



## KATOOMBA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND COMMUNITY

Meeting Minutes 9<sup>th</sup> February 2023

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)

**The next KCCC Meeting will be held on Thursday 9th March 2023**

### Meeting Commenced at:

#### 1. Attendance & Apologies – 9th February 2023

**Present:** Mark Jarvis (MJ), David Hodgekiss (DH), Greg Hansen (GH), Kerry Brown (KB), Pam Seaborn (PS), Bruce Ferrier (BF), Lui Friscioni (LF), Louise Florence (LF), Margaret Brown (MB), Charlie Brown (CB), Christine Killinger OAM (CK), Bruce Cash (BC), Patrick Leonard (PL), Kevin Schreiber (KS), Lynne Curan (LC), Carol Price (CP), Bob Kemnitz (BK), Diana Hofland.

**Apologies:** Deb Cash (DC), Jennifer Scott (JS), Paul McLaughlin (PM), Jenny McLaughlin (JM)

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### Motions:

#### 2. Minutes of the meeting: AGM & Ordinary Meeting 2022

Acceptance of minutes deferred until next meeting as minutes were not received.

#### 3. Correspondence

- Special mention and congratulations to Jennifer Scott announced as member of the Order of Australia.
- Acknowledge letter of congratulations to committee members recently appointed to Bendigo Bank Board.
- Acknowledgement of Scenic Worlds involvement in World Pride
- Mention of Ukulele Festival at The Carrington. MB queried not a lot of promotion for the event. MJ advised that the hotel is expected to be busy over the weekend and generally do not need to advertise this event.
- MJ advised BMCC had sent a notice of priority weeds. MJ encouraged members of the KCCC to reach out to council about weeds in Katoomba.

- MJ advised KCCC could prepare a submission for funding of up to 5,000 from the State Government under the NSW Government Community and Small Businesses CCTV fund.
- MJ provided an update on behalf of the Blue Mountains Hospital Action Group:
  - Group Members include Rod Stow, Noel Rath, Elizabeth Hartford, Mark Jarvis
  - MJ reiterated that the Hospital in its current form is unusable, and that current political support needs to become a solid commitment.
  - MJ advised that letters have been sent to the health minister, shadow minister and local member seeking an initial commitment. MJ intends to invite political leaders and ministers to the next meeting in March.

#### 4. Treasurer's report

Opening Bank Balance		\$ 23,302.71
Deposits		
Grant - Graffiti	2000.00	
Donation - Xmas Event	2000.00	
Fund Rasing	550.91	
Membership	10.00	
Interest	6705.78	
Dividend	40.00	11306.69
Less		
Payments		
Christmas Decorations	661.00	
Christmas Event	4909.86	
Christmas Party / AGM	1808.00	
Gaffiti Expenses	500.00	
Gardening Expenses	257.36	
Insurance	777.50	
Security Cameras - Maintenance	3965.58	
TreeLine Lurline	157.50	
Web Site	220.00	13256.80
Closing Balance		\$ 21,352.60

#### 5. Christmas

- MJ Thanked Committee members for their organisation of the event.
- MJ mentioned that the grant money had not yet been received. It was further advised that an update would be provided to Bendigo Bank.

#### 6. Treeline Lurline / WestInvest Update

- MJ advised KCCC members that the WestInvest submission was unsuccessful. Whilst it was a disappointing result, the Treeline Lurline committee may look to BMCC as funding opportunities are available for projects in the Blue Mountains.
- Whilst the Treeline Lurline grant application was unsuccessful, MJ advised that BMCC were successful on receiving funding for projects including \$7.5million towards the Katoomba Town Centre Project.

- MJ expressed his enthusiasm to see that funding would be spent in Katoomba however he was concerned that the funding may get consumed in the Civic Centre Arcade.
- KB suggested writing to BMCC querying the previous \$1.5million of funding for the Civic Arcade not accounted for. It was suggested that KCCC should ask where the money for this project has been allocated.
- MJ advised that BMCC would also receive around \$6million for neighbourhood Parks upgrades. It was suggested that Kingsford Smith Park also be included in this funding allocation. MJ will liaise with council and report at the next meeting. KB suggested that BMCC look at allocating a portion of funding towards functioning toilets.
- MB asked if BMCC have a list of parks that the Grant would be allocated towards. MJ advised this has not yet been confirmed.
- MJ is planning to meet with Tomas Van der mere from BMCC before the next KCCC meeting and will report back.
- MJ advised that BMCC have recently appointed a Grants Officer. It was mentioned that the Varuna Cultural Hub will receive \$815,000 towards their workshop. A further \$3.5million has been allocated towards tourism infrastructure including Echo Point, Pulpit Rock, and Sublime Point – MJ will request further details from BMCC.

## **7. Police Update**

- GH and MJ met with the Local Area Command and whilst there was no agenda, it was a good meeting to get the discussion started between the KCCC and the LAC. Various topics discussed included the bird man in Katoomba. MJ advised that Makayla Weston is still very proactive.
- MJ mentioned that whilst he has not seen the birdman in Katoomba, Vicki from the Cultural Centre has reported him. It was suggested that anyone reporting the birdman to police should mention Makayla Weston in a bid to have local police attend and move him along.
- During the discussion with LAC, MJ asked if CCTV footage was valuable. It was mentioned that BMCC are not utilising CCTV and the discussion moved towards asking why BMCC are not taking responsibility for installation and maintenance of CCTV to assist police. MJ and GH will put pressure on Council to implement this.
- LF suggested putting CCTV in Carrington Place. MJ advised there are independent cameras on Katoomba Street but may investigate this further.

## **8. Parking Update**

- MJ suggested paid parking should be aimed at visitors not locals.
- It was suggested that metered parking may negatively impact residents and those that do contribute.

- BMCC should go to public exhibition soon and MJ suggested KCCC members comment and provide feedback.
- KB suggested Chambers from Wentworth Falls to Blackheath collectively approach the parking scheme and that a representative be present at the next council meeting to address specific issues.

## 9. RSPCA

- Bob Kemnitz gave an overview of the current state of the Katoomba Shelter and history of the RSPCA.
- RSPCA is planning to redevelop Katoomba Shelter and reduce the number of Kennels available. BK mentioned that plans were submitted without local branch members knowledge.
- BK mentioned that the redevelopment was a waste of money, and he could not understand why the adequate kennels would be destroyed. Particularly as these were funded by generous Blue Mountains Community members.
- PS asked how the RSPCA can justify their decision, BK advised they cannot. BK mentioned that BMCC can only review the application on legal grounds, and it was submitted on the basis of being alterations and additions.
- BK advised KCCC members that a meeting would be held at The Carrington (date to be confirmed) to discuss if anything could be done to stop the DA.

Meeting concluded: 7:45pm

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- **Next Meeting:** 9 March 2023, The Carrington Hotel - 6.15pm