



We would like to extend a welcome to Katoomba residents and business people who would like to come along and participate 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 Vanessa Crump at info@katoombachamber.com.

Annual Subscription fees for membership of the Katoomba Chamber of Commerce & Community are just \$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 – 14th March 2013

Ordinary Meeting opened at 6.15pm, at The Library, Carrington Hotel, Katoomba.

1. Attendance and Apologies

Present: 14th February 2013

Anne Elliot (AE), Belle Buttrose (BB), Bill Swan (WS), Bruce Ferrier (BF), Christine Killinger (CK), Eric Hall (EH), Lui Friscioni (LFr), Malu Hall (MH), Marie Wood (MW), Mark Jarvis (MJ), Robert Stock (RS), Tom Colless (TC), Vanessa Crump (VC), Lyn Rodda (LR), Guy Fordy (GF), Robyn Parker (RP), Juliet Green (JG), Anton Curnow (AC), Michael Brischetto (MB), Shane Desiatnik (SD), Robyn McAdam (RMc), Chrissie Thompson (CT), Nicholas Varkas (NV), Carole Box (CB), Harry Box (HB), Yvonne Hellmers (YH), Will Langevard (WL), Byron Tully (BT), Paul Innes (PI), Evelyn Taylor (ET), Iain Everington (IE), Nerolie Stodart (NS), Daniel Myles (DM), Gren Olsen (GO), Zita Robinson (ZR), Kevin Robinson (KR).

Apologies:

Peter Carroll, Paul Cashel, Stephen Crump, Robert Hartman, Sue Hartman, Larry Buttrose, Louise Florence, Michelle Ryan

2. Minutes from the previous ordinary meeting January 10th 2012

No amendments. Moved accepted (MalH), seconded (TC).

Matters arising from the previous minutes will be covered below.

3. Correspondence

Aunty Dawn Colless Bridge – MJ had written to the BMCC regarding maintenance of the plantings. Had a meeting with roads and maintenance. MJ suggested better plantings eg bottlebrush. Greg Upton is now responsible. MJ will continue to follow up.

Update from Waltons re Woolworths work. The heavy demolition work will be starting soon. There will be some traffic disruption and the current car parking will not be available. There will be issues with noise and dust. *The email is attached in Appendix 1.*

4. Wines of the West

Was a great success again. The numbers were similar to previous years. There were 25 wineries and the new participants were very impressed. The event was well organised and well run, and we had great weather. Last year \$25K (from a grant) was spent on marketing and we are seeing the fruits of that. The event has probably reached its potential in terms of size.

Thanks to Christine Killinger and the other volunteers for their hard work.

This is the KCCC's main fundraiser and about \$9K was raised. We now have money in the bank for our projects.

5. Pioneer Place – Will Langevard / Byron Tully BMCC

WL presented information about the new development, especially the refurbishment of Pioneer Place. Woolies came to BMCC with plan to revitalise site - Woolies own the supermarket, BMCC the parking. The supermarket will be a bit smaller than the old Coles, and the Big W a bit larger than the old KMart. The car park will expand into Pioneer Place and the land was rezoned to operational land in order to allow this. The crossing points that connect the site to Katoomba St are to be provided by Woolies. BMCC to undertake the lower (south) Pioneer Place work. There will be no angle parking on the top level but the width of the parking spaces will increase. The angle parking in lower Pioneer Place will be maintained but will be to Australian Standard and therefore wider.

Panels along Parke St are to be removed and replaced with ones that should be less graffiti friendly. The 'rebadging' of the building was to be more focussed at the front, but BMCC has asked it to be improved along the back (Parke St). WL has assured us it is on notice that he will find out if an anti-graffiti paint coating or similar is part of the development.

This issue of concrete cancer was raised – WL and BT do not know if there is any problem. Issues will arise as the building is renovated – for example, the roof is now to be replaced completely.

Country Target is likely to go into the old Franklins complex. Coles will not have to go to BMCC to renovate this building and nothing is before BMCC at the moment.

YH raised the issue of the designated car spots in Coles becoming trolley collection areas and the poor design of the car park. WL said that this is something BMCC can do something about – as there must be compliance with the development plan.

Work on the Woolworths site will not occur during Winter Magic, and the work is limited at other times. The disruption to other business is to be minimised.

BMCC have negotiated various upgrades re lighting, traffic flow, pavement widening, landscaping - additional value adding as part of the development assessment process. Woolworths then agree to a voluntary payment agreement informed by the master plan. Access flow should be improved between the two levels. There will be two pedestrian crossing points in the new section. There is also a travelator from the car park. There will be a slight increase in the number of car parking spaces.

Some additional landscaping (ie not in the plan) would need to occur but is on private land. The planned completion date is 1st July 2014. There is no estimated start date at this time, but BMCC anticipates starting the work before the Woolies deadline of December 2013.

The current upgrade is for the lower (south) part of Pioneer Place only. If Coles redevelops the upper (north) part BMCC will seek similar improvements.

TC raised the concern that Penny Lane remains a problem – the drain is continually blocked. He lobbied for 3 months to get some action from BMCC. The weeds are back as a problem and it is an eyesore. KCCC and graffiti team are happy to maintain, but need help.

AE alerted us to the existence of the City of Sydney Green Roofs and Walls Strategy – Technical Advisory Panel. 49 such plantings are already approved for buildings in Sydney. Toronto have mandated that building of a certain size must have partial green roofs. Chicago Copenhagen and NY have planning guidelines in place. There is the technology to bear the weight. The Cultural Centre overlooks this. WL suggested that the problem might be that this development is not a new building. Woollies did not have to even replace the roof, so it might be considered a step too far at this stage to force this issue. But this sort of thing might be possible in a new building. MJ suggested we need to put gentle pressure on at this stage and keep the dialogue open. We still need to keep the pressure on and need to get involved at the DA stage in any future developments and to keep an idea on any future advertisement of developments.

MWood suggested that simply planting established trees in upper Pioneer Place would improve the view from the viewing platform and be a simple and economical way to make a difference.

Cultural Centre was closed on the Australia Day Long Weekend!! MJ has taken this up with BMCC.

6. Treasurers Report

No figures in yet from Wines of the West.

A few memberships trickling in. Please pay sometime in the financial year. Once our database is up to date it will be easier to track memberships.

A few invoices paid for Christmas performers and insurance.

Balance is \$1009.99.

7. Katoomba Bags – VC/MJ

A sample of the bag was shown. The quality is very good. The best price obtained was from a firm which supplies a lot of Scenic World's souvenirs.

The bags will be on consignment to Katoomba retailers – retailers will make something from it, as with the KCCC. If Scenic World carries them we could be looking at large orders.

It was suggested that the Fair Trade nature of the bags be highlighted with a swing tag or label.

8. Paving Project – MJ

MJ met with Paul Cashel to discuss the various ongoing projects.

No progress has been made yet on the cleaning/maintenance of the new footpaths. Ken Philips discussed purchasing a steam cleaning machine but MJ has not been able to contact him yet.

9. Katoomba Spring – various updates – MJ

A date in March has been set for the installation of the light pole in the roundabout. Structural advice has been sought by the BMCC regarding the plinth as it is non-standard light pole and a Request for Quotation (RFQ) sought.

The refurbishment of the mural in the bus shelter on the corner of Lurline and Waratah Streets was completed by Rachel Szalay. The KCCC paid. The feedback from the public has been great.

The BMCC has approved the removal and replacement of the tree outside the Gazette office.

New flags and banners have freshened up the street. EH has noticed the impact. YH has heard good feedback about the black cockatoo design.

MJ hasn't got around to doing anything more on the new street planters yet. VC suggested the Committee look into that and CK, AE, BB, VC will meet to discuss. The suggested planting at this stage is a 1.5m conifer. The current wine barrels will be used to beautify another spot, such as Froma Lane.

NS suggested that the sign for the Cultural Centre as approached from Froma Lane needs to be moved as it cannot be seen.

10. Cigarette bins/ garbage bins

MJ bought 4 for the price of 3 from Butt Out Australia (cost \$900). One of the butt bins was passed around for comment. The bin has a welded plate that dynabolts to the wall and should be difficult to damage. MJ also obtained a warranty. We will pick 4 spots and approach the owners of the building, etc to have them installed. MJ will also liaise with Ken Phillips re installation.

11. Pot holders – MJ

The ivy geraniums are now being prepared for the pole planter pots. The new pot rings will be lower – they were not made to our specification (2.5 – 3 m).

BMCC owns the poles and Endeavour have asked BMCC to note the pot installation on their policy. Paul Cashel says there is still an insurance issue. The engineers report has been done and the KCCC will do the maintenance, and our insurance man says just to make sure it is noted on the Council's policy, so we do not understand what the problem is.

DM said The BMCC can self-insure if the insurer has a problem, MJ said the insurer says they are over engineered. DM is happy to support anything that makes Katoomba St look better. RS MJ and DM may meet to get this sorted out.

12. Historical Plaques - Paul Innes

One of the main projects for this year will be to get the historical buildings highlighted. We still need to decide what is the best way to highlight the buildings – a plaque on the building or a sign across the road (looking at the building).

PI has done some preliminary research and talked with Paul Merryman (BMCC). There were two

main building periods in Katoomba; Federation/Edwardian from 1901-1915 and then an even bigger Interwar/Art Deco phase from 1918-1945.

There is a publication from 1938 which documented 150 years of history and progress in NSW. There are photos every building in Katoomba and many of them were newish at the time. This is a good year to start from as it sits between the two eras, and is still within living memory. We can focus on the progress and changes since then and highlight the most important aspects of the building's history.

PI has been talking with 106 year old Georgia Jeffries - she had a toy shop on Katoomba St – Paul will interview her properly about her shop next; he has already interviewed her about St Hilda's. She lives at Boddington now.

13. Chess Project - Mandy Schoene

No progress. AE to liaise with Mandy.

14. Bruce Ferrier – Crossings Project

BF - The bicentenary celebrations start this month in the mountains. Between May 11th and June 1st the three explorers went over the mountains.

There is a dinner with the Governor on the 22nd, a breakfast at the Cultural Centre on the 23rd breakfast and the media launch at 10am at Echo Point.

Terence Plowright has created busts of the three explorers in bronze and these will be mounted in each of the villages named after them as a permanent memorial of the crossing. Name tags are available for purchase to attach to the plinths - \$110 for private individuals and \$220 for businesses. TC will use the stones from the original road works of the 1830s in the plinths.

TC - Terence Plowright is planning to sculpt a whole montage of the explorers, handlers, dogs etc. if the funding can be found.

The holey dollars will be given to each of the 20000 school children between Emu Plains and Mt Victoria. Each dollar costs \$4.80, so fundraising has begun. Seeking to have businesses or groups underwrite whole, halves or quarters of schools. If you sponsor a lot of 500 you can have your name etc inside the folder. You can nominate which school it goes to. Eg: one patron has nominated a year group at BMGS. The descendants of Blaxland, Wentworth and Lawson will attend school assemblie to hand out the coins at the end of Term 1, beginning of Term 2.

If you buy in batches of 100 coins you can have your logo printed on the insert. Wholesale price is \$5, RRP \$9.95. Open now to end of March to order for retailers. After that printing will occur and could be in shops for May. The coins will also be made in silver and gold, by specific request eg Cultural Centre, for sale or for promotions.

TC has booked a full page in the Review section of the Gazette – for the April edition.

MJ suggested the KCCC should sponsor a school, such as KPS. The Carrington and the Bendigo bank could sponsor the other Katoomba schools.

500 is a lot for small shops to order, MJ suggested we could purchase through the KCCC and split between shops. VC will email Katoomba retailers to garner interest. MWood suggested appeal tins in

the hotels.

MJ has been sent some information from Phil Hammon on 1813 decals to place on poles and on business windows. More information to come.

15. Belle Buttrose – KTC update

The Turning Leaf is an Autumn play reading season. There will be 8 held in total in the Carrington Library from March to May. Will feature local play writers – all original including Belle's play Wally and Po. Nibbles and drinks will be served at the bar as well.

The program will be attached to the next newsletter.

16. Clean Up Australia

Sunday 3rd March is Clean Up Australia Day from 9am -12pm. MJ has registered the KCCC as a group. The BMCC has concerns about streets being the venues for the clean-up, so Hinkler Park will be the venue for the bins. MWood is the liaison.

MWood suggested bring spades need to scrap weeds out, and TC suggested bringing gloves, rake and wheelbarrow. BMCC has done some cleaning up of the Echo Point end of Lurline St and it is looking better. This is a good opportunity to get more cleaned up. MWood will organise a letterbox drop to get residents involved. More information to come.

DM outlined how bulky waste will be done on a demand basis in the future and should improve the visual aspect and delays that have plagued the previous system. Revenue from scrap metal collection will also then go to BMCC directly.

DM is very supportive of the clean-up, and will work with RS – if we want to beautify the street the answer is 'yes!!'.

17. Cleaning Update – TC

Funds obtained in the past from Phil Koperberg are almost exhausted. There is about \$1000 left which will run out soon. TC has written to Roza Sage but received no reply yet. TC is also trying to get a donation of green paint from Integral Energy.

18. Other Business - New members

Welcome to Nick Varkas who moved to Katoomba St last July. Nick has taken over Doug Hall's old denture clinic.

Welcome to Evelyn Taylor and Iain Everington who now run the Kurrara Guesthouse in Ada St. This is one of the oldest guesthouses in Katoomba, with 8 bedrooms. They have been renovating since last May. Evelyn is also a Yoga teacher.

MJ met with RP and BMCC – slow progress will report more shortly.

Meeting closed 8.45 pm

Next meeting Thursday 14th March 6.15pm – Carrington Library - all welcome.

Signed by President Mark Jarvis..... Date

Minutes by Vanessa Crump, Secretary

Appendix 1 – Email

From: Steve Ziazaris [mailto:stevez@waltonconstruction.com.au]

Sent: Thursday, 31 January 2013 5:00 PM

Cc: CMaddox@woolworths.com.au; Daniel Deregowski

Subject: Site Progress Report

Just to let you know we will start the more heavy demolition in the next couple of weeks.

1. The removal of the precast panels will cause minor inconvenience to Parke St and Waratah St traffic with traffic controllers and contraflows in place to allow for cranes. All residents and businesses have been notified with a letter drop already.
2. Concrete slab demolition and removal to the basement car park will mean the current available car parking will not be available also. This will cause an inconvenience to people used to this parking as well the business who need it for their customers. The noise generate from the demolition will be at dangerous levels and there will be issues with dust also hence the closure.
3. Council has been notified also via our permit applications. I have also spoken with Hallin from the Food Co-Op about the works a few weeks ago now.

I will keep you informed of exact dates but wanted to give you as much information as possible to allow you to communicate with your members.

Regards

Steve Ziazaris | Project Manager

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