

## **PRESENT**

### **Members:**

Councillor Geoff Hawkins (Deputy Chair)  
Kelly King (Hastings Business Women's Network)  
Paul Dawson (Greater Port Macquarie Tourism Association)  
Anthony Thorne (Hastings Construction Industry Association Inc.)  
Professor Heather Cavanagh (Higher Education)  
Susan East (Camden Haven Chamber of Commerce)  
Hadyn Oriti (Port Macquarie Chamber of Commerce)  
Greg Freeman (Individual)

### **Other Attendees:**

Craig Swift-McNair (General Manager)  
Liesa Davies (Acting Director Strategy & Growth)  
Jane Ellis (Acting Group Manager Economic Development)

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The meeting opened at 8.35am.

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## **01 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY**

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The Acknowledgement of Country was delivered.

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## **02 APOLOGIES**

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### **CONSENSUS:**

That apologies for Councillor Rob Turner, Councillor Mike Cusato, Jeffery Sharp and Peter Halliwell be accepted.

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### **03 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

The Deputy Chair welcomed Mrs Susan East to the meeting, noting her position on the Group was endorsed at the previous Council meeting.

**CONSENSUS:**

That the Minutes of the Economic Development Steering Group Meeting held on 14 March 2018 be confirmed.

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### **04 DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST**

There were no disclosures of interest presented.

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### **05 BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES**

Nil

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### **06 BIENNIAL STRATEGY IMPLEMENTATION UPDATE**

**CONSENSUS:**

That the Group:

1. Note the update on implementation of the 2017-2021 Port Macquarie Hastings Council Economic Development Strategy.
2. Request further consideration be given to the content and reporting method by staff and the Economic and Cultural Development Portfolio Councillors.

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### **07 SMART REGIONAL CITY PLANNING**

**CONSENSUS:**

That the Group agreed to discuss each of the Australian Government's six Smart Cities policy priorities at future meetings (one priority per meeting). In particular, the intent is to consider how each priority relates to identifying local opportunities and challenges, planning for the future, and ensuring we reach our full potential as a smart regional city.

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**08 NEXT MEETING**

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CONSENSUS:

That the Group note the next meeting will be held on Wednesday 9 May 2018 at 8.30am at Council Headquarters.

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**09 GENERAL BUSINESS**

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**09.01 PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY INTO THE INDICATORS OF, AND  
IMPACT OF, REGIONAL INEQUALITY IN AUSTRALIA**

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The Acting Group Manager Economic Development and Communications flagged with the group the above-mentioned Parliamentary Inquiry, noting Council would not be making a submission but others were encouraged to, as deemed relevant. Copies of the [terms of reference](#) were provided and the closing date of 30 April noted.

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The meeting closed at 9.45am.