

**QUEANBEYAN BUSINESS COUNCIL
DRAFT MINUTES
RETAIL TOURISM SUB COMMITTEE MEETING
QUEANBEYAN VISITOR INFORMATION CENTRE
WEDNESDAY, 21 MAY 2008 12.30 PM**

Present: Bill Baker, Ian McNamee, Jan Browne, Peter Newham, Jeremy Wyatt, Col Maxwell, Jan Smith, Fran Hesketh, Steve Jamieson, Simon Mitchell-Taverner

Special Guest: Cr. Tim Overall

Apologies: Ian McNamee, Rod Studholme, Leanne Brewer,

1. **Welcome from Chair** – Bill Baker welcomed attendees, especially Cr. Tim Overall and new committee members Jan Smith (Suji Treasures) and Fran Hesketh (IMB).
2. **Queanbeyan Tourist Brochure** – Simon Mitchell-Taverner advised that Canberra Times are proceeding with a new brochure to be completed in September. We currently have 1300 copies of the existing brochure.

ACTION: SMT

3. **VIC six month report to QCC (SMT)** – Simon Mitchell-Taverner advised that this has been submitted and will be presented to Council as an information report in June. Economic Development Officer Margaret Nicholls has expressed reservations concerning the value of some of the statistical reporting. She has been asked to raise any concerns in writing. Peter Newham advised that Riverside Plaza was prepared to provide percentage movements but not outright revenue earnings. Mrs. Nicholls has also requested a breakdown of VIC accounts separated from QBC accounts. This is being arranged by Treasurer.

Parking around the VIC was highlighted in the report. **Resolved** that this issue again be highlighted with Council.

ACTION: SMT

4. **Membership renewals- Resolved** that this sub-committee support the resolution of the Development Industrial sub-committee of 20 May and that the following fee structure be put to the Executive Meeting of 27 May:

Four levels –	Platinum:	\$5,000 incl GST
	Gold:	\$1,000 incl GST
	Silver:	\$ 500 incl GST
	Bronze:	\$ 200 incl GST

Platinum Members be entitled to up to three display boards within the VIC.

Gold Members be entitled to one display board within the VIC.

Subject to space availability, Silver & Bronze Members may purchase space either inside or outside the VIC – suggested prices \$300 inside - \$200 outside.

ACTION: SMT

- 5. Agent/ Owner Commercial Real Estate Survey** - Simon Mitchell-Taverner advised he had received from WJ Gibbs Real Estate, Ian McNamee & Partners, LJ Hooker Queanbeyan and Riverside Plaza.

Peter Newham referred to Riverside Plaza report in which he expressed reservations about the ability to attract Federal departments to Queanbeyan or other tenants in the near future to replace the 6,000 sq m offered to NSW Government tenants by the state Office Block.

ACTION: SMT

- 6. CBD Masterplan scope** – Bill Baker advised that a presentation had been received from the Consultants for QCC’s CBD Masterplan. Minutes of this meeting have been forwarded to Executive Members. It was also a subject of QBC’s Queanbeyan Age column on 16 May.

The boundary definitions as provided by QCC do not include how the CBD street areas relate to the Showground, Queanbeyan Park or Queanbeyan River. This is of concern to QBC although Mr. Baker made it clear that this did not mean QBC was seeking development on these sites.

Whilst QBC did not advocate development on the Showground site, concern was expressed that, if random minor constructions and/or parking areas within NSW dedication requirements were allowed and if the surface of the Showground was not improved, the facility could deteriorate further to the point where a future, more aggressive, Council could take action that would currently be deemed inappropriate.

Resolved that this committee support the Development Industrial Committee’s resolution of 20 May that it write to QCC expressing its views on this and emphasising that the Masterplan needed to address a co-ordinated approach to community, business and civic functions of the CBD area as a whole, including Queanbeyan park, Showground and River.

ACTION: BB/SMT

- 7. Canberra Times Supplement** – Rod Studholme and Simon Mitchell-Taverner will attend a Meeting with Canberra Times journalist Jessica Cumming at the VIC on Thursday, 22 May at 3 pm. Members of the Development Industrial Committee will also attend.

ACTION: RS/SMT

- 8. Future Guests – Resolved** that a Mayoral candidate be invited to the next Tourism Retail meeting

ACTION - SMT

- 9. Queanbeyan Age ‘nothing to do’ comments** – Bill Baker commented on “Streettalk” column page 10 Queanbeyan Age May 16. This gave a negative impression of “main tourist attractions in Queanbeyan”. The VIC needs to respond with the view that Queanbeyan has many attractions including Buildings, Parks, River walks, Sporting facilities (Golf, Racing, football codes etc.), art galleries, The Q. National attractions over the border are also Queanbeyan attractions.

Resolved that a media release be sent to Queanbeyan Age outlining local attractions and easy access to national attractions over the border.

ACTION: SMT

10. General Business –

- a. Canberra Technology City** – Bill Baker spoke of a briefing by consultants for this project. Minutes of the meeting have been distributed to Executive members and been the subject of last Friday’s Queanbeyan Age column, which has been distributed to all Members.
- b. Murrumbidgee Googong Pipeline** – Kath Elliott of Actew will be invited to QBC Executive Meeting on 27 May to discuss this project.

Meeting Closed 1.30 pm

Next Committee Meeting – Wednesday, 18 June. 12.30 pm at VIC

Next Executive Meeting – Tuesday, 27 May at 12.30 pm at Queanbeyan Golf Club.