

## Queanbeyan Business Council

### Minutes of the

#### Retail and Tourism Sub Committee Meeting

Date: Wednesday 22 August at 12.30. Venue: VIC

**Apologies:** N. Moufarrige, G. Wise, C. Maxwell, D Evans

**Attendance:** B. Baker (Vice President and Committee Chairman), S Mitchell-Taverner, R. Studholme, J. Browne, C. Marlowe, Ian McGinn,

**Minutes of last meeting (12 June 2007):** Moved adoption of minutes: R. Studholme **Seconded** by: C. Marlowe

#### Matters arising:

1. **White Pages com.au (Sensis):** EO distributed correspondence from Sensis advising that the long standing cross border anomaly was now 'fixed'.
2. **Business Information Pack:** EO circulated examples of Business Information Packs being distributed by some local councils and VIC's. Vice President to discuss the possibility of publishing a similar pack for Queanbeyan with the QCC EDO. **ACTION:** *Vice President*
3. **Regional Events Australia.** EO spoke to a key point summary prepared from a 44 page report on the Expo by the organisers Regional Events Australia. The meeting was sceptical of a 2008 event subject to being held in Queanbeyan. **ACTION:** *EO to report back to this committee following discussions with the BEC*
4. **Canberra Times 32 page supplement.** Notes on De-brief meeting with Canberra Times circulated. The meeting noted good feed back from a range of advertisers and individuals. The EO has distributed over 5,000 additional supplements from the 10,000 made available to the QBC.
5. **Tourism Development Projects Grants.** \$250,000 development grant to Braidwood and Villages Tourism Inc. The EO outlined the value of this Batemans Bay to Canberra tourist promotion project by the Braidwood tourism group. **ACTION:** *EO to report on progress*
6. **VIC Signage Advertiser Prospectus.** Draft copy distributed at last meeting from which no contrary comments received. **ACTION:** *EO to print Prospectus internally as required*

#### AGENDA ITEMS

- **Meeting with Mayor and General Manager** (from minutes of Industry/Development meeting on Tues 21 August at VIC). Mayor and General Manager have called a meeting between QBC President and Vice President for Thursday 23 August at 3 pm. The meeting will centre on future VIC operations; however, QBC has insisted that other agenda items be added, including the proposed Development Board.
- **Vice Presidents Report to Executive.** Vice President spoke to report previously circulated to the Executive and sub committees. The Vice President also indicated that QBC and QCC monthly meetings were being planned to improve communications and actions on issues being raised by the QBC.
- **Memberships.**
  - >**Membership categories.** EO circulated number of members in each ANZSIC membership categories including Motel members.
  - >**Margeurita Motel.** New owners Ilce (Ian) and Vicki Veljanoski have applied for QBC membership which will be raised with the Executive on 28 August.
  - >**Gosile Pty Ltd.** Request to meet President and Vice President resulting from meeting with EO. **ACTION:** *EO to arrange appointments*
  - >**Queanbeyan SES.** Request for membership to QBC to be raised with the Executive on 28 August.
  - >**2007/08 Memberships.** Receipts to 17 August are \$46,640 from a realistic \$55,000
  - >**Australian Railway Historical Society (ACT Division) Inc.** New NFP member; have applied for QBC membership which will be raised with the Executive on 28 August.
  - >**Membership Information Pack.** EO/Simon has developed a new QBC membership information pack which will be printed internally as required.

>**Motel Participation in QBC/VIC.** To date only 4 of the 12 accommodation provider members has renewed their QBC membership despite a follow up letter with current accommodation statistic attached and personal visit by the EO. At the end of August only paid members will be supported by telephone and over the counter referrals. Other providers will be identified through distribution of the Queanbeyan Accommodation Guide. The EO reported that it is doubtful that further memberships will be received due to the current high demand for Motel/Hotel accommodation in Queanbeyan. It is hoped however, that the distribution of the QBC Advertising prospectus (by mid September) may see some renewals of the VIC Internal and External signage.

- **Queanbeyan in Bloom (QIB).** C Marlowe distributed Queanbeyan in Bloom program. C Marlowe also indicated that some funds may be available towards the new Visit Queanbeyan brochure currently being drafted by the EO for discussion with the committee.
- **Malicious Damage Prevention Strategy (MDPS).** EO distributed a draft copy of Queanbeyan Malicious Damage Crime Prevention Plan.
- **Capital Country Development Board.** EO circulated copy of the Capital Country Development Board's submission to NSW Tourism for assistance with Capital regional improvements. **ACTION:** *Committee instructed EO to send copy to S.Whan*
- **Australian Regional Tourism Convention-Canberra.** EO advised committee that the Australian Regional Tourism Convention is scheduled for 31 October – 2 November. The convention will be held over 3 days at the ANU at an early bird cost of \$750. **ACTION:** *EO to pass details to QCC EDO.*
- **Project Scan.** Overview of AC Neilson Research presentation on 25 July which basically identified that visitors to the region were basically satisfied with regional services
- **Motel member issue.** A Motel member (membership not yet paid for 2008) indicated to the EO that they recently had a meeting with the QCC General Manger regarding the QCC Conference Centre competing with private enterprise. It is understood the meeting identified that QCC was competing at market rates and Motelier was basically satisfied with explanations. **ACTION:** *EO to respond to member thanking them for drawing the issue to our attention..*
- **Why Governments Invest Public Funds In Tourism.** The EO circulated this document for information and possible further discussion on tourism issues and local government's investment in tourism.
- **Six monthly report.** EO advised the meeting that the QBC VIC report to QCC is now due. The report however is pending receipt of last quarter accommodation statistics which will not be available until early August. EO has received extension of submission time from the QCC General Manager until mid October.

**Other business.**

- Member Clem Phillips raised concerns re CBD pedestrian crossings and delay in action over the eastern by-pass. Both issues being pursued with QCC by Mr. Phillips. Mr. Phillips is also drafting a proposal to QCC for consideration in relocating the Bus interchange to Monaro St adjacent to the Royal Hotel. **ACTION:** *EO to respond to Mr. Phillip that the QBC will monitor progress on these issues and indicate that the QCC is proposing a traffic study.*
- EO advised the meeting that there is a delay in full range of Queanbeyan T-Shirts due to defective embroidery. **ACTION:** *EO in liaison with supplier*
- EO reported that the Southern Highlands VIC has developed a one-page statistical snapshot of the Southern Highlands which is now being enthusiastically and successfully utilised as a marketing tool by Southern Highland businesses. **ACTION:** *EO to provide further details and example at next meeting.*

**Proposals.**

**The meeting proposed that:**

1. The Vice President meets with the QCC EDO to discuss the potential publication of a Business Pack for distribution through the VIC, QBC and QCC for new businesses and businesses proposing to establish in Queanbeyan.
2. Pending the outcome of the meeting with the EDO the monthly QBC/QCC meeting discusses the development of strategies to encourage new business to Queanbeyan. R Studholme added that this could be initiated through a workshop or series of workshops.
3. QBC to raise the question of participation at the Australian Regional Tourism Convention at the next QBC/QCC monthly meeting.
4. QBC raise with QCC at next QBC/QCC monthly meeting the development of strategies to encourage new businesses to Queanbeyan and Region.
5. QBC raise with QCC at next QBC/QCC monthly meeting the need for improved sporting facilities in Queanbeyan

**In closing members asked that EO thank the caterer for the quality and variety of the lunch provided.**

**The meeting closed at: 2.15 pm**