



We would like to extend a welcome to Katoomba residents and business people who would like to come along and participate in future meetings, or as a way of keeping in touch with recent issues, receive a copy of the monthly minutes.

For more information, please contact Luke Warburton at luke@lujobydesign.com.au or info@katoombachamber.com
www.katoombachamber.com

Annual Subscription fees for membership of the Katoomba Chamber of Commerce & Community are just \$100 for companies, \$50 for sole traders and \$10 for individual community members.

Please join and help us grow our membership and our voice for Katoomba

CittaSlow Katoomba Blue Mountains www.cittaslow.org.au

NEXT MEETING – 14th June 2012

Monthly Meeting opened at 6.15pm, at The Library, Carrington Hotel, Katoomba.

1. Attendance and Apologies

Present: 10th May 2012

Mark Jarvis (MJ), Vanessa Crump (VC), Lui Friscioni (LF), Juliet Green (JG), Anton Curnow (AC), Christine Killinger (CK), Michelle Ryan (MR), Guy Fordy (GF), Tom Colless (TC), Belle Buttrose (BB), Karim Rizkalla (RK), Bill Swan (BS), Michael Brischetto (MB), Anne Elliot (AE), Rick Hill (RH - BMCC), Patricia Lane-Gonzalez (PL-G), Andrew Konstantinoff (AK – Anewtec Civil), Bob **Kezmit** (BK), Lyn? (Cuts for all), Robyn Parker (RP), Shane Desiatnik (SD – BM Gazette), Margaret Wetherall (MW)

Apologies:

Luke Warburton, Robert Stock, Janet Cahill, Robyn McAdam, Peter Carroll, John Griffioen, Stephen Crump, Louise Friscioni, Michael Forbes, Marie Wood, Michael Begg, Bruce Ferr??, Robyn Mc Fadyen, Louise Christo, Louise Florence, Janet Mays, Larry Buttrose.

2. Minutes from the previous meeting 12th April 2012

Moved accepted (TC), seconded (GF)

Matters arising from the previous minutes will be covered below.

3. Correspondence In:

- Email regarding Bendigo Bank Community Forum end of this month was attached to last month's minutes. \$45K has been allocated to various community groups so far, and the aim of the forum is to engage with local groups regarding future planning. The Richmond Branch would like us to join in their work assisting with housing etc. for local youth with mental issues etc.
- Email from Slow Food regarding upcoming functions was attached to last month's minutes. Several functions including a truffle hunt.

- Email (5th May) from BMCC regarding the Operational Plan for the next financial year. On BMCC website. Submissions welcomed.
- From Biznet re changes to rating structure. MJ feels the proposal is not as bad as last year's. MJ and Robert Stock, will be meeting next Thursday at Lawson Community Centre (6pm), along with various Chambers of Commerce. Leura and Hazelbrook seem to hit hardest again, whilst Lawson seems to be getting a reduction. The mountains is compared to Parramatta and Penrith, when rates are determined, rather than a more similar shire e.g. Wollondilly.

4. Katoomba Street: The "KATOOMBA SPRING"

a. Footpath rejuvenation

Rick Harris (RH) from BMCC and Andrew Konstantinoff (AK) from the contractor, Anewtec Civil, spoke about the repaving of the footpath from Froma Lane to Bathurst Rd on the western side of Katoomba St. Eventually the paving will extend all the way down Katoomba St.

Work is scheduled to start after Winter Magic on the 2nd July. The first stage will take about 16 weeks (weather permitting). Work will commence in Bathurst Rd.

RH plans left to be viewed.

AK will liaise with local business owners.

- AK and RH will prepare a weekly schedule and liaise with shop keepers and keep in close contact as the work gets closer to their shop.
- 2 weeks before the section outside a business is repaired AK will be in touch. Different businesses may have different requirements, e.g. restaurants may not be affected by day work.
- Access to shops and businesses will be maintained, but concrete pouring and stencilling may cause brief interruptions.
- Replacing the kerb and gutter (with brick materials) will be the most time consuming, but will not affect footpath access.
- One days work's worth of paving is to be removed at a time. The footpath is removed at 7pm, and the concrete poured that afternoon. The following day full access is restored. If necessary a plywood bridge over the concrete will give access.
- The gutter brick is a dark colour to match the brick of the heritage buildings. The pavements are a sandstone colour, lighter at pedestrian crossings. The 800 x 800 mm pavers are coloured concrete. Smaller pavers are used at the crossings. If future access is needed the whole paver is cut out.
- The surface of the pavers is non-slip and conforms to Australian Standards. A sample section is to be put in so that we can view for ourselves. PG-L pointed out there is a similar surface and grade at Lawson.
- Services are not generally to be disturbed but old asbestos lined Telstra pits may be relined at the same time. Bus stops and bins will be spruced up at the same time.

TC raised an issue that occurred when similar work was done in Leura where downpipes discharge straight onto the footpath. RP raised the issue that the shuttlecocks for turning water off in the buildings are in the street, not the buildings. RH was not aware of that, but will be liaising with Sydney Water during the works. AK said that small access holes may be able to be installed over the mains. Extra pipes for drainage etc. can also be installed at that time.

This is an opportunity to have the pavement properly rebuilt from the foundations up. Some money has been set aside for unforeseen works.

b. Ladies Loop

VC to meet with Jane Canfield shortly. Hope to have a finished draft to present next time.

c. Gardener

MJ reported that gardener has commenced. Bay trees have had a boy prune.

MJ reported that the Carrington has an order coming from China and will add pots for the street to that order.

d. Katoomba Concierge

Jeffery McIntyre has been hired by MJ as a 'mobile information service'. He needs to do voluntary work in return for his Centreline benefit, and has experience working in such customer service roles with Myers, Grave Bros etc.

Position may evolve into a paid role, with more than one concierge.

MJ will work with JM on Saturday 19th May from 9.30 – 12. He will probably work outside the station or Carrington Place. MJ asked for emails with suggestions re busiest times etc. JM may visit shopkeepers to familiarise himself with what they sell, common questions from tourists etc.

e. New (old) lights at bottom of driveway

Two of the four original lights that were on plinths at the bottom of the Carrington Hotel are to be reinstalled.

f. Planter Pots on Poles

AC reported his research into the planters used by City of Sydney. \$995 per basket (plus GST), \$300 to have each planted pot delivered (Oasis Nursery Springwood).

MJ met with Katoomba Steel in Penrith about manufacturing some plant pots. They are offering a reasonable price of about \$200 -300 per pot.

There are approximately 24 power poles in Bathurst Rd and Katoomba St.

MJ reported that he has established that Endeavour Energy owns the power poles and he now has a contact there. From his meetings with BMCC he feels they will support the project providing a structural engineer can sign off on them.

The next step is to get a budget and donations organised. MJ feels we could get a better deal from Oasis as we have dealt with them in the past.

MJ and AC to compare notes.

5. Mark Morton - Blu FM

Did not show.

6. Winter Magic Update

- Will be held on the 23rd June. Theme is "Water Dragon". Worth about \$2 million to the community.
- MB showed the merchandising – jackets, beanies, scarves etc.
- The police will continue to close Yeomans Bridge, Bathurst and Parkes St. Was a good move last year and the few complaints have been resolved. Streets close at 5.30am and reopen by 6.30pm, except the area at the top of Katoomba St which reopens at 9pm.
- 230 stall applications have been received and are about to be allocated. . Shopkeepers and local businesses get preferences. Can buy a stall so you can have an open space outside of a shop or bring out merchandise to sell.
- The parade will have 600 participants. Puppet head and scales of a water dragon being made by local school children.

- Will cumulate with the 6pm fireworks. Two Winter Balls to be held on the same night, one in the Dining Room and one in the Ballroom.
- The Facebook site shows the demographics – Blue Mountains and Surry Hills the biggest groups.
- Film Festival in October as the Festival events calendar is very crowded. The screenings will be at a larger range of locations this year (not just the Edge).

7. Historic marker update

MB suggested that rather than pavers with historic information about buildings we acquire etched metal signs with photos and information, similar to that used in Rylstone, Hill End etc.

BMCC/library has some photos already. Some examples were passed around.

Carrington staff will run with this, collate photos and information and attempt to get heritage funding etc.

MR suggested one of the vacant shops could be used to display some of these of photos, especially for Winter Magic. VC will talk to Camera House about getting some large photos printed. GF also suggested the plan printing service at the BMCC might be another way to get large copies cheaply for window displays.

8. Bicentennial update

TC reported that 46 events are planned. \$3 million is needed in sponsorship. Will be meeting with Macquarie Bank and Westpac and General Motors.

TC has scale drawings of the Barrack Vans and is to look at a replica on Goat Island. Each held 24 convicts. The vans will accompany each event, one to serve food, the other to take photos in convict garb.

TC suggested they could be used for Winter Magic 2013.

9. Cleaning Committee Update – Tom Colless

The State Government is holding a Graffiti Summit at Springwood on Monday 14th May 3-5pm. MJ and TC to attend.

No help forthcoming from RTA with graffiti removal and painting of signal boxes and substations.

Kony 2012 posters have been put on with industrial glue. Integral energy were to paint the bottom of their poles, this hasn't been done, so there is a need for a portable spray paint unit.

MJ indicated that the KCCC will put in a submission to Bendigo Bank, with half funding from KCC and half from Damien Drew.

MJ will look for some help from community service hours, Centreline etc.

MJ reports slow progress with getting bins relocated and cigarette butt holders installed. He is in correspondence with Ken Philips. Katoomba Steel say it is not difficult to manufacture such bins. MJ will look into Bendigo contributing money 50:50 with BMCC.

10. Cittaslow update

AE reported that a delegation of 14 people from Australia Cittaslow will be visiting the mountains and visiting a variety of Slow Food and cultural destinations. Sue Bell and Daniel Myers (BMCC) have been very supportive. Some events are invitation only, but program will be distributed and all are welcome to other events.

KCCC will support the embedding of a Cittaslow/Slow Food member onto the Economic Development Board.

11. Theatre Project Update.

BB reported that she and Larry met with the Mayor and that the go ahead has been given to redevelop the old library into a performing arts space. Roza Sage has also given her support.

The repair and refit may take at least a year. The old hall (currently unrented retail space) may be used in the meantime. LB and BB to be consultants on the refitting project.

A theatre group – Katoomba Theatre – has been formed. BB also writing a children’s pantomime featuring animals, fire etc. specific to the Blue Mountains.

Coles lease to finish in November at current site, but new centre will not ready until December.

12. Sister City - Napier

KCCC members have previously visited Napier. Representatives from Napier are currently visiting us. They raised the possibility of a sister city relationship between Napier and Katoomba. We have synergies with Napier. Watch this space.

13. Directory of landlords/business owners – Luke, Mark & Janet

MJ reported that 430 landlords are on the register so far. Information is being collected on owner, leasee and managing agent.

14. Other business

- Red Shield Appeal Sunday 20th based at Woodlands Rd. TC calling for volunteers. 90% of what is raised in the mountains stays in the mountains. Million Paws Walk for the RSPCA is also on the same day.
- MR had a customer who works at Echo Point report that part of the ‘spiel’ at Echo Point is to send visitors to Leura to shop. Concerns also raised about amount of merchandise sold vs information, plastic bags given out etc. There is very little in the way of brochures and information and it is all at the back at the shop. The mentality of many of the staff in Council etc. is not helpful.
MJ will write to the tourist info centre.

Meeting closed 8.05pm

Next meeting Thursday 14th June 6pm - all welcome.

Signed by President Mark Jarvis..... Date

Minutes by Vanessa Crump, Acting Secretary