



KATOOMBA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND COMMUNITY

Meeting Minutes 8th September 2022

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 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

The next KCCC Meeting will be held on Thursday 13th October 2022

Meeting Commenced at: 6:25pm

1. Attendance & Apologies – 8 September 2022

Present: Mark Jarvis (MJ), David Hodgekiss (DH), Greg Hansen (GH), Kerry Brown (KB), Paul McLaughlin (PM), Jenny McLaughlin (JM), Pam Seaborn (PS), Bruce Ferrier (BF), Diana Hofland.

Visitors: Elizabeth Harford Blue Mountains Hospital. Noel Rath (NR) Hospital Ancillary, Tomas Van Der Meer – Blue Mountains Council, Glenn Sherlock Blue Mountains Council.

Apologies: Lui Friscioni (LF), Louise Florence (LF), Margaret Brown (MB) Christine Killinger (CK) Tony Clark (NSW Police), Tomas Van Der Meer (Place Manager BMCC) Nick Cluney (NC), Bruce Cash (BC), Deb Cash (DC,) Kevin Schreiber (KS), Lynne Curan (LC)

Motions:

2. Minutes of the meeting of 11 August 2022

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

3. Correspondence

4. Treasurer's report Opening balance:

\$22,587.12

5. Wines of the West

- MJ gave a brief overview of the Wines of the West
- Thanks was given to Christine Killinger for her time and dedication to the event and to all the volunteers who assisted over the weekend.
- MJ mentioned that the wine festival was quite successful even with fewer wineries (only 13) exhibiting compared to previous years.
- This year was the first time the festival was held in August (Winter). The time of year was favourable for both wineries and guests attending with positive feedback received.
- Wines of the West has been scheduled for August 2023 with a limit of 15 wineries as this gave the wineries more opportunities to showcase their wine and spend time with guests rather than feeling rushed.

6. Blue Mountains Hospital Update – Elizabeth Harford

- Dr. Elizabeth Harford, General Manager of Blue Mountains District ANZAC Memorial Hospital gave a presentation on the current state of the hospital and why it is important that a new Hospital be built in the Blue Mountains.
- The current hospital is past its use-by date and cannot offer the required services and facilities to residents and visitors of the Blue Mountains. The Hospital building is inadequate, there are not enough beds, and not all services are available requiring patients to go to Nepean for specialised treatment or services (such as an MRI). In addition, it is much more difficult to attract good doctors and medical professionals to the current Blue Mountains Hospital as it is a run-down and outdated facility with no modern equipment.
- Many regional hospitals such as Tamworth and other small hospitals in NSW have received funding for upgrades or new facilities built.
- The population of the Blue Mountains as well as the many visitors each year puts an enormous strain on the already stretched staff and tired facility.
- Dr. Harford encouraged members of the chamber and the wider community to write letters to their local member and share their experiences of Katoomba Hospital on social media. It is important to change the common opinion that residents and visitors should expect to go to Nepean Hospital for specialised treatment.
- A rally is being planned to take place on Carrington Place, Katoomba on 26th November in support of a new Blue Mountains Hospital. Details to be confirmed.

7. Katoomba Street Update – Tomas Van Der Meer & Glenn Sherlock (BMCC)

- Tomas V and Glenn Sherlock provided an update on the progress of works being carried out in Katoomba Street.
- It was mentioned that a recent community engagement identified a number of issues requiring attention beyond the scope of what council can fund. It was suggested that the State Government need to assist with funding as Blue Mountains Council 'can only do so much'.
- The Master Plan for Katoomba is due to go on public exhibition and members are encouraged to put forward their comments.
- Council is undertaking work to improve pedestrian access to parts of Katoomba. All ground crossings will be raised however not all areas can be covered in the scope of works with Yeomans Bridge crossing not able to be changed.
- Council is trying to limit impact to the public however expressed challenges with required road closures to carry out works.

8. Christmas

- Planning for the Katoomba Christmas Carols has begun. Damien & Garry have approached the primary schools to be included in the Christmas event. Details to follow at the next meeting.
- MJ motioned that a banner will be made for the clock tower to be put up at the same time as the Christmas Tree. Motion moved by BF and seconded by GH.
- Members of the committee will meet later to discuss the planning for the Christmas event.

9. Treeline Lurline Update

- MJ advised members that a Treeline Lurline meeting was held prior to the Community Meeting with the purpose of the meeting being to ratify the members of the steering community for this project.
- The first stage of the project has begun with the initial funding to cover the overall design and first stage of works from Waratah Street to Merriwa Street.

10. New Retail Brochure

- Awaiting confirmation of which retailers are to be included in the brochure.

11. General Business

- MJ briefly discussed the recent Winter Magic event. Members of the community mentioned that the event was reasonably well attended, particularly on Saturday and that patrons were well-behaved over the weekend.
- Noel Rath from the Hospital Ancillary mentioned that a fundraising event will be held on Saturday 17th September from 9 am -2 pm at the entrance to the BM District ANZAC Memorial Hospital.
- Cliff Drive landslide - Tomas Van Der Meer from BMCC mentioned that the culvert needed to be repaired before the road can be fixed. It is expected that construction work will begin in March 2023 and potentially be completed later in the year. The cost is expected to be between \$4-5 million.

Meeting concluded: 8:05pm

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- **Next Meeting:** 13th October (2nd Thursday, Carrington Hotel - 6.15pm