



We would like to extend a welcome to Katoomba residents and business people who are interested in coming along and participating in future meetings, or as a way of keeping in touch with recent issues by receiving a copy of the monthly minutes.

For more information, please contact the Secretary at info@katoombachamber.com

Annual Subscription fees for membership of the Katoomba Chamber of Commerce & Community are \$250 for landlords; \$100 for companies; \$50 for a sole traders; and \$10 for individual community members.

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

www.katoombachamber.com CittaSlow Katoomba Blue Mountains www.cittaslow.org.au

NEXT MEETING – Thursday 11th May 2017

Meeting commenced at 6.27 pm

1. Attendance and Apologies – 13th April 2017

Present: Mark Jarvis (MJ); Juliet Green (JG); Deb Campbell (DC); Marie Wood (MW); Peter Carroll (PC); Helen Jones (HJ); Chris Davidson (CD); Louise Florence (LF); Lui Friscioni (LFr); Kerry Brown (KB); Bill Swan (BS); Bruce Ferrier (BF); Kevin Schreiber (KS); Bruce Cash (BC);

Apologies: Tom Colless (TC); Christine Killinger (CK); Jennifer Scott (JS); Robyn McAdam (RMc); Charlie & Margaret Brown (C&MB);

2. Minutes of Ordinary Meeting – 9th March 2017

Acceptance proposed – BF; seconded – PC;

3. Correspondence - MJ

4. Treasurer's Report - BS

Expenses: CCTV camera for Katoomba St - \$234.84; Public Liability Insurance - \$620;

Liabilities: Cittaslow - \$959.40

Received: Wines of the West - \$8,936.87

Membership fees collected: \$50

Closing balance: \$35,819.12

Acceptance proposed - KB; seconded - BF;

5. 'Ladies Loop' revival – BTB/JG

MJ - Beautiful Bags' enthusiasm for this has revived the idea. We lost our critical mass of shops at one stage but now there are probably a dozen shops that could get involved. Will ask Jane Canfield to update the original artwork. The galleries at the bottom of Katoomba St should also be involved.

LF – anyone interested should be entitled to this.

MJ – will get Bennetts to print more brochures.

KS – it could be a good story for the Gazette.

MJ – The KCCC is not expensive to join and only members can be a part of this.

6. Katoomba Street – baskets/landlords – KS/MJ

MJ - still talking to council about this. Kevin broke the ice by speaking to Peter Poulos. Will have an event after Easter to come up with a strategy. Don't want this to be open-ended – will have ½ dozen issues – want as many landlords & tenants as possible – and KCCC members – want people to have their say and get involved.

KS - Peter Poulos very enthusiastic.

KB – there's an unkept 'scruffiness'.

DC – we want people to remember how 'amazing' the town looks – but when a new person comes to town it looks like no-one cares.

MJ – negativity is not going to get us anywhere.

KS – mentioned the ‘missing bricks’ – he has put in a request to council about this – wants to get some people early in the morning with 3 gurneys to clean up the footpath. It’s not up to the chamber to do it – it’s up to the council.

MJ – always talking about the great job the gardeners have been doing. Noticed the guy who actually cleans the bins but not the garden in Carrington Place. Sent a letter to council regarding the lack of maintenance in Carrington Place. It’s very hard to get the council to do this.

LF – has noticed that this guy is not doing his job – he gets paid but is not doing it

KS – spoke to the General Manager about recycling the garbage bins – but like speaking to a brick wall – the reply was that ‘it costs money’. The car-parks need bins.

MJ – the bins in Katoomba are not being cleaned enough - can’t believe the negativity towards Katoomba.

CD – there’s a bin in the ladies toilet in the carpark now – don’t know who is responsible.

MJ – the sad thing is that we have made some progress but its all been done by ourselves.

KB – we just have to keep at it - mentions the Destination Management Plan.

7. Lurline Street – architects plan to be presented – KB/MJ

MJ – will contact Ron Powell to do a presentation – probably August. Have met with Trish Doyle and said that ‘this has got to have legs’. Need the agreement of both major parties – it should happen.

8. Destination Management Plan – KB/KS/MJ

MJ – the Destination Management Plan is a every meaty document. MJ mentions streetscape, plantings and lack of Information Centre. Gazette ran story about lack of info centre.

MJ – mentions Milford Track NZ – one of the great walks of the world – we can have something just as good.

MJ - has managed to get an extension on the DMP – until 21st April – has also managed to create a form which is only one page.

KB – suggests people fill out form tonight.

KS – Kerry & I have been banging on about Stafford report.

MJ – regarding information office - believes that the personal touch when you arrive in a town is very important.

KB – General Manager doesn’t want to pay too many staff – wants to put in a touch screen – you need highly informed staff to give much more diverse offerings than an app would do – and it’s employment!

KB – spoke about SP3 zoning for development along escarpment at Echo Point– does not go along with it at all.

MW – said there to used to be a proposal for underground parking at Echo point – don’t know what happened about this – the parking is horrendous. Marie thinks the council should buy the Poulos building and put a tourist centre there.

BF – has sent a letter to council regarding this (see insert)

Resolving Katoomba's Traffic Congestion.

Three things must be done:

1. **Widen Yeaman Bridge to 5 lanes** comprising 2 coming in from the East, and 3 outbound, with 2 of these turning east and 1 turning west
2. **Pedestrian Tunnel to be extended from Katoomba Railway underpass under the Main Street/Katoomba Street roundabout** to flow out up stairs to both sides of Katoomba Street, thus resolving the congestion whenever a train arrives
3. **One-way traffic circuit coming off Yeaman Bridge flowing one-way along Main Street, into Katoomba Street, up Waratah Street and out and back to Yeaman bridge via Parke Street.**
This resolves the overall grid-lock and fixes the entry and exit congestion at the Woolies carpark, Prior Place and Coles carparks by confining the entries & exits to these locations to the right-hand lane exclusively.

We are a tourist town and must leave our visitors with a positive image of our town: they can travel from Sydney Harbour Bridge on a double lane divided road until they hit the nightmare of Yeaman Bridge on both arrival and departure.

KS – likes the idea but thinks ONE WAY down Katoomba Street plus angle parking would work well.

BF – would like the chamber to get someone with skills to do a graphic layout and submit it to council that so that it goes in as a plan.

MJ – will be talking to Albert Stafford again about this. There was already a plan six years ago but nothing was done about it.

9. Gardening Update – Katoomba Street – KB

MJ - Planted a tree fern – KB thinks tree ferns should be a theme for Katoomba.

MJ – bought some CCTV cameras to keep an eye on these new plantings.

MJ – many thanks again to the Katoomba Gardening Group for doing such a great job.

10. Slow Food Update (Chestnut Weekend) – Katoomba Street – MJ

MJ – enjoyed a very successful and lunch and gin making demonstration at Palette Dining – Anne did a great job once again with the Chestnut Weekend.

11. Graffiti Update – TC/MJ

MJ – a lot more happening than you probably realize – various people covering the whole mountains – it’s looking good for Easter – if anything, there’s more problems with telegraph poles. Tom, as usual is doing a wonderful job. If you see anything drop us a line and we can fix it pretty quickly. In cahoots with rotary, Tom is trying to get a truck ‘like we have for Penrith’.

Other Matters:

Wendy Tsai introduced herself – she has lived in the mountains for 4 years now and as she’s been bush walking she has noticed the proliferation of weed species. She is having an exhibition at Gallery one88 in May– has tracked the path she takes and has painted some of the weed species and spoken to Kerry and a council bush care person about getting them involved in educating people about these weeds. Mentioned that ‘Memory Hill’ park in Warriga St is a totally overgrown & neglected park.

KB – wants to organize a ‘weed program’ that relates to the exhibition – with some activities relating to weeding.

MW – spoke about ‘working bees’ in country towns and if the council could get involved with this it would be good.

KB – trying to get some of the staff at council to organise things like this – need volunteers – she thinks there’s a recognition of the value of volunteers at council now.

Meeting closed @ 7.45

Next meeting Thursday 11th May @ 6.15pm – Carrington (Baroque Room) – ALL WELCOME

Signed by President, Mark Jarvis



Minutes by Secretary, Juliet Green

Date: 13/4/17