canberra International Film Festival) advised the meeting that he was very familiar with the tender processes and expressed concern about a tender that required the tenderer to have management, conservation skills as well as managing the various uses of the Hall. His view is that such a tender would be fundamentally flawed and he asked whether the ACT Government would consider aborting the process?
- A. Mr **Andrew Barr** advised that he could not answer questions about the tender but that the Government would assess the number of conforming tenders and look at the issues raised by the question.
- Q. Mrs Rosemary Farrell (President, Artists Society of Canberra) asked why the Minister responsible for the tender was not present; why DA53 had been issued

when the traffic workshops were still to be held; and whether an Arts precinct would be included in the overall concept?

- A. Mr **Andrew Barr** explained that Mr Hargreaves was unable to attend as a result of another appointment.

**Ms Annabelle Pegrum** advised that the traffic assessments and workshops would be part of the consultation process - all of the traffic information will be available. With the April amendments DA 53 now provided for only low scale buildings including the possibility of a performing arts centre.

- Q Ms Rosalyn Dundas asked Mr Barr about the CMLP and pointed out the need for operational funding for a proposed performing arts centre and asked whether such funding would also be provided?

- A. Mr **Andrew Barr** advised that such funding has not been covered and that the CMLP has to be adhered to by the successful tenderer. Ms **Annabelle Pegrum** stated that any future developments of a performing arts centre would be the ACT Government's decision, both on the siting and funding.

- Q Ms Marilyn Truscott (President, Canberra District Historical Society) stated that proper process should be put in place to ensure that the terms of the CMLP are finalised before the NCA's discussions on the DA for the Precinct and before tendering processes and decisions take place.

- A. Ms **Andrew Barr** agreed that this would probably be a sensible way forward. Ms **Annabel Pegrum** agreed and stated that despite requests none of the three or four drafts of the CMLP have been released.

- Q. Penelope (?) expressed the view to the NCA that any buildings in the Precinct need to be sensitive to the 1920's buildings in the Precinct, not new style buildings.

- A. Ms **Annabelle Pegrum** replied that DA53 required excellence in architecture not just copying heritage buildings. She referred to ANZAC Hall behind the War Memorial as a good example of how new buildings can relate sympathetically to Heritage buildings.

- Q. Mrs Merylyn Condon (President, Canberra Horticultural Society) advised the meeting that the Horticultural Society (which had used Albert Hall for 73 years) could no longer afford to use the Albert Hall for their exhibitions and asked if the government would ensure this situation would be different in future, that it would be affordable to such groups?

- A. Mr **Andrew Barr** acknowledged concern about costs but reiterated that he was unable to comment on the tender process.

- Q. Ms Susan Banks (President, Yarralumla Residents Association) advised the meeting that, on their reading, the tender process allows for 50 guaranteed days of discounted community use for the first 12 months and that after the charges would be decided by the tenderer. Was this correct?
- A. Ms **Andrew Barr** appeared to acknowledge that this scenario was correct.
- Q. Ms Alison Cresswell queried the viability of community access and enjoyment of Albert Hall when it was heavily used for commercial purposes?
- A. Ms **Andrew Barr** noted the points about increased commercial use and stated that he would refer them to Mr Hargreaves, the responsible Minister.
- Q. Professor John Mulvaney suggested that if Albert Hall was nominated for National Heritage Listing, it would become a Federal Government Heritage responsibility and the ACT tenders would be irrelevant. Further, he noted that the Immigration Bridge was not included in the Precinct and that, with a 12 metres height requirement over the lake, considerable space would be needed for the approaches to the Bridge. He asked how the bridge and its foundations would impinge on the Precinct?
- A. Ms **Annabelle Pegrum** replied that the NCA would allow for a bridge in DA53 and that this needs to be discussed with the ACT Government. She advised that, at this stage, there were no designs before the NCA for approval of the bridge and that there is no commitment either from the NCA or the ACT Government for funding. In response to a further question she assured the meeting that the Bridge would be high enough to allow for sailing.
- Q. Mr Greg Cornwell noted that traffic was under scrutiny and asked whether the Flynn Drive clover leaf could be reinstated?
- A. Ms **Annabelle Pegrum** replied that there was potential for a different intersection between King Edward Terrace and Commonwealth Avenue to stop Commonwealth Avenue, Kine Edward Terrace and Bowen Place being used as a through route to Fyshwick by heavy traffic. She stressed that we need good traffic outcomes and that all these issues will be discussed in depth at the Traffic workshop.

The Chair closed off questions at that stage and moved to take resolutions from the meeting

## 8. Resolutions

The following resolutions were put to the meeting and carried.

1. “ That relevant Federal and ACT Government ministers set up a joint body with equal community representation to report/advise on planning and management to ensure a sustainable future for the Albert Hall Heritage Precinct and guarantee sufficient community use of the Precinct for civic and cultural purposes.”

Moved: Dr Lenore Coltheart.  
Seconded: Ms Pip Muller.  
Carried almost unanimously

- 2 “That the NCA withdraw DA 53 and commence fresh planning and consultation processes for Albert Hall Precinct pending establishment of a new joint body.”

Moved: Mr Brett Odgers  
Seconded: Mr Luke Wensing  
Carried (clearly)

3. “That this meeting empower the organising group to set up a committee to promote the implementation of these resolutions.”

Moved: Ms Di Johnstone  
Seconded: Ms Sue Banks  
Carried

4. “That this meeting request the ACT Minister for Planning to convey two messages to the Government:

- i) this meeting’s disappointment that the Government did not send a representative competent to comment on the tender process; and
- ii) a request that the Government abort the current tender process and not re-open tenders until the planning future for the Albert Hall Precinct had been clarified.”

Moved: Mr John Carroll  
Seconded: Mr Don Emerton  
Carried

5. “That the plan resulting from Resolution 1 honour the principles spelt out by Walter Burley Griffin for the planning of the National Capital.”

Moved: Name not recorded  
Seconded: Dr Bruce Kent  
Carried

6. “That this meeting considers any plan for the Precinct ensure that Albert Hall remains a public asset under public management.”

Moved: Professor Patrick Troy  
Seconded: Dr Lenore Coltheart  
Carried

7. “That the meeting express disappointment that the Minister for Territories is not present and has not been present at any of the Albert Hall precinct meetings.”

Moved: Ms Rowena Campbell  
Seconded: Name not recorded  
Carried with some dissent

The Chair then thanked the organisers and panellists and closed the formal part of the meeting by asking people to join in supper and entertainment to follow.

**Albert Hall Public Meeting  
Thursday 24 May 2007 commencing at 5.30pm**

**Attachment to Minutes of Meeting**

**Extracts from Rosemarie Willett's paper on behalf of  
the Walter Burley Griffin Society**

“The Griffins believed that nature was teacher of fundamental laws and provider of spiritual sustenance and regeneration. Human beings should live in harmony with nature.”

“Griffin's definition of democracy was ‘independence of thought’ Griffin believed that individuals in democracy should take responsibility to form a view, and should respect the views of others, competition and merit. Effective consultation is vital in the determination of which views to act upon; democracy requires government to take into account feedback from consultation.”

“Griffin's definition of art was ‘doing things right’ – a pragmatic definition based on intelligent creativity. For Griffin, the art of urban planning and architecture, involved – for example

- analysis of site conditions and the functional brief and the solving of that equation for the mutual benefit of the site and the occupants; and
- the use of geometry in design and transcending that geometry with a mastery of space and form in both architecture and the landscape.”