



DRAFT MINUTES
QUEANBEYAN BUSINESS COUNCIL EXECUTIVE MEETING
QUEANBEYAN GOLF CLUB

TUESDAY, 25TH SEPTEMBER 2007 at 12.30 pm

Present: Ian McNamee, Bill Baker, Graham Wise, Jan Browne, Jeremy Wyatt, Nick Moufarrige, Steve Jamieson, Rod Studholme, Craig Harris, Leanne Brewer Simon Mitchell-Taverner, Ian McGinn.

Also in Attendance: Mrs. Margaret Nicholls, Economic Development Officer QCC, Mr. Brian Leonard.

1. Apologies: Ross Barrett, Paul Walshe, Daryl Evans, Ken Ineson, Loyd Perin, Colin Maxwell, Kathy Howard, Peter Newham, Maurice McCormack.

2. Adoption of Minutes and matters arising from Executive meeting 28 August 2007 – CH/NM

3. Matters Arising –

- **Item 2/1 - Tigers Club Membership** – No further news at this stage.

ACTION – RS/PN

- **Item 2/6 - Canberra Times** – Meeting held – see President's Report Item 6
- **Item 5 - Development Corporation** – See President's Report Item 6.
- **Item 8 - Parking around new Performing Arts Centre** – Letter sent as Correspondence Report (see item 5)– no response to date. See also President's Report item 6.
- **Item 8 - Letters to Sports Advisory Committee** – To be actioned.

ACTION JB/SMT

- **Item 9 – Tourism Figures for 6 Month Report** – Figures anticipated end September or early October.

4. Treasurer's Report :

Tabled by Treasurer – Detailed copy attached to original minutes and available from Treasurer. Summary as follows:

- **Reconciled Bank Balance at 31 August 2007** - \$111,714.22

- **Balance Sheet**

Total Equity at 31 August 2007 – \$145,998.35
(incl accrued debtors and GST liability)

- **Profit & Loss:**

Surplus for August 2007 - \$(13,324.93)
YTD \$23,646.91

Consideration to be given to further funds being transferred to investment account following Treasurer's Quarterly Report to next meeting.

Treasurer's Report Accepted GW/SJ

5. Correspondence

Inwards:

- 22 August – ActewAGL – photos of your town competition – circulated to Members
- 19 September – Barry McDonald DSRD – invite to take part in State Plan Regional Action Conference – Yass 26 October, 10 am to 3 pm

ACTION: SJ to represent QBC and BEC

- Applications for membership:
 - Canberra Times – incorporating Queanbeyan Age and Chronicle – Clarification of Membership fee being sought.

Outwards:

- 4 September – General Manager QCC re Development Corporation (See President's Report – item 5 of these Minutes)
- 9 September - General Manager QCC re parking in Rutledge Street Carp Park due construction (See President's Report – item 5 of these Minutes)
- 9 September – Hon. Gary Nairn MP (email via PA Jenni Rodda) re follow up from talks with QBC.

Arising from Correspondence:

Simon Mitchell-Taverner advised he had received a telephone call from Hon. Gary Nairn's PA Jenni Rodda in which she advised Minister Nairn has spoken with Minister Lloyd and the following points were made:

- The earlier Canberra Regional Forum was changed in 2006 because it had become too unwieldy with too many participants. Decision making had become difficult.
- The new ACT Ministers Forum only deals with ACT matters - not cross border issues. This is why no Regional participation is required.
- Both Minister Nairn and Minister Lloyd agree with the 'bottom up' approach to cross border issues as outlined in Item 5a of our minutes of 22 May.
- Many of the items of concern to us relate to NSW or ACT Government issues where Federal Government has little or no influence (eg Monaro Street).
- Gary is more than happy to assist in negotiations but it is up to us to drive issues.
- Written submissions are preferred to verbal.

See Item 8 – Upcoming Federal Election.

Correspondence Report accepted SMT/CH

6. Report from President:

- **Car Parking** – QBC has written to QCC General Manager (see item 5 Correspondence) no response to date. Jan Browne reported that a petition with 1000 signatures has been presented to NSW Government objecting to overflow car parking at the Showground. Parking issues are expected to escalate following completion of the NSW State office block. At QBC Executive Meeting of 23 January 2007, Mr Tim Farland of Premiers Department stated there would be 350 staff and 101 staff car parks (for pool cars only). In addition, there will be 8 visitor car parks. Additional parking for staff and visitors would be from other Queanbeyan parking areas. Mr. Farland reminded members that much of the adjacent car park (also used by VIC visitors) is, in fact, Crown land.

In depth discussion was held on the need for a long term parking solution for the city, including the construction of a multi level car park and the introduction, if required, of paid parking. Whilst the relatively new Morisset Street car park is under-utilised, it was agreed that the location is unsuitable for the current needs which included the State Office Block and the Performing Arts Centre.

President reminded members that QBC had insisted its support for the Performing Arts Centre was conditional that no car parking spaces be lost in the precinct due to its construction. It is evident there will, in fact, be a loss of car parking spaces in the precinct. The current position regarding Developer Section 94 moneys held by QCC was also raised

Resolved that a letter be sent to Queanbeyan City Council with copy to Premiers Department and NSW Local Member requesting urgent consideration of a multi storey car park in the vicinity of the new developments and the introduction of paid longer-term parking if required to pay for the construction. To be the subject of a subsequent media release.

ACTION – SMT to draft and **ALL** to provide comment on this draft.

- **Discussions with Queanbeyan City Council** - Ian McNamee reported on a meeting with QCC General Manager Gary Chapman and other senior QCC staff in response to QBC's letter of 4 September regarding the proposed Development Corporation and other matters.

An MoU is being prepared by QCC, however this is now understood to be purely in connection with the proposed transfer of the VIC. It had been suggested by QCC staff that the original agreement between QCC and QBC was 'illegal' in that no tender process had been undertaken by QCC and that the VIC building was subject to the "Trust". Simon Mitchell-Taverner stated that, if the "Trust" referred to the Showgrounds Trust this would not apply as the land is freehold under QCC ownership. If it referred to a Heritage Trust, he also did not believe the building was a listed Heritage building¹.

Resolved that Ian McNamee and Bill Baker review the MoU when received and then pass to the Executive for comment.

ACTION – IMcN/BB

Margaret Nicholls (QCC) advised that she is preparing a paper for Queanbeyan City Council regarding the proposed Development Corporation. She would suggest an enlargement of the original membership to include other business groups not presently represented by QBC and/or BEC such as artisans and exporters.

¹ Subsequently established that VIC has been Listed by QCC effective 13 July 2007, as part of Amendment 38 to the Queanbeyan Local Environmental Plan 1998 (Ref: GG No 90 of 13.7.2007, p 4504. Date of commencement, on gazettal).

7. Report from Vice President Bill Baker: Recently returned from leave where he passed through a number of NSW towns and cities that had been relieved of CBD traffic by the construction of bypasses. In all cases these appeared to be thriving. Bill advised that his Membership of CBD LIFT committee was now subject to an election process as a Community rather than a QBC Representative.

8. Upcoming Federal Election – Issues to be raised by QBC:

Following emails to General membership and to Executive Members, the following issues have been submitted by Members (email copies are attached to original minutes):

- **Small Business policies** including
 - Tax Reform
 - Cutting Government red tape
 - Employment and Training incentives
- Policy on **Regional Decentralisation**
- **Regional Tourism**
- **Water Supply** – Federal member to commit to federal intervention for the direct provision to Queanbeyan from the Commonwealths' Googong Dam should either:
 - Water be denied
 - Water be tied to unreasonable conditions
 - Water supply remain unresolved once NSW statutory rezoning issues have been addressed
- **Roads funding** – Commitment to a Commonwealth leadership role in finalising the Queanbeyan Bypass.
- **Sports funding** – Monies have been spent on Queanbeyan in recent years on Health, Culture, Business, Government Education but nothing on sport.
- **Workplace Relations reforms** - in particular the retention of the Australian Building and Construction Commission.

In addition, Margaret Nicholls QCC tabled through the Chair a Mayoral Minute dated 5 September 2007 outlining Council's Priorities for the Federal Election (QCC Ref: SF020214):

1. Local Government – Increasing in real terms Federal Assistance grants payable to Local Government.
2. Continuing support for the Tralee and Googong Developments.
3. Upgrade of the Kings Highway to HQJOC.
4. Contribution to the Queanbeyan Bypass (Ellerton Drive – Edwin Land Parkway). Further to the \$6 million Grant for Edwin land Parkway Stage 2 under the Roads to Recovery program.
5. Additional Funding under the Roads to Recovery Funding. Funds have been received for Campbell Street and Stornaway road over the past three years.

6. Recreational Services. A grant towards the establishment of a regional sporting complex at Hoover road or other site. Similarly a grant towards a new aquatic centre at Jerrabomberra.
7. Community Services
 - a. Priority 1 – Sustainable, coordinated services for the ageing community and younger people with disabilities.
 - b. Priority 2 – Provision of aged care packages for the ageing community and provision of land for adaptable housing, retirement accommodation and residential aged care facilities with diverse levels of support.

The commonality of many of the issues was noted. Roads and water were identified by attendees as the prime issues facing Queanbeyan. QBC needs to take a leadership role

Resolved that a Paper be developed over the next few days to be put to Candidates for the upcoming federal election seeking commitments to addressing QBC concerns. This to be followed by a media release.

ACTION – SMT to draft Paper – **ALL** to comment and improve.

Further resolved that the Liberal and Labor endorsed candidates be invited to address issues from the Paper at QBC General Meeting on 30 October. It was anticipated that Candidates be given separate time slots to avoid a debate.

ACTION – SMT

9. **QBC Student Sponsorships** – Simon Mitchell-Taverner reported on discussions with John Clark, Principal, **Queanbeyan High School**, regarding the concept of a QBC Scholarship for student/s of the new NSW Trade School to be operated from Queanbeyan High School from 2008. John is copy addressee to this email

Whilst not all of the infrastructure may be in place by the beginning of the year (the new building is scheduled for completion during February 2008), the new Trade School will be operational. The following points were raised:

- Mr. Clark welcomed this QBC initiative
- \$1,000 over two years for materials, tools and books would be adequate for two students - and this might have an even more positive effect on the program from both Trade School and QBC perspective.
- School would provide a short list of candidates for final selection.
- Materials, tools and books would be reimbursed by us (to the maximum of the scholarship amount) on invoice.

- It would be appropriate for Publicity to commence this year, with students making application on enrolment. Successful students may not, however, be selected until after commencement of the School year 2008

Mr. Clark hopes to attend the next General Meeting for a short period.

ACTION – SMT CH JW DE to form selection committee

Ian McGinn reported that **CIT** have also accepted our offer of a scholarship to the value of \$1000 worth in books / materials / tools and fees for a Queanbeyan based student for their first/second year of study at the CIT. An email has been received from Jerome de Rose, Deputy Dean, Faculty of Tourism and Hotel Management stating CIT will provide the basis of a scholarship and will work with the QBC to select a worthy recipient.

CIT will also provide coverage of the scholarship at the Faculty Prize Night to be held in June 2008. CIT will send the necessary paperwork in regard to selection process by the end of next week.

Selection of short list would be made from Queanbeyan schools.

ACTION – IMcG BB RS to form selection committee

It was further noted that the Federal Government has approved \$12.9 million for the Queanbeyan **Australian Technical College** in Bayldon Road. Whilst the College would begin enrolling students in 2008, no Principal or staff had yet been appointed.

10. **2 QBN FM update** – Mr Brian Leonard was invited by the President to address the Executive Committee. Mr. Leonard, a former Deputy Commissioner of Taxation is currently engaged by Queanbeyan City Council to (a) develop a simulation model for future financial accounting and (b) help lift the image of Queanbeyan by developing two DVDs – one for lifestyle and one for business. QBC/Canberra Times Supplement had proved a valuable resource for these DVDs.

A long term member and former presenter at QBN FM, Mr. Leonard spoke about the media release dated 14 September from the Australian Communications and Media Authority (ACMA) which advised that 2QBN had been directed to review its constitution and encourage community participation. He described ACMA's action as having serious implications for the Station.

Resolved BB/IMcN that QBC write to QBN and ACMA requesting to be involved in future programming for the Station, monthly interaction and a regular time-slot.

ACTION - SMT

11. **Major Development Plan 15 Lancaster Place, Canberra Airport** – Mrs. Margaret Nicholls QCC advised Members of this MDP for office space up to 20,000 sq m to be located approximately 400 m from the existing Brand Depot. Full documentation is available from http://www.canberraairport.com.au/pl_mdp.htm. The meeting felt that there would be spin-offs for Queanbeyan during construction and following occupation. Concern was raised at implications for future traffic movements.

ACTION – SMT to advise Margaret Nicholls in writing of this position.

12. **Executive Officer Report:**
Report presented by Executive Officer and form attachments to these Minutes, having been previously distributed to Executive Members.

Ian McGinn further advised that an additional 5,000 copies of the Canberra Times supplement had been received and he is arranging distribution. The on-line version as available from QBC website will shortly be corrected to reflect the correct name of Queanbeyan Golf Club's professional.

Ian corrected an email assertion that he had given the go-ahead to Canberra Times for three times per annum "Experience Queanbeyan" brochures. This is still in concept stage and being costed by Canberra Times. It would be a six monthly publication. Sufficient stocks of the current Queanbeyan brochure are held to Easter 2008.

Ian noted that QCC's Cultural Development Officer Claire Marlow had resigned with effect Thursday, 27 October.

ACTION – IMCG to write to Ms Marlow thanking her for her cooperation with QBC and congratulating her on the Queanbeyan in Bloom brochure.

13. **General Business:**

- a. **CBD LIFT Committee** – Nick Moufarrige advised that CBD Masterplan expressions of interest close on 8 October. Colours of pavers are yet to be decided. He is seeking opinions regarding street furniture.

ACTION – ALL who would like to comment to NM regarding current or possible replacement street furniture in the CBD.

Margaret Nicholls advised that any new work in the CBD would not commence until after Christmas.

- b. Daylight Saving** – confirmed that this will start as scheduled on 20 October. An earlier start will occur from 2008.
- c. Next meetings** –

Next General Meeting – Tuesday 30 October 2007, 4 pm.
Venue to be advised. New member South East Region Academy of Sport has requested a 15 minute opportunity. Liberal and Labor endorsed candidates to be invited – Item 8 above.

ACTION - SMT

Chairman thanked Queanbeyan Golf Club for providing meeting venue and catering.

Next Meeting – General Meeting Tuesday 30 October 2007, 4 pm. Venue to be advised.

Meeting closed 2.05 pm.