

Town Centre Advisory Committee Meeting Record 18 November 2020



Location:	Zoom Meeting
Date:	18 November 2020
Time	Started at: 3.05pm Closed at: 4.55pm
Chair	Glenn Cannard - Unit Manager Community Partnerships
File Ref	F2019/00505

Present:

Rod Dever, Matthew Lusted, Paula Martin (left 4:30pm), Brenton Pavier

Council Staff present:

Scott Cox – Director Environment and Planning (left 3.49pm), Jamie Barclay – Unit Manager Economic Development and Project Delivery (arrived 3.17pm), Glenn Cannard – Unit Manager Community Partnerships, Shann Mitchell – Section Manager Environment and Public Health (left 3.33pm), Shari Young – Team Leader Enterprise and Activation, Kelly Drover – Advisory Group Support Officer

Item 1 Welcome, Acknowledgement of Country and Apologies

Apologies received: Matthew Hingerty, Julie Vaughan – Director Connected Communities

The group noted Deborah Warwick’s resignation from the Town Centre Advisory Group.

The Chairperson 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.

During Item 6 Brenton Pavier declared a Pecuniary Interest in relation to discussions held regarding Gosford Carnival.

Item 3 Confirmation of Previous Meeting Record

The Advisory Group confirmed the Meeting Record from 15 September 2020. The Advisory Group discussed the Action Log.

Action: The following items to be included on the agenda for the next meeting:

- Car Parking
- Shopfront Activation
- How to get people back into Town Centres

Item 4 Business Compliance due to COVID19 (Action 16)

Shann Mitchell (Section Manager Environment and Public Health) provided the Advisory Group with an update on outdoor dining and the approval process.

Due to the COVID restrictions there has been an increase in the number of businesses wanting to utilise outdoor areas to enable them to fit more patrons in. Council has been providing businesses with information on COVID safety from the Service NSW website.

The State Government have amended the State Environmental Planning Policy (Exempt and Complying Development Codes) 2008 to allow outdoor dining as exempt development for small bars and pubs in all NSW Local Government areas. Venues must seek Council's approval in line with Council's outdoor dining policy and guidelines, and other approvals may be needed under the *Roads Act 1993*.

It was noted that Council staff are not delegated to enforce COVID requirements and have no public health order delegations. Council acts in an advisory and information role to help businesses maintain requirements to operate COVID safely.

The Advisory Group discussed possible road closures in time for Christmas in regard to allowing an increase in Outdoor Dining over the holiday period. It was noted that this can be cost prohibitive and traffic management plans need to be put in place. Safe access along footpaths whilst utilising the outdoor dining areas also needs to be considered.

The Advisory Group discussed the alcohol free zone stickers in Gosford which expired 30/6/2020 and also the parking signs which are out of date. A report went to Council 19 October 2020 regarding the alcohol free zones.

Action: Director Environment and Planning to liaise with Director Roads Transport Drainage and Waste to get an update on the parking signs and alcohol free zone stickers that have expired.

Item 5 Chamber of Commerce Updates (Standing Item)

Matthew Lusted – Wyong Chamber of Commerce

- Matthew asked the question as to whether Love Lanes would be held in Wyong February 2021. Glenn advised a definitive answer can't be provided at this stage as we are still watching restrictions on outdoor events. There was an online event held for Chromefest which we could potentially do with Love Lanes including some pop-up activations and celebrations online.
- In regard to Car Parking and Streetscaping, the Chamber wrote to Council after the Car Parking policy was released however are yet to receive a response. Jamie Barclay advised that the submission was taken into account as part of the exhibition process and amendments were made to the document. We are due to go back to Council soon with the findings of the public notification of the carpark study.
- There is a property at 17 Rankens Court, Wyong that was purchased for a car park approximately 15 years ago. The Chamber expressed interest in a Peppercorn lease to construct approximately 30 carparking spaces on the site however have been told the land is going to be sold. Jamie Barclay

advised that the site can't be sold until Council has a resolution and everything is under investigation at the moment.

- There is a lot of opportunity in the Northern Growth Corridor. The Chamber has received 3 or 4 different plans from Councils' Consultant over the last 20 years and working with individuals to piece those things together and putting a plan forward and welcome Councils input into the plan. The Chamber is undertaking its own strategic planning through the Northern Growth Corridor with some images to try and attract some funding. It was noted that when the Greater Sydney Commission came to the Coast, they introduced Gosford and the Central Coast however the Northern Growth Corridor was not mentioned. Jamie Barclay advised that Council are advocating for precincts in the North.
- Scott Cox advised that the Innovation and Futures team are putting a report up to Council in December regarding the Tuggerah to Wyong Economic Corridor Strategy.

Rod Dever – Gosford/Erina Chamber of Commerce

- AGM was held today, and the Board was returned, less one who didn't stand. Rod holds the position of Interim President until the first meeting.
- Rod echoed the thoughts of Matt regarding the Greater Sydney Commission, there has to be projects and movements in both the Southern and Northern Growth Corridors.
- Strongly advocating for a University Campus in the Gosford CBD.
- It would be good to have some information on the parking sensors in Gosford including peaks and troughs. The Chamber has written to Council and put ideas forward for the parking strategy. The Chamber have identified land pockets available for car parking and have engaged with CKDS to have some concept plans developed for a multi-level carpark.
- There is not a lot occurring in Gosford over the Christmas/New Year period. It is expected there will be a game at the Central Coast Stadium on New Years Eve.

Action: Staff to follow up and see if any information can be provided to the Chamber on parking sensors in Gosford.

Paula Martin – NSW Business Chamber

- Paula provided an update on the BiggerBackyard Campaign. It hit a milestone last week with 600 businesses signed up, the goal was 500. Those businesses have pledged an annual value of \$30million into the Central Coast economy which has an economic impact of \$91million.
- Last month was small business month. 22 October the BiggerBackyard held a Virtual Trade Expo which used google street view to put together a combination of stands online as well as live streams. There was also a live stream showcasing local Central Coast musical talent. The event made it into Hansard with Liesel Tesch giving a shout out to Bigger Backyard in Parliament.
- Recognition has been given to the Central Coast as a region in itself. The NSW Premier has made specific directive to Adam Crouch to ensure the Central Coast escalates and receives what it needs in regard to its growth objectives.

Brenton Pavier

- There are parcels of land sitting empty that could be possible short term solutions to Councils carparking problem.

Action: Jamie Barclay to investigate the property on the corner of Fairport Avenue and Ocean Parade that has been sitting vacant for more than a decade.

Action: Brenton to email Glenn Cannard directly regarding Council's multi storey car park in Coral Street at the Entrance in relation to the awnings which have been down for some time and the security guard rail on the first level which has been boarded up for some time. Glenn will have the relevant manager investigate.

The Committee noted the Sunset Sounds event to be held at Roche Estate 27 March 2021. It was suggested we need to look at securing events on the Central Coast and identify the spaces we do have available and put together some promotional material to send to music promoters and event organisers to showcase what we do have available.

Action: Staff to investigate opportunities for a communications campaign to identify sites/spaces available for events and put together a blurb for social media or a promotional brochure.

Item 6 Update on Place Plans (Action 15)

Glenn Cannard (Unit Manager Community Partnerships) provided the Advisory Group with an update on Place Plans. A decision was made to combine the next level of engagement on the Gosford Place Plan with concept designs for Kibble Park. Both will be out early next year for further engagement.

The Entrance Place Plans are almost ready to go back out to the targeted group who have provided detailed input to date. Part of the process was to inform the plans of management, particularly the one at Memorial Park at The Entrance. It is anticipated the process for exhibiting Plans of Management should begin in February/March 2021.

There was discussion around whether the Gosford Carnival would be going ahead this year and Brenton advised that it would.

It was noted that funding to deliver on any identified actions from the Place Plans is unclear at the moment. Council are looking at identifying savings from operational and capital budgets however works underway at the moment will be completed.

Item 7 Update on Economic Taskforce Activities

Glenn Cannard (Unit Manager Community Partnerships) advised that a report would be going to Council end of November which will outline activities of the taskforce. There is a focus on reducing spending, changes to delegations and processes. Looking at efficiencies within the organisation, some savings realised in the capital budget as well as operational budget savings identified. Also working on maximising areas of Council that can generate income.

Item 8 Update on Operation Summer Safe

Glenn Cannard (Unit Manager Community Partnerships) provided an update on Operation Summer Safe which is a joint initiative of Central Coast Council, local police and area health. There is expected to be an influx of tourists into our areas over the summer period and the working group are looking at how to mitigate potential impacts in town centres, reserves and beaches. Potential hot spots have been identified.

Item 9 General Business and Close

The Greater Sydney commission was discussed and whether they have consulted back to Council on the economic development strategy. Jamie Barclay advised that we are in communication with them and have provided them with strategic plans including the economic development strategy. Their job is to amplify what has been done and work on initiatives that are here and coordinate across levels of government. The documents that have been provided to them will be taken into account in formulating a submission to cabinet.

The Advisory Group discussed Kibble Park including the water tanks that sit under a proportion of Kibble Park. Glenn Cannard advised that information has been collected as part of the issues with the fountain in Kibble Park which has initiated engineering assessments to understand what we might have to do to remove/relocate the fountain if that's an action identified within the Place Plan.

The meeting closed at 4.55pm

Next Meeting: Tuesday 23 February 2021
2pm – 4pm
Location TBC