

Town Centre Advisory Committee Meeting Record 15 September 2020



Location:	Zoom Meeting	
Date:	15 September 2020	
Time	Started at: 3.02pm	Closed at: 4.04pm
Chair	Mayor Lisa Matthews	
File Ref	F2019/00505	

Present:

Mayor Lisa Matthews, Councillor Chris Holstein, Councillor Jane Smith (joined 3.36pm, left 3.56pm), Rod Dever (left 4.01pm), Juan Iocco, Matthew Lusted, Paula Martin, Brenton Pavier, Matthew Wales (left 3.28pm)

Guests present:

Katherine O'Regan – Sydney Business Chamber (joined 3.20pm, left 3.44pm)

Council Staff present:

Julie Vaughan – Director Connected Communities (joined 3.18pm), Jamie Barclay – Unit Manager Economic Development and Project Delivery, Glenn Cannard – Unit Manager Community Partnerships, Sue Ledingham – Unit Manager Community Engagement (joined 3.30pm), Kelly Drover – Advisory Group Support Officer

Item 1 Welcome, Acknowledgement of Country and Apologies

Apologies received: Robert Diaz, Matthew Hingerty

The Chairperson, Mayor Lisa Matthews declared the meeting open and completed an Acknowledgement of Country and Connection to Land Statement.

Item 2 Disclosures of Interest

The Chair called for any Disclosures of Interest. No disclosures were received.

Item 3 Confirmation of Previous Meeting Record

The Advisory Group confirmed the Meeting Record from 15 July 2020.

It was noted that in the Meeting Record under Item 7, the following was discussed:

The Advisory Group discussed the following priority action areas for the remaining 12 months.

- *Outdoor dining*
- *Shopfront activations (working with landowners and real estates)*

- *Car parking*
- *How to get people back into the Town Centres*
- *Streetscaping*
- *What each of the Town Centres has identified as its unique selling point*

The Advisory Group also discussed the need for staff to sit down with key people to look at what each individual Town Centre needs as the priority action areas can be very different for each Town Centre.

The above discussion was not incorporated into the related action. It was requested that staff liaise with key people in the communities to discuss the items listed above.

Action: Updates on the following for all Town Centres to be addressed at future meetings:

- Outdoor dining
- Shopfront activations (working with landowners and real estates)
- Car parking
- How to get people back into the Town Centres
- Streetscaping
- What each of the Town Centres has identified as its unique selling point (thoughts from members)

The Advisory Group discussed the Action Log.

Action Item 17: *A joint meeting between the Tourism Committee, Employment and Economic Development Committee and Town Centre Advisory Committee to be arranged once face to face meetings can be held.*

The Advisory Group discussed the possibility of holding this joint meeting sooner rather than later, looking at options such as the Racecourse which has a COVID safe capacity of 105 people.

Action: Staff to investigate an opportunity to bring the Tourism Committee, Employment and Economic Development Committee and Town Centre Advisory Committee together in the near future and email Advisory Group members advising if this is a possibility.

Item 4 Sydney Business Chamber Update

Katherine O'Regan from Sydney Business Chamber provided the Advisory Group with an update on the challenges the CBD is facing and some of the initiatives they are working on to reinvigorate the city.

The Treasurer and Planning Minister recently announced a "summer summit" to explore ways to stimulate the economy over the busy New Year period despite the COVID-19 pandemic. Katherine has prepared a briefing note which highlights the following 4 topics:

- Improving confidence
- Providing support
- Enabling, facilitating and coordinating
- Looking to the future

Action: Katherine to provide the briefing note to Paula Martin, to then be circulated by Advisory Group Support Officer to the Advisory Group members.

Mayor Lisa Matthews advised she will be hosting a Summertime 2020/21 Tourism and COVID Safety Roundtable discussion tomorrow with industry leaders, Central Coast Health and NSW Brisbane Water Local Area Command.

Item 5 Chamber of Commerce Updates (Standing Item)

Matthew Wales – Peninsula Chamber of Commerce:

- Unfortunately, the decision was made to cancel the Oyster Festival due to current circumstances with COVID.
- Meetings have been held with Glenn Cannard and Shari Young regarding the Place Management process for the Peninsula.

Matthew Lusted – Wyong Chamber of Commerce:

- The Wyong Chamber held their AGM on 27 August 2020. All the restanding Board members were reappointed along with one new Board member. Gary Murphy spoke at the meeting.
- Tuesday 22 September 2020 there is a breakfast meeting at Kooindah Waters where the Kevin Faulks Award will be presented, the Chamber Award for service to the community.
- The Chamber have given a number of video presentations, including two given by president Matthew Lusted. One on Chamber membership which has remained very steady throughout the COVID period. During the 2019/20 period another 30 new businesses were signed up. The second video presentation was on the Southbank initiative.

Rod Dever – Gosford/Erina Chamber of Commerce:

- The Chamber held its first post COVID face to face event last week which included 100 people at the Entertainment Grounds. The Deputy Premier attended and spoke at the event.
- The Chamber has been successful in obtaining a NSW State Government Small Business Grant.
- Confidence is returning to a lot section, people are cautiously optimistic.
- Still experiencing supply chain issues (especially when the supply chain is coming out of Victoria).
- A lot of businesses won't be able to continue to operate once job keeper payments are cut.

Paula Martin – NSW Business Chamber:

- 554 businesses have registered for the Bigger Backyard program, with \$28 million pledged to spend with each other. Economic impact to the region is \$84 million. The campaign was extremely successful, and the program is now looking to be closed off and currently working with Council to run a celebratory event. Due to COVID this will now be a virtual BBQ event on 22 October.
- October is also Small Business month so there will be a number of activities from each of the Chambers and the COVID taskforce.

Juan locco:

- Spent the last 3½ months reinventing how things will look across the Coast, including bringing in partnerships with Large Corporates. In conversation with people like Adelaide Fringe and Melbourne Fringe and the Central Coast contingency will be happening later this year.
- Conversations have been held with Council on utilising spaces.
- In the next few weeks dates should be released for how things will look over the next 6 months.

With the departure of a number of voting community member representatives, in accordance with Section Three of the Terms of Reference, there were insufficient voting members present and the meeting could not proceed due to a lack of quorum.

Item 6 Update on Place Plans (Action 15)

This item could not be discussed due to the meeting losing quorum. Deferred to next meeting.

Item 7 Update on Local Tourism Opportunities for Upcoming Holiday Season

This item could not be discussed due to the meeting losing quorum. Deferred to next meeting.

Item 8 General Business and Close

The meeting closed at 4.04pm

Next Meeting: Wednesday 18 November 2020
3pm – 5pm
Zoom Meeting