

**Minutes of
CITY PRECINCT COMMITTEE MEETING**
Held at 7am on 20th October 2009
at Newcastle Leagues Club, National Park St, Newcastle

The meeting was chaired by, Edward Duc Committee Chair
Meeting opened 7.10am

PRESENT:

COMMITTEE MEMBERS	COUNCILLORS	OTHER
Edward Duc		Evelyn King (Infinitus)
Claire Williams		Cheryl Crichton (Infinitus)
Drew Pannowitz		Petra Hilsen (Infinitus)
Peter Zygadlo		Barbara Heaton NCC
Grant Keene		Christine Bramble NCC
Bronwyn Law		Brian Bird
Suzanne Darling		
Ron Brown		
Russell Richardson		
Suzanne Jones		
Christine Gregson		

1. APOLOGIES

- Paul Murphy
- Cr. Sharon Claydon

2. WELCOME

3. DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

No declaration of Conflict of Pecuniary Interest

4. CORRESPONDENCE

OUTGOING

Letter to Lindy Hyam re: Maryville Markets

Letter to Lindy Hyam re: Proposed Markets in the Mall

INCOMING

Letter from King Street Hotel re: taxi/fence.

Letter from King Street Traders requesting financial funding

As chair of the Community and Visitor Attraction sub committee Claire Williams tabled her response to Ron Brown.

Brian Bird spoke on behalf of King St Traders drawing attention to the fact they continually work together separate from any other entity and deserve acknowledgement for their efforts.

A vote to establish the interest from Committee resulted in a discussion over the procedures of such a request. (To comply with Council protocols, deposit records and payment records will need to be held by the auspicing organisation and subject to audit. The Committee needs to inspect all insurance policies and they will need to note Council's interest. Purchases will also need to comply with Council procurement policies.)

Motion: “NCCC match funds up to a maximum of \$5,000 for promotional cost incurred by KSF under the condition evidence of deposited contributions by the King St Traders is provided and subject to full disclosure of invoices received.”

Moved: Edward Duc **Seconded:** Claire Williams **Carried**

Ms King pointed out that the funds sought represented 50% of the marketing budget for the 3-month Summer Festival that had been achieved through grant funds from Council - a source also available to the KSF.

The Committee agreed to end all discussion on the matter.

Motion: “That the meeting proceed”

Moved: Edward Duc **Seconded:** Drew Pannowitz **Carried**

5. CONFIRMATION of MINUTES

Motion: “Amendments to the draft minutes for September.”

From:

Motion: “That the Committee accept in principle Markets in the Mall”

The letter is to mention

- The Committee request Council consider the current businesses in the CBD that may be adversely effected by the markets and ask that stalls complement rather than vie for business.
- That rent is established at comparable market value.

To:

Motion: “That the Committee advise Council that it accepts in principle Markets in the Mall on condition that an appropriate commercial agreement is reached and that the services offered compliment existing services provided in the nearby area”

Moved: Ron Brown **Seconded:** Christine Gregson **Carried**

From:

Motion: A discussion on Maryville Markets and the impact on City Businesses resulted in the request for a letter to be written to Council. A draft of the letter is to be distributed to Committee members for approval before being sent.

To:

Motion: “That the Committee write to Council to express its concern that consideration is being given to the creation of additional retail land in close proximity to the CBD.”

Moved: Ron Brown **Seconded:** Christine Gregson **Carried**

Motion: “That it be minuted that Ron Brown asked that he had sought an audience with Barbara Heaton to discuss issues relating to “Conflict of Interest” as detailed in Appendix 5 of the Guidelines.

Committee viewed Ron’s request as a matter that should be dealt with by him alone and was not a committee matter. During further discussion it was noted that while all members are entitled to seek answers from Council over any issues they may have, it is not appropriate to do so on behalf of the whole committee unless full disclosure of what is to be discussed is presented to members first for their consideration.

Moved: Ron Brown **Seconded:** Claire Williams **Not Carried**

6. MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES

7. REPORTS & DISCUSSIONS

EO Progress Report Tabled. Motions arising from discussions.

Motion: *That the Committee approve the establishment of a Working Party under Edward's leadership and including external stakeholders to develop a detailed project plan for expenditure of the money previously agreed for expenditure in the area of the King St Retail Precinct.*

- *That the Project Plan focus initially on a partnership with Council and other parties to:*
- *support a safe late night taxi rank in the vicinity of the King St Hotel,*
 - *provide safety fencing along the King St media strip near Steel St, and*
 - *install transport shelters to service the redeveloped retail precinct.*

Moved: Grant Keene **Seconded:** Peter Zygadlo **Carried**

Motion: *"That the Committee pledges an amount of \$30,000 from the public domain budget to support a partnered program with Council in the construction of a Bus Shelter at Civic."*

Moved: Grant Keene **Seconded:** Claire Williams **Not Carried**

This was deferred to December, when Matt Brewster will be invited to address the Committee on this infrastructure proposal.

Motion: *"That the Financial Report for September be accepted."*

Moved: Grant Keene **Seconded:** Suzie Darling **Carried**

Motion: *"That a letter be written to Council requesting they develop a co-ordinated approach to CCTV program"*

Moved: Ron Brown **Seconded:** Grant Keene **Carried**

Committee will await John Montgomery's report on Night Economy before making final decisions on the purchase of another CCTV camera.

Council Liaison Officer's Report

1. Ms Heaton firstly made clear that she has always made time to meet with anyone and assist with all inquiries, but without listing the issues Ron wished to discuss she declined a face to face meeting with Mr Brown. Ms Heaton advised that she had nothing to add to her previous responses to Mr Brown, especially the current stage of the review of the Guidelines.
2. Ms Heaton will set up a meeting with Judy Jaeger and all Council Director's to assist in streamlining issues.
3. Acknowledged the support offered by Committee to KSF
4. Judy Jaeger will attend November's meeting as will Kevin Fernandez
5. Once permanent positions at Council have been finalised Ms Heaton will send out an e-mail denoting departments and their managers.
6. Council will shortly start the improvements at Civic Station.
7. Christine Bramble reminded all are welcome at the last Place making Workshop, Wednesday, 21st October, where Kylie Legge of Place Partners will present her findings.

P Zygadlo, C Williams, E King, B Heaton left the meeting

8. PRESENTATIONS

9. NOTICES OF MOTION

10. STRATEGIC DECISIONS

Held Over

11. OPPORTUNITIES for MEMBERS of the GALLERY

Brian Bird spoke earlier on behalf of the King Street Traders.

12. GENERAL BUSINESS

- Toilets at the western end of the mall
Ms Heaton advised committee that the process is underway.
Ms Heaton was questioned on the Toilets in the old Convict reserve.

Motion: Ms Heaton to make inquiries of Council if they could open the Toilets to the Public

Moved: Christine Gregson **Seconded:** Drew Pannowitz **Carried**

Drew Pannowitz submitted his apologies for next month, as he is unable to attend.

13. CLOSURE: Meeting closed 8.55 am.

Next Precinct Meeting

Date: Tuesday 17 November, 2009
Time: 7.00am
Venue: Newcastle Leagues Club

Signature of Chair