

MIN NO **MINUTES OF THE ASHFIELD SENIORS ACTION COMMITTEE OF ASHFIELD COUNCIL, HELD IN HABERFIELD LIBRARY, 78 DALHOUSIE STREET, HABERFIELD ON TUESDAY 10 MAY 2011, COMMENCING AT 10:00 AM.**

<u>PRESENT</u>	His Worship the Mayor, Councillor Cassidy (Chair)
	Joan O'Keefe CWA
	Maria Guarrera Liberi
	Tony Fiatorone Ashfield Probus
	Luigi Vella Community representative
	Margaret Levit Vision Impaired Persons Group
	Nola Makowiak Seniors Social Group
	Ken Baden Community Representative
	Joy Lu Community Representative
	Jozef Oktalowicz Polish Seniors
	Cliff Musson Ashfield Walking for Pleasure
	Marcia Tydeman Community Representative
	Stella Golab Polish Seniors
	Rosemary Musson The Ella Centre
	George Kang Chinese Seniors Social Group
	Elizabeth Sacco Pedestrian Safety Project Coordinator, Ashfield Council
	Narelle Brown Energy & Water Ombudsman NSW
	Ruth Paillas Community Development Worker, Ashfield Council

APOLOGIES Tony Smith National Seniors

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF LOCAL INDIGENOUS COMMUNITY

"Let us acknowledge that we are meeting on country for which the members and elders of the local Indigenous community have been custodians for many centuries, and on which Aboriginal people have performed age old ceremonies. We acknowledge their living culture and unique role in the life of this region."

DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

No disclosures were made.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**RESOLVED: Vella/Fiatorone****That the minutes of the Ashfield Seniors Action Committee
Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 15 February 2011 be confirmed.****BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES**

The computer classes referred to were held in Haberfield Library during Seniors Week in March 2011. The library contact number is 9716 1000.

GENERAL BUSINESS**1. Guest Speaker – Narelle Brown, Community Development Officer Energy & Water Ombudsman, NSW**

From July 1 2011, the Low Income Household Rebate replaces the Energy Rebate. For people who currently receive the Energy Rebate, they will not have to do anything, and will automatically receive the more generous Low Income Household Rebate from 1 July 2011.

The Low Income Household Rebate provides eligible customers with a rebate of \$200 a year on their energy bills.

Eligibility for the Low Income Household Rebate is the same as the former Energy Rebate. These are electricity account holders who hold either a:

- Pensioner Concession Card issued by either Centrelink or the DVA;
- Gold Card issued by the DVA marked with either:
- Health Care Card issued by Centrelink as a result of receiving one of a number of income support payments from the Commonwealth.

Other types of rebates are also available such as [Life Support Rebates](#), [Medical Energy Rebates](#) and [Energy blackouts rebates](#). If you think you are eligible for a rebate which you are not receiving, or would like to ask some more questions, contact your electricity supplier or your local electricity distributor - the contact phone numbers can be found on your electricity bill.

The presenter from EWON also introduced the Home Power Savings Programme - free help to save power available to NSW residents with a Pensioner Concession, Low Income Health Care or Veterans' Affairs card or energy utility hardship customers.

Eligible residents can apply for a home power assessment by an energy expert to identify ways to save power in the home. They will receive a power Savings Kit to help kick start savings which includes:

- stand-by saver power board
- 4 energy efficient light bulbs
- low flow showerhead
- shower timer
- tap aerator
- draught-proof strips for around the door
- door snakes.

If you think you are eligible to receive the home power assessment please Call 1300 662 416 to book.

The Energy & Water Ombudsman NSW provides a free, fair and independent dispute resolution service for all electricity and gas customers in New South Wales, and some water customers. It's a marvellous service and has a very informative website here www.ewon.com.au

Recommendation: Cassidy/Guarrera

1/2 That Narelle be thanked for her interesting and well presented talk.

2/2 That EWON service information feature in the next Mayoral Column and flyers be made available at Council's one-stop counter.

2. Guest Speaker – Elizabeth Sacco, Project Coordinator, Ashfield Council – RTA Pedestrian Safety Pilot Project

Pedestrian safety along Liverpool Road has long been a concern of Ashfield Council and more recently a focus of the NSW Roads & Traffic Authority.

The RTA are working closely with Council and with the community to address this issue and are looking a different options available for improving safety. A key aspect of this work involves an extensive community education campaign addressing pedestrian behaviour at intersections and mid-block across Liverpool Road.

Elizabeth presented information from the PowerPoint document attached to these minutes.

Recommendation: Fiatorone/C Musson

That Elizabeth be thanked for her presentation.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Aircraft noise

The Mayor sits on the Sydney Airport Community Forum and informed the Committee about its current inquiry into noise impact on different areas of Sydney. If people wish to make a contribution to this inquiry they can contact **Aircraft Noise Complaints Line on 1800 802 584**

Haberfield McDonalds

The Development Application for the McDonalds Restaurant in Haberfield is returning to the Land & Environment Court on Friday 20 May. The Court has been given a petition of 2000 signatures against the development and heard issues raised regarding traffic, heritage, and opening hours.

Civic Centre

Practical completion was granted on Friday 6 May. Final issues need to be resolved before the official public opening is announced.

Next meeting: Tuesday 9 August 2011. Venue TBA

PROCEEDINGS TERMINATED AT 12.00PM.

Chairperson of the meeting of Ashfield Seniors Action Committee
when the Minutes were confirmed

Chairperson

Date