



Newsletter November 2005

Malvern East Group

Phone/Fax: 9572 3205

Email: mea@chezsamuel.com

From the Working Group.....

We had some glitches with our last newsletter. We should have issued it in September and couldn't, so it went out in October. Some of you received a newsletter headed 'September' and some 'October.' It was the same newsletter. So with this one we are going straight to November!

Also I made a mistake re 15 Kardella St and a resident requested that I correct it in our next edition. So here's the correction...the application was for a 2 storey house on one lot not 2 storey dwellings on one lot. *mea culpa*. Another correction we have to make is regarding our website address. This one is definitely correct...

<http://home.people.net.au/~bremscot/meghome.php>

On Oct. 18th 3 members of MEG attended the Kew Cottages Coalition Rally. This was held to protest against the Government's plan to move most of the residents of Kew Cottages to community housing and to replace the institution and a large part of Public Open Space with apartments. Amended plans have since been submitted.

On Oct. 20th I attended yet another meeting of the Collingwood Action Group Committee. These residents have been almost beaten to the ground after being through the process of

the Priority Development Panel with regard to the huge Banco proposal for Smith St.

It is important that we support other residents' groups so that when we want their support we'll get it.

Planning Applications...

Malvern East

1995-1997 Malvern Rd. 20 multi-level dwellings comprising 9 townhouses with basement car parking and 11 semi-detached dwellings. (Cnr. Cairns Crescent.) Consultative Meeting... Tuesday November 8...6p.m.

16 Wilmot St. Two 2 storey boundary to boundary dwellings...each with 3 bedrooms and 2 studies. (Sounds like an over-kill, doesn't it?) Consultative Meeting... Wednesday November 16...6p.m.)

790-792 Warrigal Rd. 3 storeys...20 dwellings...basement car parking. Consultative Meeting was on October 25.

24 Tollington Av. 3 storey house in the Neighbourhood Character Overlay.

586-588 Waverley Rd. 2 lot subdivision.
2-4 Lloyd St. 4 lot sub-division
8 Repton Rd. 2 lot sub-division.
28 Repton Rd. 2 lot sub-division.
313 Waverley Rd. 63 lot sub-division.

There is a number of applications for alterations and additions to houses within Heritage Overlays.

VCAT Hearings.....

333 Wattletree Rd....November 10
62 Sycamore St. ...December 7

NEIGHBORHOOD CHARACTER STUDY

On Oct.12 Ann Reid and Remy Favre attended the final meeting of this Committee. Thank you to those MEG members who contributed comments. These were passed on to the consultants. After the Oct.12 meeting we had more homework and not enough time to ask you for further comments. We have made our comments on the revised Character Descriptions and we look forward to receiving the report for consultation. It is anticipated that the Study will be produced in its final form in December. It will then go to the Minister for approval.

We are hoping that this will be a useful tool in the assessment of Planning Applications and that VCAT will take it into consideration when making judgments in appeals which involve Neighborhood Character. To date, VCAT has consistently ignored Local Policies and allowed the demands of M2030 to override anything that we want.

Structure Plans.....

In the October issue of Stonnington News which as usual was not delivered to households, Council announced the forthcoming commencement of work on the preparation of a Structure Plan for the Waverley Rd Malvern East Neighborhood Activity Centre (near the intersection of Dandenong and Burke Rds.) We told you in our last newsletter that Council had applied for Interim Height Controls for this are down to Emo Rd. These controls, if permitted by the Minister, will limit heights to 15m. (That's a worry!)

It is vital that residents attend the Community Consultation sessions for the Structure Plans. Keep your eye on Council News in the Leader for these dates.

If you are not receiving 'Stonnington News' contact Council staff and Councillors and let them know. Ph.8290 1333

MEETING WITH THE MINISTER

Through sheer persistence, Mary Drost finally broke through the wall of bureaucrats who protect the Minister from 'the people' and with Tony Hogg of Mitcham Residents' Association and Sebastian Agricola of St. Albans actually spent 45 minutes with Mr. Hulls.

Note these points...

- **he will consider meeting with the Coalition of Groups.**
- **(MEG is a member of the Coalition.)**
- **M2030 is here to stay.**
- **M2030 will be reviewed.**

The bureaucrats appear to be anxious for a meeting with COG not to take place so we need to write to Minister Hulls and tell him that...

- **we want to meet with him this year**
- **we want M2030 put on hold until a review takes place**
- **we want the review to take place now.**

Address:- Hon. Rob Hulls
Minister for Planning
Level/17 8 Nicholson St.
East Melbourne 3020

email:- rob.hulls@parliament.vic.gov.au

The Age Oct. 22
CRUNCH TIME FOR M2030

Royce Millar wrote that Mr Hulls is conducting a review of the Urban Growth Boundary and that the review is confidential.

More secrecy from a government committed to community consultation.

Planning Association of Australia Victoria President Trevor Budge has written to Mr. Hulls calling for an independent review of M2030.

This is because of inadequate public transport and a lack of Government commitment to spending on it. Trevor Budge is a supporter of the principles of M2030. Marcus Spiller National President of the Planning Association and "prominent M2030 supporter" is not reported as supporting a review.

Royce Millar reported that residents of Melton are becoming "quite angry" about development, especially about infill housing. *In Stonnington we are already more than 'quite angry' about infill housing.*

Royce Millar... There is "community anxiety about M2030's plan to increase apartment-style housing in established centres like Melton."

Such anxiety has existed in Stonnington since the Kennett years which saw the destruction of streetscapes and neighborhoods.

Also in the Age on Oct.22, Guy Rundle's article stated that "We are in the second wave of a process of developing Melbourne that threatens to damage or kill much that is distinctive about the city." This "began in the Kennett years" ...and..." for a while there

seemed to be a pause in the most destructive and wanton approvals..."

He went on to say, "With the Bracks Government's establishment of Melbourne 2030 and its doctrine of 'activity centres' the process (i.e. of destruction) has begun again albeit in a quintessentially new-labour third-way process of pseudo-consultation and consensus."

As far as we are concerned there has never been consensus about this destruction, not even a pseudo consensus.

Did you see the 'FINANCIAL REVIEW' Oct.17.....

"High-rise boom to hit suburbs." These developments "will take place in more expensive, leafy middle-ring suburbs rather than the inner city."

That refers to suburbs like ours.

Local News Item...

2 Ash Grove, Malvern East

Built in 1890, "Elmo" has a National Trust Classification. It was restored to all its former glory, with modern touches added, by the Fosters. Di Foster is Stonnington's Local Historian. "Elmo" was sold recently and we hope the new owners will care for this jewel as well as the Fosters did.

Thank You To Councillors

Councillors Anne O'Shea and Judy Hindle spent some hours last week offering suggestions and help to the Working Group. This assistance is greatly appreciated.

Advice To Residents Re: Planning Applications

This is available to all members. If you need a copy please contact us and we will email or post it to you.

MORE MEMBERS – BIGGER VOICE!

A larger group will allow us to be a more effective voice for Malvern East residents in dealing with planning issues. There is strength in numbers. The cost of Membership is \$5. To join,

contact Ann on 9572 3205, or Rémy on 9569 3199 (BH), or send an e-mail to meg@chezsamuel.com

If you need membership forms to sign up new members, please let us know.

*FEEL FREE TO COPY AND DISTRIBUTE THIS NEWSLETTER AMONG FRIENDS AND
NEIGHBOURS.*