



DRAFT SUMMARY
MEETING QUEANBEYAN CITY COUNCIL AND QUEANBEYAN
BUSINESS COUNCIL 15TH AUGUST 2006

Present:

QCC – Mayor Frank Pangallo MBE, Cr. Ann Rocca, Cr. Raewyn Bastion, Cr. Sue Jarvis, Cr. Tom Mavec, Cr. Sue Whelan, Cr. Tim Overall, General Manager Graham Taylor, Gary Chapman, Lisa Gibson, Jenny Grinlinton, David Carswell.

QBC – President Ian McNamee, Craig Harris, Rod Studholme, Colin Maxwell, Jan Browne, Loyd Perin, Simon Mitchell-Taverner, Ian McGinn – **Apologies** - Bill Baker, Maurice McCormack, Nick Moufarrige

1. QUEANBEYAN VIC OPERATIONS FEBRUARY TO JULY 2006

Report had been delivered to Council management for prior distribution to Councillors. The Report was based on criteria established as part of the original Agreement between Queanbeyan City Council and Queanbeyan Business Council, however it was stated by Ian McNamee that the numbers and statistics covered a very early period of QBC operations. In answer to a question from Cr. Mavec, Simon Mitchell-Taverner advised that the Canberra Tourism Services figures did not represent absolute numbers but were from ABS sampling. QBC purchases this independent report concerning Queanbeyan accommodation from Canberra Tourism Services who analyse the ABS figures. Riverside Plaza figures represent both pedestrian traffic flow within the Centre and retail sales, representing variations to the equivalent month in 2005. Absolute figures are not available.

Average room occupancy rate for Queanbeyan motels was 52% for the quarter. Whilst ACT occupancy rates are “amongst the highest in the country”, Queanbeyan occupancy rates have historically been considerably lower.

Comments raised by both QCC and QBC representatives on the need for the moteliere to keep their star rating up. Also noted that the moteliere need to contribute to their own wellbeing

Queanbeyan Business Council will:

- Fine tune reporting figures for later reports – including comparisons of occupancy rates between ACT and Queanbeyan.
- Report to Queanbeyan City Council when completing accreditation reports for NSW Department of Tourism.

2. VIC WEB SITE

Lisa Gibson advised that IT staff would visit QBC shortly to facilitate ongoing web site maintenance by QBC staff. Under any such arrangement, QCC would act as Web Administrator. There would be no perceived strain on Council resources or any security implication.

3. ROADS

Ian McNamee noted that Roads appeared to be off the Agenda for major Parties during the upcoming election campaign. Mayor Pangallo assured QBC that the roads issue was very much on Council's agenda. Following a Council Workshop, QCC had given a verbal and written presentation to NSW Cabinet *on 1 August 2006* and is making this submission available to all Candidates.

- **Queanbeyan City Council will make this report available to QBC.**

Loyd Perin stated that he had, on behalf of QBC, made regular contact with ACT Government concerning Roads to recovery funding for Lanyon Drive duplication and that this is progressing. He felt, however, less comfortable with similar talks with NSW RTA. Mayor Pangallo has communicated with ACT Minister John Hargreaves on this issue with the expectation that Lanyon Drive work will proceed in 2007., whilst Cr. Whelan reported 'fairly encouraging' talks with NSW RTA whilst representing SEATS.

- **It was suggested that ongoing dialogue be held with ACT and RTA.**

4. COUNCIL COMMITTEES

Queanbeyan City Council will review Committees at its second meeting in September. It is anticipated that Committee positions will be advertised for community representatives in October 2006 and new Committee Members will take up their positions in January 2007.

- **Queanbeyan Business Council expressed interest in membership of appropriate Committees.**

5. CBD MASTER PLAN

David Carswell advised that this had not yet commenced but work would begin shortly. Rutledge Block Plan is, however, underway in conjunction with Queanbeyan Leagues Club.

- **Report on Rutledge Plan is expected to Council in approximately six weeks.**

6. LOCAL ENVIRONMENT PLAN (LEP)

David Carswell advised work underway and was required to be **completed by December 2007.**

7. ENTRANCES TO QUEANBEYAN

Gary Chapman advised that early investigation of Yass Road entrance was proceeding and design work underway. Work on the section from the railway bridge to Aurora Avenue traffic lights should proceed in Autumn 2007. Council has \$70,000 for this project. Parking problems in Yass Road need to be addressed as previous landscaping has been destroyed by business parking.

- **A report to CBD Lift Committee will be presented by October.**

- **Recommended that QCC write to State Rail and Minister regarding an upgrade to the railway bridge.**

8. CIVIC GUIDE MAPS

Ian McNamee noted that many of these maps are poorly placed and some are eyesores with poor public amenity. Council gets no revenue, and in fact pays for advertising on these maps. He requested that QBC and QCC combine resources to investigate locations with improved access and lighting with the possibility that QBC manage the sites after current contractual arrangements are completed.

- **QCC to refer this matter to CBD LIFT Committee.**

9. INDOOR SPORTING FACILITY

Jan Browne referred Councillors to a letter sent by Queanbeyan Basketball Association. The Association is looking for new premises and has money for this purpose, recommending consideration of a larger building to service these needs, as well as the needs of the current proposal for an indoor sporting facility. Queanbeyan Business Council's viewpoint is that Council should look at the needs of all sporting groups before committing to plans at either Showgrounds or Hoover Road.

10. QUEANBEYAN IN BLOOM

Ian McNamee noted that the media launch for Queanbeyan in Bloom will be held at Queanbeyan VIC on 1st September 2006.

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