

DUTCH COMMUNITY IN WILLIAMSTOWN

Williamstown will soon possess a small Dutch community with the arrival of workmen, who will be engaged in the construction of a new dock on the Port Melbourne side of the river entrance, and their families.

Messrs. Marinus Stigter and Hans Ferwerda, principals of the Australian Dredging and General Works Pty. Ltd., were present at the Council meeting on Tuesday night, and were accorded a cordial welcome to Williamstown.

The company has purchased a two-storeyed bluestone building in Lyons St., and alongside this home will be constructed another house for use by Dutch migrants.

On a larger scale is the subdivision of the area known as Pollock's paddock into 17 building allotments. This paddock fronts both The Strand and Douglas Parade, and is between Dowman St. and Peel St. Plans before the Council on Tuesday night indicate that a new private street will be constructed, and the building of the homes will provide an asset to the City of Williamstown.

On the motion of Cr. Floyd it was decided to invite the company to submit a Dutch name for the new street.

No less than 13 dredges and other valuable equipment are being towed from Holland for use by the company in its large undertaking. They have been on the water for two months, and should arrive at Williamstown in about another month's time.

At supper in the Mayor's room on Tuesday night Mr. Stigter expressed the hope that they would be welcomed as future Australian citizens in the same cordial manner as they had been treated as Dutch visitors that night.