



December 2017



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Message from the Chair. Season's Greetings! Indeed, living in Melbourne you can have several in one week! As we approach the holiday season may I wish you all a safe and peaceful break. The committee has been working hard and has some important news to share, along with some reminders.

www.Willsmere.net is live! **Please sign up to receive email updates.** Printed newsletters such as this will be phased out in due course. Updates will be not so frequent as to be annoying, perhaps once a month, unless there is urgent news. Want to know when the bus runs, how to book the tennis courts, swimming pool rules ...? It's all there!

New Facility Manager, Joel Nyoni. With excellent qualifications and a great deal of hands-on experience, Joel will be a valuable asset to Willsmere. He can be reached using the same contacts details, 0466 554 534. Facility.Manager@Willsmere.net. We thank Devang for his dedication and professional handover to Joel, and congratulate him on his successful progression to securing a job as a mechanical engineer. Please join us at the **Willsmere Christmas BBQ from 4:30pm on Friday December 15th** to warmly welcome Joel, farewell Devang, and meet you neighbours. Food and soft drinks provided.

Sustainability is one of objectives of this CoM. Quotes have been received for a modest initial solar panel installation that would save some of the common area consumption (primarily lighting) with an estimated payback of around 5 years. This modular approach could be expanded in future to generate sufficient energy to heat the pool, and potentially be metered to individual lots at rates below (skyrocketing) market prices.

Pool upgrade. Some of you may have attended the open forum regarding a possible pool and surrounding area upgrade rather than just refurbishing the existing aged facility. This was a terrific example of open-minded and constructive consultation which generated several possible improvements. It also identified some specialists among us – **your participation is welcome!**

A study of **vehicular accessibility** options has been commissioned particularly around the former Main Drive connection. More details will be provided, and consultation will occur in due course. Meanwhile, quotes are being obtained for replacement of the old heavy gates that frequently fail with lighter and more reliable ones.

Security. More cameras are planned in public areas of Willsmere, notably around the gates and the library following incidents of vandalism, dumping of rubbish, and graffiti.

Reminders. We live in a community which is governed by rules aimed at keeping the harmony

and preserving our wonderful heritage. These rules are provided to all new residents and owners, and are available on the web site. Every committee is obliged to enforce these rules, and it is time for a clean-up.

Bicycles. In recognition that more Willsmerians ride bicycles these days (well done!), options are being explored to provide additional bike storage, as well as the recent bike audit to clear abandoned bikes in the storage privies. In preparation please note that bicycles must not be left outside, including private verandahs.

Common gardens must not be modified without permission. This includes the gardens in front on the townhouses which belong to all owners; they are not private property.

Laundry is not to be placed outside. There are clothes lines at the north and south corners. Please be considerate of your neighbours.



No plant pots or other items may be left on common property where it may obstruct egress in case of an emergency or cause a trip hazard. No plant pots are allowed on window sills. These may cause staining, accelerate degradation of stone and paintwork, and be a safety hazard. A lot of money has just been spent on painting and this must last years, so please be respectful.



Do not feed birds. Magpie swoopings are increasing. Feeding birds promotes dependence and disturbs their natural diet. Residual feed attracts vermin. Bones are a choke hazard to dogs. Feeding birds can lead to secondary problems such as increases in insect pests. Acidic droppings promote corrosion of buildings and car paint, and unsightly soiling of the buildings. Pet food left outdoors often ends up feeding birds instead.



Hard rubbish collections are scheduled approximately monthly. Please note it is your responsibility to deposit suitable hard rubbish – excluding construction materials and paint – **not more than 4 days before, and not later than 4pm on the day prior to collection.**

Open House Willsmere! Given the extraordinary success of our participation in Open House Melbourne, which generated positive press and fulfilled our heritage obligation to open to the public twice a year, we have been invited to host an exclusive event in March next year (when the weather should be much kinder than July!). More news soon.

Remember to sign up at www.Willsmere.net! Best regards, your volunteer CoM for 2017/18.

