

Newsletter January 2006

Malvern East Group

Phone/Fax:9572 3205 Email: meg@chezsamuel.com

Web Site: http://home.people.net.au/~bremscot/meghome.php

MEG OBJECTIVES:

To preserve, foster and improve the general appearance and amenity of the area for the advantage of residents and to ensure that Malvern East retains its present residential character.

To do this the Group will:-

1. Attempt to influence, as far as is lawful and proper, State Government, Local Government and other Statutory Authorities concerned with the area.

2. Provide a body of informed opinion regarding the development of the area, oppose such development that the Group considers undesirable and not in keeping with the existing character and amenity.

3. Foster the protection of Heritage Areas and buildings.

4. Foster the protection of the character of the neighborhood in keeping with Council's Neighborhood Character Study.

5. Take such action as may be necessary to bring matters of concern to residents to the attention of Stonnington City Council and provide information to residents concerning such matters.

6. To provide an organization to support residents in matters in which they require assistance.

ALL MEMBERS PLEASE NOTE:

If you received this newsletter via 'snail' mail (your letter box) & now have access to an email address PLEASE let us know by emailing us at: jacqandsam@optusnet.com.au. Thank you!

From the Working Group...

The Working Group of the Coalition of Groups met with Royce Millar of The Age in November. MEG's representative on COG was there. For 2 hours we discussed the flaws of M2030... not just the flaws in its implementation but also the flaws in the document itself. We are hoping that this will result in another "Crunch Time for M2030" article. Keep your eyes open.

On December 1, The Age published an excellent article by Royce regarding the constant takeover of public open space by Government. We are not only losing open space, permeable surface and canopy trees in our own backyards but also in the public realm.

Minister Hulls said in November that M2030 is 'here to stay' but it will be reviewed.' We heard on the grapevine recently that it is already under review. We are not aware of anyone who has been notified of this review and we certainly want to be a part of it. We would hope that all of our members would write a submission telling the Government what damage this policy is doing to our suburbs.

In November I went to a rally at Brighton Town Hall. Bob Birrell, a noted opponent of M2030 was the Guest Speaker. Several candidates for Bayside Council Election were there. Residents urged ratepayers to vote for anti-development candidates in the forthcoming election...and they did!

Two MEG members went to the Planning Conference at RMIT in November where Minister Hulls said he had heard from only one group which opposed M2030. He omitted to mention that the one group of 3 people he met represented 55 Residents' Groups from across Melbourne... perhaps he forgot!

Planning Applications...

1995-1997 Malvern Rd. 20 multi-level dwellings. Permit granted by Council on Dec.16 with 5 pages of conditions.

16 Wilmot St. Two 2 storey dwellings on one lot. A Planning Dept. Recommendation to Grant a Permit was refused by Councillors on Dec. 16. Councillor Stepanopoulos voted for approval. *150 Waverley Rd.* A Permit was granted by Council on Dec.16. The application was for a small coffee bar on the premises of Red Dust Furniture.

1405 Dandenong Rd. 2 storeys...7 apartments... basement car parking.

617 Waverley Rd. 2 dwellings on one lot Construction of an additional 2 storey dwelling at rear of site.

29 Davies St. New dwelling on a lot under 500sq.m.

6 Rebecca St. Two dwellings on a single lot.

135 Waverley Rd. Use of the land as Indoor Recreation Facility with associated car parking dispensation.

7 Belgrave Rd. 2 dwellings on a single lot in a Heritage Overlay.

23 Millewa Avenue. 2 dwellings on a single lot (additional dwelling at rear).

4 Peak Street . 2 dwellings on a single lot.

VCAT Hearings...

16 Wilmot St. Two dwellings on a single lot. Against Refusal of Permit. Awaiting date.

24 Tollington Av. Against Refusal to Grant a Permit. 24 March/06.

790-792 Warrigal Rd. Appeal against Failure to Determine within 60 days. 20 March/06.

62 Sycamore St. Heard on Dec.7/05. Awaiting decision.

333 Wattletree Rd. Council's decision to Refuse to Grant a Permit was set aside. Permit issued.

Zagame Site...

No doubt you saw in the "Leader" that the 22 storey proposal for the Zagame site was refused by Glen Eira Council in November. DSE was asked for its opinion and stated that the application had 'no redeeming features.' We do not believe that this is the end of proposals for this site. Unfortunately, developers are not easily daunted.

Stonnington News...

Did you get your December copy? If not, **please** ring 8290 1333 and ask to speak to Liz in Communications. Liz is trying to sort out why residents are not receiving this publication.

For your interest...

From the 'MONASH MAGAZINE' Monash University, Spring/Summer 05

"The growth in undergraduate and postgraduate studies and international student numbers at the university's Caulfield campus is being accommodated with a new 10- storey, \$100 million building. The building is nearing completion and its 762-space multi-deck car park is already open. The first three levels of the building will feature lecture theatres, computer laboratories, a postgraduate lounge and shops. The Faculty of Business and Economics will occupy two levels and the Faculty of Information Technology a further three. The top level will accommodate a conference centre and corporate facility, and there is also space for commercial tenants.

The project director of Monash Property Management, Mr. Neville Bentley, says stage two of the Caulfield campus redevelopment is being planned.

This \$160 million project involves moving underground the current Coles supermarket-adjacent to Monash in a building owned by the university-- and turning the existing ground floor into a 'village' of student and staff residences, shops and offices.

"Ultimately, the Caulfield campus will be a place where people want to be--to learn, to engage with creative ideas, to play, and even to live," Mr. Bentley said.

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It is interesting to note that in applications for Student Accommodation the applicants have a consistently low provision of car spaces. A witness from Monash Property claimed at the VCAT hearing for the Waverley/Darling Student Accommodation that in general "students do not own cars." One wonders why Monash itself has built a carpark for 762 cars.

New Upper House Region...

From the VEC website we have obtained a map of the new Upper House region and we have printed it for your information. It is the Southern Metropolitan Region.

Five Members of Parliament will be elected to represent members of this electorate. The ballot paper will be like a Senate ballot paper and representatives will be elected under the system of proportional voting.

We have contacted the Greens and will be meeting with some of their representatives when they have completed their policy paper on planning.

Ted Baillieu, Shadow Minister for Planning, has said that the Liberal Party's policy will be released when the time is right.

We already know the Planning policy of the Labor Party.

We will be interested to see if any independent candidates decide to stand in this region. If so, we will also contact them to ascertain their views on M2030.



This region contains the following districts:- Albert Park, Bentleigh, Brighton, Burwood, Caulfield, Hawthorn, Kew, Malvern, Oakleigh, Prahran, Sandringham.