

## **MINUTES OF ECCO GENERAL MEETING OCTOBER 22<sup>ND</sup> 2008**

**PRESENT:** Susan Sanders, Jo Bailey, Brian Bailey, Geoff Errey, Tony Davidson, David Williams, John Ferguson, Tony Smith, John Gill, Marlene Farrell, Phil Peters, Janice Vaughan, Andrew Mc Master, Margaret Weaver, Jennifer Smith, Jeremy Buckingham, Neil Jones, Alan Renike, Phil Stevenson, Nick King.

**APOLOGIES:** Bernie and Colina Huxtable, Fiona Hawke, Carol Gill.

### **Development Application for the Evangelical Church, Ploughman's Lane.**

Invited speaker, Mr. Alan Renike, Manager, Development Assessment, Orange City Council spoke on the development application for the Evangelical Church in Ploughman's lane. Local residents were present who were given the opportunity to express their concerns and ask questions about the proposed development. Representatives from the Evangelical Church, Janice Vaughan and Andrew McMaster were also present to answer questions from those present. Issues of concern were those of: storm water runoff, greenway access, lighting, noise, traffic access, bulk and scale of the building, proposed landscaping.

A meeting of concerned and available ECCO members will be held at 6 Pasadena Place next Wednesday October 29<sup>th</sup> at 7.30 to discuss a possible submission concerning this development application.

Tony Smith to approach Geolyse, the consultants employed by the Evangelical Church for a more accurate representation of the proposed building.

**Minutes of General Meeting held on September, 2008** Moved Tony Smith, seconded Stephen Nugent that the minutes of the 24<sup>th</sup> September be accepted. Carried.

**Business arising: Hospital Project future landscaping:** Tony Smith has approached the manager responsible for landscaping the hospital project. His organization has been involved in the propagation of suitable trees and shrubs for the re landscaping of the hospital grounds. ECCO and other concerned organizations such as the Orange Field Naturalists will be invited to participate in their planting at a practical and advisory level .

**Treasurer's Report:** Phil. Stevenson reports that ECCO's balance stands at \$2 750. With additional income from \$1030 in renewed membership fees , the current balance comes to \$3580. ECCO's current financial membership consists of 15 family, 6 individual and 3 life memberships. Moved Phil Stevenson, seconded Nick King the treasurer's report be accepted. Carried.

**Rotary Enviro Expo:** Report from David Williams Rotary Environmental Officer and organizer of the Rotary Enviro Expo, who thanked ECCO for its support and participation. David reports that the Expo was attended by 1100 people. Rotary intends the Expo to be an annual feature in the Orange event calendar. Highlights were the enthusiastic involvement of children, the quality of the presenters and the fact that the Expo attracted much interest from organizations eager to participate in future Expos and the fact that interest attracted from outside the Orange district

A vote of thanks was moved in appreciation for all David's work in organizing the Enviro Expo. ECCO is willing to participate in future planning and organization for next year's event.

A nomination for an Australia Day award for the Enviro Expo will be discussed at the next ECCO committee meeting.

**ECCO Environment Awards:** Report from Stephen Nugent, the head of the Environment Awards Committee. The awards were launched at Rotary Enviro Expo reception on the evening of Friday 17<sup>th</sup> October. The inaugural recipients were Daroo Urban Landcare Group, who received the ECCO Environment Award, and Bowen Public School, who received the OCAN Climate Action Award.

The next ECCO Environment Awards will be those of the Spring quarter, 2008. Entries to be submitted by November 14<sup>th</sup>, 2008. Information sheets and entry forms need to be distributed to co-operating organizations i.e. Book City, Central Western Daily etc. ECCO has to decide on who will judge the entries. We also need to encourage people to nominate.

The Central Western Daily has agreed to do profile pieces on the participants and once a month articles on the awards will be presented in the Earth First column in the Central Western Daily.

**ECCO Website:** Nick to meet with Paul Carpenter to provide him with the relevant information to resurrect the ECCO website.

**Walk Against Warming:** It was agreed that the venue for this year's Walk Against Warming will be the Orange Botanic Gardens. Neil to liaise with the appropriate council staff to enquire about its use for this purpose. The date for the Walk Against Warming will be Saturday, November 15<sup>th</sup> 2008.

**Follow up on Cyanide Watch:** Moved Tony Smith, seconded Steven Nugent, that Orange's local member, Mr. Russel Turner be contacted requesting information about the movement of cyanide through the Central West.

Moved Nick King, seconded Stephen Nugent that Graeme Dunstan be contacted requesting further information about the review of sodium cyanide as a Priority Existing Chemical and whether the review will take into account the environmental hazard presented by increasing tonnage of sodium cyanide in transport.

Nick to contact Nedra Burns from Cadia Mines to enquire if cyanide is used in the extraction of gold in their operation in Australia or overseas.

Tony to research Orica, the major producer of cyanide products in Australia.

**Watertight in the Home:** Neil distributed information about the **Watertight in the Home** to those interested. For information about this scheme contact the Orange City Council Water management Team 1300 650 511

Suggested by Phil Stevenson that ECCO approach Country Energy to suggest a similar scheme involving electricity. Neil to investigate this at the next Regional Advisory Board meeting.

**Slow Summer Festival:** Phil Stevenson reported on the proposed Slow Summer Festival to be conducted in February 2009 involving schools. Will require some support from ECCO members, especially through the school holidays.

**Kurrafalls Open House:** Brian Phillips will be conducting an open house at his property “Kurrafalls” on Saturday, November, 8<sup>th</sup>. Nick and Brian to meet to discuss advertising for this event.

**Eucalyptus trees in Leeward Estate:** Susan Sanders reports that there is a “For Sale” sign in the park opposite the RTA in Leeward Estate. This park contains substantial eucalypts. Neil to investigate.

**Next General Meeting:** November 26<sup>th</sup>

**Next Committee Meeting:** Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> November.

**Meeting to discuss proposed Evangelical Church Development:** Wednesday October 29<sup>th</sup>, 7.30pm, 6 Pasadena place.

**Next OCAN meeting:** To be advised.

Nick King, Secretary.