

Planit Chin Jape Gwalwa Daraniki Association masterplan Lot 5182 Development Consent Authority
Denis Burke chairman Novatel Atrium Darwin November 21, 2014 Save the Darwin Green Belt

A totally mind boggling hearing as Denis Burke takes the Chair and shows his total ignorance of the whole process. Total CLP membership of DCA. Secret handling of the Planit/Chin/Jape Masterplan decision documented as going back many months unbeknown to us. Key words stood out, ones you would well be familiar with – insult, done deal, extraordinary, incredible, monstrosity, all from those opposing the plan (only about 12 turned up). Grant Tambling stared into his laptop for at least the first hour, mute as usual. Burke did exactly as predicted – he gave the appearance of being neutral, with comments like, ‘I stand corrected’. We should have sat in a bunch to appear united, but what difference would that have made, given that the decision was pretty obvious well before yesterday.

Burke began by saying that the block was already rezoned light industrial. Utter contempt for the residents of Ludmilla. ‘Whether it should have been is not our concern,’ he said, referring to his gang of four, Tambling, Macintyre, Bob Elix, and Gary Lambert (the silent partner, of course, was Planit/Chin/Jape’s Adam Smith, who works in a different, secret, wing of the NT Government’s planning department.) Burke’s blasé dismissal of zoning equated roughly to how he and his cohorts regarded the mention of grave sites. Lambert said categorically that there were none. This was to be challenged later by our Margaret Clinch, who quickly got into her characteristic eloquent stride. She who should be immortalized in bronze on one of the rapidly disappearing open spaces around Darwin, covered the gamut, from flooding and run-off on Dick Ward and Totem Roads, to serious flight-path concerns and the danger traffic lights posed to aeroplanes flying overhead at night.

‘I can’t think of any planning authority in the southern States (that would allow this to happen),’ she told Burke.