

**QUEANBEYAN BUSINESS COUNCIL
MINUTES
TOURISM RETAIL SUB COMMITTEE MEETING
VISITOR INFORMATION CENTRE
WEDNESDAY, 16 SEPTEMBER 2009 12.30 PM**

Present: Bill Baker, Alan Carpenter, Neil Kennedy, Chris Gibson

Apologies: Steve Jamieson, Jan Browne, Hilary Jacobs, Frances Heskett, Jeremy Wyatt, Lydia Teodorowych, Paul Williams, Mal Motum

1. **Welcome from Chair** – Bill Baker welcomed attendees including representatives of businesses in the CBD. He explained the role of the QBC for the non members.
2. **CBD Master Plan** –The President provided comment on the comments on the CBD Master plan response and information was provided on the current situation. The Queanbeyan City Council has let a tender for deign work to be carried out on Monaro Street between Morisset and Monaro in accordance with the Master Plan. This is the first stage in the implementation of the Plan. The tender has also indicated a process which involves consultation with business. The first stage begins on the 22nd of September with business and stakeholder input.
3. **Riverside Plaza-** The EO listed the marketing activities to be held in Riverside Plaza until the end of the year. The Plaza is to be approached to see if they have a display they wish to place in the VIC.
4. **VIC Report-** The EO indicated that numbers of visitors were up in the VIC since the start of Floriade and accommodation was in short supply. Large number of requests for accommodation by visitors and by phone. The half yearly report to the QCC was being prepared and would include the accommodation figures for the half year as a special request to the consultant. The QCC have been advised and have indicated there agreement.
5. **Business Discount Proposal-** Neil Kennedy outlined his proposal for a local business discount proposal and how it would operate. Discussion indicated that it should be considered in greater detail by the executive with a briefing by the proponent and an action Plan to implement it if accepted. Possibly approach High Schools for a Marketing Plan as a project fro students. Profits to be allocated to schools and Home in Queanbeyan. Has support from businesses approached so far.
6. **General Business-** Alan Carpenter indicated that he intended to nominate for the Capital Country Tourism Board and asked if it would be supported by the QBC. Would be able to provide feedback to the region. The President indicated that the nomination would be of assistance to the region as there was currently no representative from the region.

- a. Retention of staff is an issue for retail business in the area particularly in the age group 18 – 23.

Meeting Closed 2.00 pm
Next Committee Meeting – TBA.