

Monday 4 March 2013.

## **Council wants action on West Ryde town centre redevelopment**

Councillors have expressed their frustration with the developers of the West Ryde town centre over delays in completing the project, the impact this has had on local businesses and shoppers, and the failure of Coles to keep the community informed.

The project includes a new supermarket with underground parking, a public square, improved roads, footpaths and public domain. It was originally scheduled to be completed in time for the Christmas shopping period in 2012.

Mayor, Cllr Ivan Petch, said, "The Council accepts that there have been unavoidable delays, caused by weather and lengthy approvals processes at the RMS (formerly RTA).

"However, it is disappointing that for the past twelve months Coles has failed to keep the community fully informed of these delays, despite their contractual obligations, and Council's constant urging for action."

"Where the City of Ryde has control over matters, we have been responsive to community feedback, such as temporary parking measures. This and other information has been consistently passed to the community through the Council website and our newsletter.

"On the other hand, Coles ceased distributing information to the local community in March 2012.

"Local businesses and the wider community have suffered and been kept in the dark long enough. If they don't know what is happening, how can they plan for the future?" he said.

Recent negotiations between the Council, the West Ryde Chamber of Commerce and Coles will hopefully bear fruit. Coles has given an undertaking to advise a revised opening date for the supermarket and underground parking and to inform the local community as they work towards achieving this.

For further information go to [www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/ Documents/Mtg-Council2013/gm0313\\_260213m.pdf](http://www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/Documents/Mtg-Council2013/gm0313_260213m.pdf)