



DRAFT MINUTES

QUEANBEYAN BUSINESS COUNCIL QUARTERLY GENERAL MEETING QUEANBEYAN LEAGUES CLUB TUESDAY, 30th OCTOBER at 3.45 pm

Present: 52 attendees as per separate list attached to original minutes.

- 1. Apologies from Members:** NSW Member for Monaro Mr. Steve Whan MP (joint Patron), Craig Harris, Steve Jamieson, Graham Wise, Nick Moufarrige, Barbara Maynard, Bob Winnel, Daryl Evans, Garry Sykes, David Bellew, Fran & Michael Mallon

Others: Margaret Nicholls, QCC,

- 2. Welcome by President:**
Ian McNamee welcomed guests including Guest Speakers,
- 3. Presentation by Member for Eden-Monaro Hon. Gary Nairn MP:**
Candidates had been provided with an issues paper (attached) prior to the meeting. President Ian McNamee introduced Mr. Nairn. A Patron of Queanbeyan Business Council, who opened his address by confirming an announcement by Treasurer Peter Costello of a \$2 million commitment to 'Home in Queanbeyan' a community project he described as having an extraordinary level of Community support inspired by Father Peter Day.

Mr. Nairn stated that the outlook for Queanbeyan is strong with 2% unemployment in the City and 4.1% for the Eden-Monaro electorate.

On the water issue, Mr. Nairn stated that Queanbeyan had been denied additional water supply for more than 4 to 5 years because it is beholden to ACT. He gave background to the MoU negotiated between NSW and ACT governments, which initially stated ACT "may" provide water to Queanbeyan. Federal intervention changed this to "will" provide water to Queanbeyan. Mr. Nairn and Senator Gary Humphries had today (30 October) announced a plan whereby Queanbeyan City Council will have its own allocation of water in return for the title to Googong being transferred to ACT Government. Mr. Nairn said that this commitment would cover an increase in Queanbeyan's water needs from the current level of 4000 mega litres per annum to its expected future needs of 6200 mega litres.

On the roads issue, Mr. Nairn reminded members of Federal Government's funding for present and future infrastructure including \$6 million for Edwin Land Parkway and \$2.5 million towards a heavy vehicle bypass plus \$5 million from Roads to Recovery Program to ACT Government for Lanyon Drive. Whilst he understands the urgent need for further regional road development, his government has not received any further applications from NSW Government for additional roads funding.

In response to a question from a Member, Mr. Nairn agreed on the need for national conformity regarding interstate transport regulations.

Mr. Nairn concluded by congratulating Queanbeyan Business Council on its growth and results to date.

3. Adoption of Minutes from Executive meeting 25th September 2007 – Adopted: SMT/PN

Matters Arising from Minutes – Nil – see correspondence

4. Report to Members on activities and finances:

- a. **President's Report:** Ian McNamee reported on discussions with Queanbeyan City Council regarding QCC's proposal to transfer the VIC operations to a proposed Development Corporation, which would include QCC, QBC and BEC. He highlighted the importance of QBC, VIC and BEC co-location for the benefit of both the Queanbeyan community and visitors. A draft MoU had been received, however this was in many ways at odds with previous discussions.

Mr. McNamee also advised that he had received a letter from Executive Officer Ian McGinn advising he would be resigning from the position effective Friday, 2 November. Described as a 'letter of redundancy', Mr. McNamee said this was largely due to the pending transfer of VIC operations. He thanked Mr. McGinn for his significant contribution to QBC and VIC operations over the past 15 months.

b. **Treasurer's Report**

Tabled by Secretary in absence of Treasurer – Detailed copy attached to original minutes and available from Treasurer.

Summary as follows:

- **Reconciled Bank Balance** at 30 Sep 2007 - \$104,145
- **Balance Sheet (consolidated):**
 - Total Equity at 30 Sep 2007 – \$145,559
- **Profit & Loss (consolidated):**
 - Deficit for period Sep 2007 - \$ (6,535)
 - Surplus YTD \$ 22,902

Mr. McNamee stated this is in addition to \$50,000 held in fixed deposit.

Accepted SMT/BB

c. Correspondence

Inwards:

- 28 Sep - GM QCC – draft MoU re Visitor Information Centre
- 4 Oct – Alan Moss QCC – reply to our letter re Lowe Street parking
- 14 Oct - Bungendore HQJOC (email) – Proposal to provide rail commuter service Cbr, Qbn, HQJOC, Bungendore.
- 23 Oct – Bang the Table re Sydney Canberra Corridor Strategy
- 30 October - Bungendore Chamber of Commerce re proposed sponsorship of a Business Council
- CCWG for HQJOC Next Meeting 8 November
- Capital Region ACC – invite to Regional dinner 19 November.

Outwards:

- 26 Sep – Invite to Hon. Gary Nairn MP for 30 October as resolved at previous meeting.
- 26 Sep – Invite to Dr. Mike Kelly AM for 30 October as resolved at previous meeting.
- 28 Sep – Tigers Club – Membership details.
- 29 Sep – Margaret Nicholls QCC re Lancaster PI Canberra Airport as resolved at previous meeting.
- 1 Oct – GM QCC – re parking needs as resolved at previous meeting.
- 5 Oct – Federal candidates for upcoming federal election – Issues Paper as resolved at previous meeting.
- 15 Oct – Radio 2QBN and ACMA as resolved at previous meeting.
- 22 Oct – Sports Advisory Committee as resolved at previous meeting.
- 30 Oct – GM QCC – interim response to draft MoU

One New member – IMB Society – Paul Elliott present.

Arising from Correspondence:

Resolved that President and Secretary discuss further with Bungendore Chamber.

ACTION: IMcN/SMT

Accepted SMT/JW

- 5. Presentation by Garry Lane, South East Region Academy of Sport:** Mr. Lane gave a 10 minute Power Point presentation of the aims and activities of member organisation SERAS. This covered the wide range of activities throughout SE NSW for 12 to 18 year olds. Whilst ACT is not part of its area of operation, the bulk of activities actually take place within ACT due to lack of facilities elsewhere. He supported calls for an all weather sports facility in Queanbeyan. More information can be sought through phone (02) 6297 7210 or www.seras.org.au .
- 6. Presentation by ALP Candidate Dr. Mike Kelly AM:** Candidates had been provided with an issues paper (attached) prior to the meeting. Vice-President Bill Baker introduced Dr. Kelly who opened his address by highlighting his strong family connection with the electorate, particularly around the South Coast.

Dr. Kelly described Small Business as the life-blood of the region. He noted his party's announcements on a small business fibre network, workplace relations and taxation as examples of its commitment to the sector as well as its commitment to creating trade skills facilities in every high school and encouraging transitional arrangements for trade students. The proposed "BAS Easy" scheme and Superannuation Clearing House would remove much red tape currently experienced by the sector.

He attacked the Government's record on climate change, contributing to issues such as water problems.

On employment, Dr. Kelly stated that youth unemployment in the electorate stood at 12.9%, but claimed under-employment was much larger – up to 30%. He intends to tackle the seasonal nature of employment on the coast and in the High Country.

On water issues, Dr. Kelly advised that his party had scheduled \$1 billion in a range of programmes to address water harvesting, desalination and re-cycling. In addition to this would be \$220 million to solve the problem of leaky taps and low interest loans for installation of water tanks. In answer to a question concerning water supply to Queanbeyan, he stated he would not support anything that removed control of water from local authorities.

On roads issues, Dr. Kelly stated that he did not believe Edwin Land Parkway was the best solution for a Queanbeyan by-pass. It should still be extended to Cooma Road as a single lane road, but either Dunn's Creek Road or a northern route were better and

cheaper by-pass options. This had followed discussions with Jerrabomberra Resident's Association and Mayor of Queanbeyan. In answer to questions from the floor, Dr. Kelly stated he would have broader community consultation on this issue if elected.

On the regional de-centralisation issue, Dr. Kelly stated that a Labor Government, if elected, would seek to achieve status under the Constitution for Local Councils for infrastructure projects.

Dr. Kelly expressed commitment to sports and tourism and, in answer to a question from Member, would be interested in considering support for an all weather sports facility in Queanbeyan.

Dr. Kelly also agreed on the need for national conformity regarding interstate transport regulations.

QBC President Ian McNamee advised Dr. Kelly that, from QBC's perspective, the most urgent priorities were a solution to the Regional Roads issue (including northern and southern Queanbeyan By-passes) and a permanent guarantee of water supply to a growing Queanbeyan.

6. General Business: Nil

- 7. Informal networking** - Ian McNamee thanked the three guest speakers and Queanbeyan Leagues Club for hosting and catering for this meeting.

**Next Executive Meeting – Tuesday, 27 November at venue tba
starting at 12.30 pm.**

Meeting closed 5.45 pm.