**2020-21 Report of Public Officer of Belconnen Community Council**

Having been appointed in accordance with Division 4.1, section 57, of the Associations Incorporations Act 1991 (as amended) I hereby confirm that the Belconnen Community Council Incorporated (hereinafter referred to as ‘BCC’) has operated at all times within the objectives of the BCC constitution as specified in Section 1.2, namely to:

* foster a community identity
* provide a local forum
* provide a strong local voice to ensure the interests of the Belconnen community are promoted when commenting on government strategic policy initiatives
* address matters of local concern
* ensure that legislators and officials are fully informed of community needs and expectations
* establish communications locally and regionally
* initiate, support and undertake any appropriate actions advantageous for the community or any community group approved by BCC
* ensure that party politics do not impede or override community wishes as conveyed to BCC
* preserve all facilities and services expected by the community
* maintain and improve the quality of life in Belconnen,

Committee meetings have been held in accordance with section 6.5 of the BCC constitution and at general meetings of the BCC the requirements of a quorum (section 6.7) have in all cases been exceeded. The COVID\_19 restrictions have limited the number of in-person meetings and where appropriate, in keeping with the COVID\_19 restrictions, meetings have been facilitated by use of ZOOM. This is in conformance with section 70AA of the Associations Incorporations Act 1991 (as amended) – henceforward referred to as the Act. The BCC AGM was held on 21 September 2021, within the time requirements specified in section 69 of the Act and section 6.4 subsection 1 of the BCC constitution. Well meeting the requirements of 6.4.3 of the BCC constitution, the BCC AGM was advertised in the Canberra Times on 11 August 2021, the wording of the advertisement being cleared with the BCC committee. The meeting was also advertised on the BCC website and members notified by email.

To ensure party politics do not impede or override community wishes, public meetings have been open to those of no political affiliation and community groups approved by the BCC as well as representatives of the three major political parties in the ACT. BCC has shown no favouritism to any one political party and accorded local members of all recognised political parties a standing invitation to report at public meetings.

The assets and income of the BCC have been applied solely in the furtherance of the objectives aforementioned. All expenditure has been approved by the BCC committee. Committee members have exercised their functions and discharge their duties with a reasonable degree of care and diligence as outlined in section 66A of the Act. At the AGM the audited statement of accounts was presented and accepted, as specified in the BCC constitution (6.4.2) and sections 70B, 72, 73 and 75 of the Act. The 2020-21 audit was conducted by *bonsella*, one of the AFR 100 top accounting firms and fully independent of the BCC.

Charles Thomas

Public Officer