Community Reference Group Notes

Date: Wednesday 1 February 2017
Time: 5.30pm for 6pm start until 7.30pm
Venue: Reception Room, Civic Centre, 128 Prospect Road, Prospect
Chair: Brendan Lott
Note taker: Melissa O’Kelley
Members: Caroline Ashmeade, Chandrika Balakrishna (proxy), Bob Barrett (proxy), Prue Blaikie, Ali Blake, Tyler Gates, Mark Groote, Shaun Lyon, Frances McKenzie-Smith, Sue Michael, Melissa O’Kelley, Jess Tovara
Other: Liz Gunn – Community Development Officer
Apologies: David Kilner, Umesh Nagasandra, Vicki Rigney, Reb Rowe, Sharron Ward, Kym Whittington

1. Actions arising from previous meeting – Brendan Lott (Chair)

Action item – Council to provide updates of new CLIC information to CRG. Action – A closed group has been created on Yammer.

[Deputy Mayor Mark Groote – was not at last meeting and took the opportunity to introduce himself. He is a member of the Project Executive Group (PEG) and can feed information from PEG to CRG and vice versa.]

2. Presentation: Libraries of the Future – Brendan Lott (Chair)

PowerPoint presentation that was also presented to the Elected Members at Council Workshop on 14/2/17. The PowerPoint will be made available on Yammer.

Highlights from the presentation:

- Slides 3-4 – Guiding principles for the project are linked to Council’s Strategic Plan.
- Slide 7 – Libraries as a ‘third place’ that exists as an alternative to home and work
- Slide 8 – Libraries Alive report that provides the basis for other reports including the SGS cost-benefit analysis report.
- Slides 9-11 –Community consultation completed by Library staff in early 2016 – ‘What are residents requirements for a new Library?’
- Slide 12 – Expert advice - staff comments on requirements for new Library & Community Hub.
- Slide 16 – The terms ‘community hub’ and ‘innovation centre’ have not been defined as yet. ‘CLIC’ is a working name only.
- Slide 17 - 1400 square metres of area proposed to provide for current services.
- Slide 18 - 1000 square metres in addition to the expansion of existing service areas. These are the additional services (and spaces) required based on best practice / leading edge library (and associated) services.

3. Group Activity – What’s in? What are the priorities?

This was a facilitated discussion to focus upon the key services to be made available within the new Community Hub, Library and Innovation Centre (CLIC). Members broke off into groups of 3 or 4, writing
down new services on index cards. A member from each group then presented their cards to the entire group.

Common themes from the three groups emerged:

- **Space/meeting rooms** – each group highlighted the need for a variety of multifunctional spaces including meeting rooms. The meeting rooms were identified as needing mobile partitions (for the ability to have one large space or to divide it up into smaller spaces), moveable tables, and to have technologies to support different activities. These meeting rooms should be available for regular, ongoing bookings and for once off, ad hoc use. Additionally, they should be available after hours with the ability for online self-bookings.

- **Amenities** – a range of amenities were suggested by each group. These include: more car parking, lighting for after-hours use, appropriate acoustics, a rooftop garden, charging stations for electronic devices, lockers for public use, secure bike racks, an integrated outdoor space, and street frontage appeal (perhaps large windows where art and other displays can be exhibited to attract passers-by, also suggested that artists could sit in the window and create their art while people on the street watched).

- **Café** – there was some discussion regarding a café on site. Some believed that it would compete with local business and that it was not Council’s place to do so. Others believed that it could work if a local café operated onsite and it was run independently.

- **Technologies** – several suggestions for podcast booths. Also suggestions for music booths, 3D printing, and Adobe Suite for self-publishing.

- **Art space** – Several groups commented on usage of space for art/art gallery. Some suggestions included: art studio space for working and teaching (with the right fit out to be able to make a mess) and a space that can cater to different forms/media/formats of art and craft. It was also suggested that the art gallery be separate from the library.

- **Business** – different viewpoints emerged regarding business services being offered at CLIC. One view was that it shouldn’t detract from Little City while another viewpoint suggested that business startup services/centre for younger, inexperienced entrepreneurs/innovators would be beneficial.

- **Other suggestions on services** – a ‘hacker space’ (similar to a makerspace but where people with an interest in electronics and computing can meet to share work and ideas), a ‘repair café’ (volunteers repair household electrical devices, clothing, bicycles etc), a community laundry, and to integrate the immunisation clinic.

- **Discussion also addressed the question: What is ‘innovation’?** One view put forward was that in the CLIC context, innovation was around the notion of makerspaces. Another view expressed that it should support young innovators.

### 4. Presentation – Yammer and Poll Everywhere Apps – Brendan Lott (Chair)

Yammer was discussed in brief. It is a networking/communication tool to be utilised by CRG in which members can share documents and communicate with each other. It will also highlight new info regarding the project. A closed group has been set up and members will receive email invites to the Yammer group. **ACTION: Brendan to send out Yammer info and invites to CRG members and proxies.**

Poll Everywhere will be discussed at a future meeting but it was noted that it is not meant to replace robust discussion.

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Meeting closed at 7.35 pm.

Next Meeting on Wednesday, 5 April 2017 at 6 – 7.30pm (*refreshments available from 5.30pm*)