



KATOOMBA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND COMMUNITY

Meeting Minutes 13 April 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 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 10 August | Carrington Hotel at 6:15pm

Opening: 6:15pm

1. Attendance & Apologies – 13th April 2023

Present: Mark Jarvis (MJ), David Hodgekiss (DH), Margaret Brown (MB) Charlie Brown (CB) Greg Hansen (GH), Bruce Ferrier (BF), Lui Friscioni (LF), Kerry Brown (KB), Bruce Cash (BC) Deb Cash (DC), Helen Jones (HJ), Bob Kemnitz (BK), Jenny McLaughlin (JM), Paul McLaughlin (PM), Jennifer Scott (JS), Jim Carothers (JC), Chris Davidson (CD), Iain Everington (IE), Evelyn Taylor (ET).

Welcome: Tom Colless, Brian Turner, David Hersant and Fatima Tutuncu (CBA), Kim Barret, Sabrina and Simon (BMCC)

Apologies: Christine Killinger (CK), Louise Florence (LF), Peter Carroll

Motions:

1. Minutes of the meeting of the meeting 9th February 2023

Motion to amend: Jenny and Paul McLaughlin noted as apologies – 9th February 2023. Acceptance proposed by BF. Seconded GH. motion carried.

2. Correspondence

- MJ mentioned an email from Tanya Carroll which was distributed to Chamber Members calling for sponsors and support on behalf of Ultra Trail Australia. It was discussed that should anyone like to get involved, they should contact Tanya via the contact in the email received.
- JS advised KCCC Members that tickets were available for the upcoming 'Fabulous Finds' Dinner on 20th May - a Rotary fundraising event for the Robin Yates Cancer Wellness Centre.
- MJ introduced David and Fatima from the Local Commonwealth Bank Katoomba

- Jim Carothers spoke briefly about the upcoming winter magic festival. The committee were still awaiting council approval however suggested there will be a street parade this year.
- MJ advised members that the Renaissance Centre is sold and will provide further information once known.
- MJ advised that Bendigo Bank has donated \$2,000 to KCCC with \$500 already given to TC for graffiti removal.

3. Treasurers Report (DH)

Katoomba CCC

Treasurers Report 13th April 2023

Opening Bank Balance 10/02/23		\$ 21,352.60
Deposits		
BMCC	500.00	
	<u>100.00</u>	<u>600.00</u>
Less		
Payments		
Meeting Expense	250.00	
Tara White	27.94	
TreeLine Lurline	815.00	
		<u>1092.94</u>
Closing Balance 13/04/23		\$ 20,859.66

4. RSPCA Overview (Bob Kemnitz)

- Bob Kemnitz was invited to provide an update on the current situation with the Local RSPCA shelter to be demolished and rebuilt.
- A public meeting was held and a petition against the proposed development achieved 54 signatures. This was sent to RSPCA head office and mailed to the personal addresses of all directors.
- Sylvia Ford had written a detailed 3-page letter to Steve Colman-CEO and other Directors. This letter was circulated at the meeting.
- MP Trish Doyle has been supportive.
- It has been suggested that the existing Kennels are not fit for use. BK disagrees and has written a letter addressing this issue. The letter was circulated at the meeting.

- Summary 2018/19 financial report was circulated noting that less than 20% of funds were spent on the animals.
- Extracts from the current 2021/22 financial year report were circulated. Noting a 40% increase in surplus funds.
- Bob mentioned that he had been a life member of the RSPCA for 35 years and has now been expelled for exposing this current situation.
- MJ advised that the KCCC will try to offer support and will further investigate the situation regarding the Katoomba Shelter.

5. Master Plan – Golf Course – BMCC

- BMCC addressed the members with an overview of the current Master Plan proposal. This included circulating information on the proposed plan and a summary of the short-, medium- and long-term vision.
- BMCC suggested there was mixed feedback for planetary health on the Katoomba Golf Course Site.
- BMCC are meeting with and gathering information from residents about proposed uses for the site. Public submissions were open until 28th April 2023.
- Questions were raised regarding the ownership of the Golf Course Site and Club House. BMCC advised that the clubhouse which is on a separate lot was purchased by the council.
- BMCC addressed the recent article in the Blue Mountains Gazette, suggesting that universities were coming to the Blue Mountains. Kim Barrett advised that no education facilities had been established at this stage. MJ suggested that any education facilities could be complemented with green space for public use such as bike tracks or a dog park, similar to a site in Western Sydney called Shale Hills.
- KB raised a query regarding a proposed use for the clubhouse site being a university campus. KB queried whether ratepayers were funding this as there was currently no funding support or commitment from any of the universities.
- JM raised concerns that the current Masterplan is very ambiguous.
- BMCC suggested that their aim was to use best practices and sustainable development to create flexible and adaptable spaces and to be an international leader in planetary health.
- It was discussed that the current site is large enough for multiple uses however the plan will need to consider waterways, bushfire mitigation, neighbouring properties, the topography of the land, existing vegetation, and natural wildlife amongst other aspects.
- BMCC will consider the adaptive use of existing infrastructure such as the restoration of the swamp area and utilising existing buggy pathways.
- It was suggested that a separate entry point or event entry with information boards and additional parking could be considered. BMCC advised that this suggestion was not well received by neighbouring properties.

- MJ encouraged KCCC members to submit their feedback and suggestions by 28th April. DH to email a reminder to community members with a link to the 'Have Your Say' page on the BMCC website after the meeting.
- MJ will aim to include a submission from KCCC.

6. West Invest – \$7.5 mil

- KCCC committee members met with BMCC to bring an initial discussion regarding the grant money received from the WestInvest Program.
- MJ advised members that the KCCC Committee members have formed a subcommittee to act as an advisory group and report back to the Chamber.
- MJ advised that BMCC were keen to meet regularly.
- MJ advised that funding will be used for improvements in Katoomba within a timeframe of 4 years.

7. Treeline Lurline

- MJ advised members that a steering committee meeting was held.
- A landscape designer has been appointed.
- KCCC will draw down on funding and submit this to BMCC by the end of April.

8. Parking Update

MJ provided members with an update on the mayors' reference group meeting.

It was suggested at the meeting that many international tourists are using facilities/parking and not paying.

BMCC is proposing a fee of \$10-12 per hour for parking aimed at tourists, not residents. Discussions will continue to ensure fairness as there are concerns regarding which groups' parking fees are targeted to.

9. Future Meetings

MJ advised the next meeting will be held on 10th August 2023.

Meeting concluded at 8:00pm