

Meeting: The Valley Tomorrow Community Reference Group #10

Date: 31/3/21 Meeting began at 6.30pm

Location: Video conference call – Microsoft Teams

Attendees:

- Paul Hameister, Sally Irons, Justin Galligan, Brad Yudelman - Hamton (H)
- Georgia Willis, Rozalee Erceg - Moonee Valley Racing Club (MVRC)
- Jenny Nola, Sarah Ambrogio – Save Moonee Ponds (SMP)
- Allison Beaumont – (MV Families Facebook Group)
- Cr Katrina Hodgson - Moonee Valley City Council (MVCC)
- Helen Sui, Colin Harris, Katherine Davis - Moonee Valley City Council (MVCC)
- Michael Holtz - Moonee Ponds Primary School (MPPS)

Agenda Items:

1. Introductions/housekeeping
2. Review of Actions from last meeting
3. Status of Planning Permit Applications
4. MVRC Projects – Tote Bar and Dining, Masterplan
5. MVP Works onsite - Feehan Row
6. MVP – Stone Pines pre-application
7. Community Activations
8. Community Survey
9. Questions
10. Next meeting

1 Introduction

1.1 Paul Hameister (PH) opened the meeting and welcomed all members.

1.2 PH ran through the proposed agenda for the meeting.

2 Welcome and review actions from last meeting

2.1 Sally Irons (SI) confirmed that a separate meeting had been held to brief SMP on the revised B1 plans.

3 Status of Planning Permit Applications

3.1 Justin Galligan (JG) advised Stage A Feehan Row has a Planning Permit in place. Council have also approved the SP2B application and drawings have been endorsed. Construction is anticipated to commence in June 2021.

3.2 Justin Galligan (JG) also advised that a Planning Permit is in place for Stage B Thomas St with construction anticipated to commence in May 2021. PH advised that the tender process was complete for both Stage A SP2B and Thomas St and a builder announcement would be forthcoming.

3.3 JG advised that a Permit Application for the B1 amended design was lodged in December 2020 and a separate application for B2 (renamed Stone Pines Building) will be lodged this month. JG will go into further detail around the Stone Pines building design further into this presentation).

4 MVRC Projects – Tote Bar and Dining/Masterplan (SUZ)

4.1 Georgia Willis (GW) advised the Tote Bar and Dining Building refurbishment is due for completion in July 2021 and will open in August 2021. The Club are very excited to launch the new facility which will have a contemporary fit out whilst still being respectful to the heritage of the building.

4.2 GW took the group through the Racecourse Precinct Masterplan by providing a high level overview of the documentation lodged with Council in December 2020, specifically the Special Use Zone (SUZ) various zones and precincts, the access strategy over racing and non-racing days, which included vehicular and pedestrian movements and the SUZ guiding principles in relation to the future built form. GW advised she has also reached out to some members of the CRG to run through the documentation in more detail and to answer any questions. Once the masterplan is finalised, the detailed design phase will commence. GW updated the group by suggesting MVCC have advised the masterplan will be on public exhibition on Council's 'Have your say' community engagement website in April 2021 for the community to view and provide feedback. Mike Holtz (MH) sought clarification on when the detailed design will commence to which GW advised the masterplan framework had to be finalised first. MH also queried height restriction on the built form within the infield to which GW confirmed the infield would not contain buildings of height given it and legends club, namely the multi-purpose pavilion. Sarah Ambrogio (SA) queried pedestrian access and movement through the site. Her understanding was pedestrian access would be through Precincts D and E to which PH advised pedestrian access would be through Cox Place and has been part of the masterplan since it's release. SA asked if this access is part of the Integrated Transport Plan (ITP) to which Colin Harris (CH) advised it has always been a high priority to keep pedestrian movements away from the main part of the residential precinct. A new road is being constructed adjacent to the track to keep the precinct as pedestrian friendly as possible. GW reiterated that Cox Place will be the major access point.

5 MVP Works Onsite Stage A Feehan Row

5.1 Brad Yudelman (BY) advised Camillo builders are progressing well on site. The basement and ground floor concrete slabs are complete and the lightweight structure build is in progress for the first 2 of 6 sub-stages. Basement blockwork infill and services are also underway.

6 MVP – Stone Pines Design

JG talked the group through the Stone Pines pre-application pack which was presented to Council.

JG advised that the VCAT decision had been taken into consideration in the redesign and Hamton had been working with Council and their expert urban design consultant Rob McGauran to incorporate their feedback, noting the following –

- Kenna Street will now travel on the southern side of the Stone Pine trees
- Building 2 was no longer and the new proposal is named Stone Pines Building
- The Stone Pines Building is separated from Building 1 above ground with a 10 metre break between the two
- The building has been designed around the square and Stone Pine Trees retained with a focus on the amenity of the public space to deliver public art, a children's play area, landscaped pathways, seating, dog walking areas and pedestrian access maximised

PH confirmed the plans would go on the community website at the time of advertising and a further meeting can be arranged to go through the plans in further detail at that time.

PH advised the Kenna Street interface was a piece of feedback received from Council officers after the pre-application was presented and changes were made to the Kenna Street façade prior to lodgement.

SA asked if the Thomas Street view was shown during the presentation to which JG advised it was not, however it would be part of the application material. SA asked for an overview to which JG advised the treatment would be similar to Thomas Street in presentation and scale as building steps back and when it's 30 metres from the street edge it increases in height and scales up.

Jenny Nola (JN) asked when lodgement will take place, to which PH advised next week (being early April). PH reiterated the plans will also be available on the community website when advertising commences.

7 Activations

7.1 SI updated the group to advise the MOVE program has been rebranded as MV+ Health and Fitness. The MV+ will be used as an overarching brand.

7.2 The program has been going well with attendees from 12-15 out of a possible 20 for each class.

7.3 We have carried out some PR, a Direct Mailer and social posts to gain momentum

7.4 We plan to run an 8 week challenge and possibly a kids program in due course

7.5 The Bean Bag cinema which was postponed due to Covid-19 will be rescheduled for later in 2021.

8 Survey

8.1 SI presented the Annual Survey key findings for 2020, the main findings as follows –

- **Consistent Perceptions**

- 'Moonee Ponds has a strong sense of community' and 'Moonee Ponds is a family friendly place'
- Best things about Moonee Ponds is 'proximity and location' and 'greenery, parks and open space'
- Worst things are 'traffic and parking', 'transport infrastructure' and concerns relating to 'density and over development'
- **What we'd like to see more of**
 - 'Food and Beverage Options', 'Community Activities', 'Landscaping and Greenery' and 'Urban Public Places'
- **Views on Moonee Valley Park**
 - Overall perceptions of the redevelopment have become more positive
 - 45% 'strongly agreed' that 'Moonee Valley Park will be a family friendly place'
 - In 2019 nearly 53% of respondents 'disagreed' or 'strongly disagreed' with the statement 'built form scale and density is appropriate for Moonee Ponds', which reduced to 40% in 2020
 - Those who 'disagreed' or 'strongly disagreed' with the statement 'Moonee Valley Park will be a community hub and recreation space for the Moonee Ponds community' reduced from 35% to 24% between 2019 and 2020 and those that 'agreed' or 'strongly agreed' increased from 30% to 50% in 2020
- **What we'd like to see MVRC Redevelopment deliver**
 - 'Outdoor public spaces and green spaces', 'lifestyle, entertainment and food & beverage options', 'adequate parking' and 'low density/appropriate development'
- **Awareness of available information regarding the Redevelopment**
 - 63% of locals felt there was 'significantly inadequate' or 'slightly inadequate' amounts of information available regarding the development

9 Questions

- 9.1 JN asked if SI could share the community survey summary with the CRG
- 9.2 JN asked CH to ensure links for the plans on the Council website are accurate as they have not been in the past

10 Meetings will continue to be held on Wednesdays at 6.30pm and the next meeting will be scheduled for next quarter.