



## KATOOMBA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND COMMUNITY

15 February 2024

ABN 56 035 388 431

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 [secretary@katoombachamber.com](mailto:secretary@katoombachamber.com) Annual Subscription fees for membership of the Katoomba Chamber of Commerce & Community are \$250 for landlords; \$100 for companies; \$50 for sole traders; and \$10 for individual community members. Please join to help us grow our membership and our voice for Katoomba.

Visit: [www.katoombachamber.com](http://www.katoombachamber.com)

### **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING – 15 FEBRUARY 2024**

**The meeting Commenced at:** 6:30pm

#### **1. Attendance & Apologies – 15 February 2024**

**Present:** Mark Jarvis (MJ), David Hodgekiss (DH), Kerry Brown (KB), Paul McLaughlin (PM), Jenny McLaughlin (JM), Bruce Ferrier (BF), Margaret Brown (MB), Charlie Brown (CB), Peter Carroll (PC), Louise Florence (LF), Lui Friscioni (LF), Helen Jones (HJ), Patrick Leonard (PL), Jennifer Scott (JS), Diana Hofland.

**Visitors:** Bob Kemnitz (BK), Trevor Day (TD) Blue Mountains Broadcasting Society, Fatima Tuntuncu (FT), Kim Barret (BMCC), Simon Porter (BMCC)

**Apologies:** Christine Killinger (CK) Bruce Cash (BC), Deb Cash (DC)

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#### **Motions:**

#### **2. Minutes of the AGM of 8 December 2022**

Acceptance proposed by - BF; Seconded by - JS; motion carried

#### **3. President's Report**

#### **4. Treasurer's report (can be made available on request)**

- BF queried pre and post-COVID membership subscriptions. MJ advised that Membership was slowly picking back up explaining that the KCCC has members who whilst active in the community do not necessarily attend meetings.
- Membership renewals immediately post-COVID were extended to October. This has now reverted to 1<sup>st</sup> July.

- MJ advised members that the CCTV has now been fully depreciated and represented figures are included for accounting purposes.
- MJ advised the insurance policy covers voluntary workers and public liability.
- Acceptance proposed by – PM, Seconded by PC; motion carried

*The KCCC has made the decision not to publish the Treasurers Report online. Members requesting a copy are advised to email your request to [secretary@katoombachamber.com](mailto:secretary@katoombachamber.com). We thank you for your understanding.*

5. Election of Office Bearers – Conducted by KB

President: Nomination - Mark Jarvis

Vice President: Nomination - Peter Carroll

Secretary: Nomination - Diana Hofland

Treasurer: Nomination - David Hodgekiss

- MJ advised the Sub Committee / Committee has been renamed working groups.
- All positions are filled as prescribed.

*The meeting concluded: 6:55pm*

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## Ordinary Meeting – 15 February 2024

### 1. Attendance & Apologies

**Present:** Mark Jarvis (MJ), David Hodgekiss (DH), Kerry Brown (KB), Bruce Ferrier (BF), Margaret Brown (MB), Charlie Brown (CB), Peter Carroll (PC), Louise Florence (LF), Lui Friscioni (LF), Helen Jones (HJ), Patrick Leonard (PL), Jennifer Scott (JS), Diana Hofland.

**Visitors:** Bob Kemnitz (BK), Trevor Day (TD) Blue Mountains Broadcasting Society, Fatima Tuntuncu (FT), Kim Barret (BMCC), Simon Porter (BMCC)

**Apologies:** Christine Killinger (CK) Bruce Cash (BC), Deb Cash (DC), Paul McLaughlin (PM), Jenny McLaughlin (JM).

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### 2. Minutes of meeting of November 9<sup>th</sup> 2023

Acceptance proposed by - BF; Seconded by - MB; motion carried.

### 3. Correspondence

#### **RSPCA KATOOMBA - BK**

- MJ invited Bob Kemnitz to address the KCCC regarding the current situation with the RSPCA Katoomba Shelter which is now closed.
- A new group called the Blue Mountains Association for the Protection and Care of Animals has been established.
- The first consideration of this group is to save the animal shelter in Katoomba with the objective of getting the shelter reopened.
- Trish Doyle has been instrumental in lobbying to get the shelter handed back to the community.
- BK encouraged KCCC members to write to their local councillor as well as members of the RSPCA NSW's board.

### 4. Treasurer's Report (available on request)

*KCCC has made the decision not to publish the Treasurers Report online. Members requesting a copy are advised to email your request to [secretary@katoombachamber.com](mailto:secretary@katoombachamber.com). We thank you for your understanding.*

### 5. Katoomba Master Plan

- MJ invited Kim Barrett of BMCC to deliver a presentation to attending KCCC members about the Katoomba Master Plan which was adopted in November 2023.
- Kim Barret explained there was a strong level of support for the master plan when it was on exhibition.
- It was advised that Katoomba Street is a key site in the document.

- Recreation and open spaces were reviewed.
- There was support for improved wayfinding in Katoomba.
- MJ asked about the 'proposed underpass', Kim Barret explained that the underpass is a concept proposal.
- Conference centres and capacities were highlighted in the northern investigation.
- HJ enquired why \$3m was spent on re-roofing the existing council building. KB advised that due to water leaks, it was required and that the master plan is a long-term project however the current building would not be inhabitable if the roof on the existing building was not repaired.
- Yeamans Bridge and a second entry into Katoomba Street require support from Transport NSW. Whilst Transport NSW are receptive and has been put into the plan as a consideration, however, there is currently no funding available. Note that the underpass to Lurline Street received mixed feedback regarding access and impact on residents. Better wayfinding is required, and congestion is a cause for concern.
- Electric vehicle charging stations were queried. BMCC admitted that the private sector is ahead of council in this regard.
- It was raised that the TAFE site is underutilised. BMCC has identified this in the master plan as a potential satellite TAFE i.e. study any subject that TAFE offers. Other suggested uses might include a community or commercial office space, rehearsal or studio space for the creative industries.
- Suggested that a visitor information service go into the library site.
- Flagged by KCCC that a concern is the lack of building maintenance and care in Katoomba township.
- MB suggested that shop owners could paint their shop façade. KB advised that BMCC did offer a grant to assist with this however no one took it up. KB suggested council will continue to communicate with the building owners for goodwill however they do not have legal powers to make shop owners carry out works such as painting their shop façades.
- KCCC asked if any further plans for the Paragon. BMCC advised that they have met with the state heritage office twice regarding the Paragon and were hopeful of a meeting with the owners soon.
- MJ suggested a meeting with key influences within Katoomba to put pressure on local businesses/shop owners to get the desired outcome.

## **6. Facebook Fiasco MJ/DH**

- MJ briefly discussed the recent situation regarding inappropriate/defamatory comments made on Facebook against KCCC.
- It was reiterated that there needs to be a collaboration between the community and the council.
- MJ praised the KCCC committee for their voluntary hard work. These working groups do a lot of work for the community and defamatory statements need to be corrected.
- MJ suggested moving forward it would be beneficial to develop a partnership between KCCC, Council and Local Government.

**7. Gardening Update MJ/LF/MB**

- Treeline Lurline meets regularly and is tracking along. Undergrounding of power is scheduled for 4 March for one block (this is the first major contract).

**8. Future Meetings MJ**

- MJ advised there is no meeting in March. The next meeting will be held on 11 April.
- Moving forward the KCCC will meet as working groups rather than committee members.
- Meetings will be held when necessary to inform and update KCCC members as required.

The meeting concluded: 8:10 pm

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**Next Meeting:** 11<sup>th</sup> April 2024, Carrington Hotel - 6.15pm