



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 info@katoombachamber.com

Annual Subscription fees for membership of the Katoomba Chamber of Commerce & Community are \$250 for landlords; \$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 – Thursday 13th April 2017

Meeting commenced at 6.21 pm

1. Attendance and Apologies – 9th March 2017

Present: Mark Jarvis (MJ); Juliet Green (JG); Bill Swan (BS); Marie Wood (MW); Helen Jones (HJ); Deb Campbell (DC); Bruce Cash (BC); Peter Carroll (PC); Anton Curnow (AC); Paul McLaughlin (PMc); David Rex-Livingston (DR-L); Anne Elliott (AE); Kevin Schreiber (KS); Robert Stock (RS); Carole Box (CB); Harry Box (HB); Jennifer Scott (JC); Christine Killinger (CK); Bruce Ferrier (BF); Damien Beaumont (DB); Lui Friscioni (LF); Louise Florence (LF1); Margaret Brown (MG); Charlie Brown (CB); Chris Davidson (CD); Gary Godkin (GG); Christine Thompson (CT); Bob Kemnitz (BK); Kerry Brown (KB)

Apologies: Tom Colless

2. Minutes of Ordinary Meeting – 9th February 2017

PC – would like amendment to ‘**13. General Business**’. He did not say ‘compare the towns of Trangie and Narramine’. He actually said ‘Narramine looks inviting & welcoming’.

Acceptance proposed – PC; seconded – CK;

3. Correspondence - MJ

MJ – PC involved with the Stronger Family Alliance – they are requesting a letter from the chamber.
PC – spoke about the Stronger Family Alliance and stressed the importance of early childhood development. The Stronger Family Alliance was built around trying to improve services & support for children – such as housing, DOCS, medical, schools etc. Before the Stronger Family Alliance all these agencies acted individually. The Stronger Family Alliance has processes for sharing info & responsibilities from all the various agencies. It is now recognized nationally. They need funds to keep them going and also need more of the local businesses to say ‘yes that’s what we want’. Endorsement from the local community, such as a letter from the KCCC would help with this.

4. Treasurer’s report - BS

Expenses: \$655.06 – for Katoomba St plants.

Liabilities: still holding Cittaslow money until they have a bank account.

Received: \$655.06 from BMCC - reimbursement for plants; and \$750 from Frank Knight (Woolworths Leura) for graffiti removal.

Membership fees collected: \$200

Closing balance: \$27,687.09

Acceptance proposed - CK; seconded - BF;

5. Wines of The West – MJ/CK

MJ – has done preliminary figures – still around \$8500 coming to chamber even though the numbers were down due to the heat (about 100 less). A similar result financially to last year.

CK – suggested increasing entrance fee to \$15 next year.

MJ – thank you to all volunteers - a gift of a bottle of wine given to each (from Darragh, Mansfield & Rosnay)

6. Katoomba Street – baskets/landlords – KS/MJ

MJ - thanks to Margaret & Charlie and all the great work done in Katoomba St.

MJ - going to get serious about the baskets this year – wants about 6-8 baskets on poles. Petunias could be a good option for plantings. Oasis would be used for plant purchase & maintenance.

KB – We have to do it – have some answers/ideas from Dan – need to do a combination of volunteers & Oasis looking after the plants to keep the cost down.

MJ - Now that we are in March we can get started so that they are ready for spring.

MW – re.hanging baskets – her daughter said ‘it’s a disgrace at Echo Point’ – the plants in the baskets are all dead. Marie spoke to café owner down there and they’ve now been taken down.

MJ – there is more activity now in Katoomba St from the shop-keepers in terms of maintaining the pots – good to see.

MJ – regarding landlords – KS is planning a function here at the Carrington to get as many landlords and building owners as possible to talk about what needs to be done in the street – and get them involved. He has some proposals and will also show them what has already been done. Would be good to have a few things in place by then – such as the baskets.

AC – suggested a uniform/consistent colour scheme for the buildings on Katoomba St – it would make a beautiful story about the history of the town.

PC – referred to Napier NZ – and their consistent colour scheme.

CD (Workwear) – her landlords have been great in terms of maintenance of the building.

MW – Rhona Leach (former president of National Trust) – spoke about the Katoomba facades a couple of years ago.

KS – referred to Napier and the week long art deco festival in February – the town was humming – he says pick it up and put it here! Getting the town painted in art deco will take time – need to take it to council – he believes its something that we have to do. Tauranga NZ has the best bollard system he has ever seen – getting more info on this. Kevin also took pics of cobblestones in NZ and likes the idea of having some here. Also noted how bad our toilets are – saw some great ones in Picton NZ – he has a brochure from the company that makes them and the manager of this company actually lives in Blaxland.

7. Lurline Street – architects plan to be presented – KB/MJ

MJ – when Lurline Street plan first initiated a couple of years ago there were some architects appointed (from council) – would like them to come and present these plans at the next meeting.

8. Destination Management Plan – KB/KS/MJ

KB – on public exhibition (council website) – had a good plan 20 years ago which wasn’t enacted – hopefully this one will be enacted – features some of the things that we want like toilets, tourist office, bike paths etc. Kerry encourages people to identify what can be done now and make submissions – it all gets logged by council and can make a difference – only until 12th April.

MJ – things like hanging baskets can be mentioned here – also lack of toilets, tourist info office, an app for people to use upon arrival, traffic bottlenecks etc.

KB – lots of master-planning going on in lower mountains – ours has been put off. State Govt has a development plan for the Mtns and they have identified Katoomba as somewhere that needs infrastructure – so we need to keep pushing.

BF – Yeaman Bridge and the bottleneck is a big issue – he wants to put together a document to present to the state government regarding these issues. CD – need to get emergency services involved in this.

KB – regarding apps for tourists – some people are directed to the wrong areas en masse – eg. Minni Ha Ha – they need real people to direct them to places that they are interested in.

KS – has spoken to minister for infrastructure about Katoomba – he is interested in looking at a plan and is keen to do something regarding tourism here in the mountains.

The BMCC link is: <http://bluemountainshaveyoursay.com.au/DMP>

or you can go to the council office and they will give you a hard copy.

9. Gardening Update – Katoomba Street – KB

MJ – has some new high-vis jackets for volunteers.

KB – vegie garden with fruit trees idea killed off today – will start planting again in April.

MJ – chamber bought cigarette butt bins a while ago – could be used in some of the lanes and near the post office.

KB – Dan is going to get some signs to encourage people to put butts in the bins.

MJ – regarding Yeaman Bridge roundabout – will keep jasmin in middle and add some other things. Because of the safety issue when planting at this site the council will do the plantings there. Dan from council is going to distribute watering cans to some of the shopkeepers so that they can maintain the plants during dry periods.

10. Slow Food Update – Katoomba Street – AE

AE - Chestnut Expedition – Sat. 1st & Sun 2nd April (see website for details: <http://www.slowfoodbluemountains.com.au>)
The bulk of the chestnuts will be saved for the Leura Harvest Festival.

Pianola nights resume on 13th May – the money raised from this helps towards the Small Producer Grants.

Slow Food bookmarks due out soon.

Slow Food are a not for profit, member based organisation – please join to help keep us going.

MJ – received certificate from Trish Doyle today to acknowledge SFBM and Anne Elliott – congratulations Anne!

BF – re. ‘smoking meat’ event (Summer Harvest) – went on the 2nd night and they were the only ones there – it was really well done – pity there weren’t more people there.

AE – they are going to totally restructure Summer Harvest this year – there will be no more than 24 workshops – and more publicity on website & Facebook.

11. Graffiti Update – TC/MJ

- Apologies from TC – unable to be here.
- MJ – Robert doing a good job undoing graffiti.

Other Matters:

MJ – introduced Christine from Christine’s Millinery – she started off as a theatrical milliner – was at Opera Australia - milliner for about 15 years – started own business from home in 2010 – then to Woodford academy – now located above Rex Livingston Gallery. Has every kind of hat you can possibly think of ...

DR-L – from Rex Livingston Gallery – there are 2 sides of the gallery – one with stock & objects – the other gets leased out occasionally for specific exhibitions of book launches etc – trying to be a bit more lateral rather than just pictures on the wall. Currently selling local honey as well as a \$40k picture ... it’s that diverse. Has tried to establish a residency program – but now has opened the upstairs for artists studios – Christine is there. Has taken on 9 local artists – their works are now going to Sydney due to his connections.

MJ – received email from Chris Wolf – wants to put forward moving the meeting night to another night so that he and other shop-keepers can attend.

MJ – Anne spoke to Rachel Szalay re. the reverence mural – has to put in a quote to maintain it - MJ said it needs to be capped at \$500. MJ put forward proposal for this – accepted BF; seconded – JS;

MW – spoke about system whereby you ring council to have rubbish removed – her daughter had to wait 9 weeks – it’s quite unprofessional – letting the other councilors (Kerry & Kevin) know about this so that something can be done.

MJ – presented stickers that he & Anne have had made up - ‘This is a Plastic Bag Fee Shop’ – please take one for your shop window if you want one.

KB – speaking on behalf of BM renewable Energy Co- Op – council looking at scheme where owner of commercial property could get a loan – they would own solar panels but if someone was renting this property the council would give them a reduced rate.

CD – solar panels would be a good topic to bring up at tenants & landlords meeting.

Meeting closed @ 8.06

Next meeting Thursday 13th April @ 6.15pm - Carrington Library – ALL WELCOME

Signed by President, Mark Jarvis



Minutes by Secretary, Juliet Green

Date: 09/3/17