

Minutes of CITY PRECINCT COMMITTEE MEETING

Held at 7am on 7th December 2009
At Bodega Café King St Newcastle

Edward Duc, Committee Chair, chaired the meeting
Meeting opened 5.15pm

PRESENT:

COMMITTEE MEMBERS	COUNCILLORS	OTHER
Edward Duc	Cr. Brad Luke	Evelyn King (Infinitus)
Claire Williams	Cr. Sharon Claydon	Cheryl Crichton (Infinitus)
Paul Murphy		Petra Hilsen (Infinitus)
Peter Zygadlo		Barbara Heaton
Grant Keene		Christine Bramble NCC
Christine Gregson		Simon McArthur
Susie Darling		Frank Cordingley NCC
Ron Brown		Rochelle Walmsley NCC

1. APOLOGIES

Bronwyn Law
Suzanne Jones
Drew Pannowitz
Catherine Henry

2. WELCOME

3. DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

No declaration of Conflict of Pecuniary Interest

4. CORRESPONDENCE

Circulation Folder

4.1 Quote from Trelidor Australia for a security grill on double glass doors.

5. CONFIRMATION of MINUTES

Motion: *“That the Minutes for November be accepted as a true record.”*

Moved: Paul Murphy **Seconded:** Grant Keene **Carried**

Ron Brown submitted a letter listing his objections to the commentary notes recorded in the minutes of November meeting. A motion was put to the committee that the matter is dealt with at a latter meeting when more time was available.

Motion: *“That Mr Brown’s issues are dealt with at the next committee meeting.”*

Moved: Paul Murphy **Seconded:** Grant Keene **Carried**
Ron Brown voted against.

6. MATTERS ARISING

6.1 Ron Brown asked for the budget of Summer in Town Festival.

6.2 Council has signed contract for the 2010 Markets. Contract arrangements include encouraging local content and market operation for up to three days.

6.3 Paul Murphy expressed his approval and congratulated all concerned with the launch of the SIT festival, which he feels has increased the movement around the old mall area, creating a relaxed positive atmosphere throughout town. While the activity is bringing people into the city centre he felt it a good time to approach GPT and HDC with the view to put up some posters depicting how the city will look in the future when further development progresses.

Motion: “Committee seek a meeting with HDC and GPT to discuss plans for placing posters around town that show a visual concept of the “Future Newcastle”

Moved: Paul Murphy **Seconded:** Christine Gregson **Carried**

6.4 GPT will position their new banners on Hunter St between Perkins and Newcommen Sts

7. REPORTS, DISCUSSIONS & NOTICES OF MOTION

Petra Hilsen reported on current projects and there status.

- **Summer in Town** – Launch day produced lots of activity in the CBD, and music in the mall on Thursday’s are proving to be a good draw card.
- **Red Lantern Markets** were a huge success, with many retailers staying open to take advantage of the traffic generated. Ms Hilsen believes there is a big opportunity for café’s and restaurants to increase their trade by staying open.
- **Uplighting** - Options for LED lighting are being investigated. Quotes from three contractors with two options have been sought, with only one quote being received, two more required.

Evelyn King reported on:

- There has been a request to share the Night Economy report by John Montgomery, with Brisbane Police, who are coming to Newcastle next week for four days on a fact-finding mission.
- DJJ Program is proceeding well, with good press coverage.
- Business support program kicks off next year, starting with the Renew Newcastle retailers.
- Wednesday sees a meeting with Council representatives with the view to align and co ordinate our programs.
- Safety Audit update from Frank Cordingley to come each month.

Christine Bramble reported on the International Towns & Cities Conference she attended in Geelong. A full report is to be distributed to committee members by e-mail and Ms Bramble will show photos at the February meeting.

Notices of Motion

Motion: “That the NCCC will not act as a funding body that accepts applications or submissions from outside bodies asking for funding for projects developed and managed by those outside bodies.”

Moved: Grant Keene **Seconded:** Christine Gregson **Carried**
Ron Brown against.

Motion: “That, subject to agreement on the City Centre identity concept (to be presented by Village Well), a budget of up to \$25,000 be provided to install banners on existing infrastructure in King and Hunter Streets.”

Moved: Christine Gregson **Seconded:** Peter Zygadlo **Carried**

8. FINANCIALS

Motion: *“That the Financial Report for November be accepted.”*

Moved: Paul Murphy **Seconded:** Grant Keene **Carried**

Committee took a 15 minute break for refreshments resuming with the presentation from Village Well on the Positioning Report.

9. GENERAL BUSINESS

Once the presentation had been viewed by committee members, some discussion ensued with comments and advice given. The Manager of Economic Development and Tourism, Simon MacArthur noted that Council is about to undertake a major re-branding exercise for Newcastle Tourism strategies. Therefore further work is needed on how the Committee might implement the recommendations through its projects.

The general conclusion was that since banners only have a life span of 6 to 12 months and Council could take this long in developing a brand for Newcastle, the Committee should go ahead in the mean time and use the branding concept submitted by Village Well for that purpose and for minor printing projects pending consideration by the sub-Committees in the new year.

Motion: *“To accept the branding for early use on banners and further consider the report next year.”*

Moved: Christine Gregson **Seconded:** Suzie Darling **Carried**

Ron Brown against.

Ron Brown enquired as to the status of current Committee membership and the expiration date of current members. The Executive Officer indicated that she understood that an advertisement for new memberships would be posted in February 2010 or soon thereafter.

11. OPPORTUNITIES for MEMBERS of the GALLERY

No registrants

13. CLOSURE: Meeting closed 7.25pm.

Next Precinct Meeting

Date: 16th February 2010
Time: 7.00 am
Venue: Newcastle Leagues Club

Signature of Chair