
PRESENT

Members:

Bruce Hardy
Mitch McKay
Patricia Johnson
Deborah Doyle
Noel Hoffman

Other Attendees:

Yoshiya Sakamoto - Observer
Liesa Davies - Acting Director, Community & Economic Growth
Lucilla Marshall – PMHC Group Manager Community Development
Jenny Mead - PMHC Place Facilitator - Events

The meeting opened at 4:32pm.

01 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

The Acknowledgement of Country was delivered.

02 APOLOGIES

CONSENSUS:

That the apologies received from Councillor Lee Dixon, Chantelle Perkins, Brian Peel, Graham Cooke and Cobi Wentzel be noted and accepted.

03 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

CONSENSUS:

That the Minutes of the Port Macquarie-Handa Sister City Sub-Committee Meeting held on 4 August 2016 be confirmed.

04 DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

There were no disclosures of interest presented.

05 BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

CONSENSUS:

That the information listed in this report be dealt with at the next Handa Sister City Sub-Committee meeting.

06 PROPOSED CHANGES TO COUNCIL COMMITTEES

CONSENSUS:

1. That the Port Macquarie-Handa Sister City Sub-Committee note the information outlined in the report - Proposed Changes to Council Committees, and the verbal information provided at the meeting by both Liesa Davies and Lucilla Marshall.
2. That it be noted that the Handa Sister City Sub-Committee will transition from a formal committee of Council to a working group. The formation of a working group will allow for more appropriate meeting practices and efficiencies.
3. That it be noted that the working group will sit under the proposed Cultural Steering Group. Expressions of Interest are now open for the Cultural Steering Group with applications being accepted until 23 March 2017.
4. It be noted that staff representation to remain involved with the working group.
5. It be noted that the proposed working group has the ability to refer matters up to the Cultural Steering Group for their consideration and if required, reported through to Council. Members of the working group can attend meetings of the Cultural Steering Group to discuss matters as required.
6. That the information outlined by Liesa Davies regarding the Charter and Criteria attached to the proposed Cultural and Steering Group be noted. All members are encouraged to consider applying.

07 GENERAL BUSINESS

07.01 KOALA ORCHESTRA AND HANDA JUNIOR BRASS BAND

Patricia Johnson confirmed that the Koala Orchestra will be travelling to Japan on 2 April 2017 for a three week tour of Japan. It is requested that consideration be given to the purchase of three (3) gifts for presentation during their tour of Japan. Council's Community Events Coordinator to meet Patricia Johnson next week at a mutually agreeable date/time to purchase the gifts accordingly.

Patricia also advised that approximately 30 members of the Handa Junior Brass Band will be travelling to Port Macquarie arriving on the 16 August 2017 and departing on 21 August 2017.

Venue for the proposed combined concert with the Hastings Koala Orchestra and Handa Junior Brass Band will be a venue located within the St Columba Anglican School premises with the backup venue being Panther's auditorium.

07.02 EMAIL FROM NIHON FUKUSHI UNIVERSITY

Bruce Hardy outlined details of an email he had received from Nihon Fukushi University regarding a pending visit to Port Macquarie by one of the university's Professors.

Liesa Davies advised that Council had also received the same email and was working towards accommodating the requests outlined in the email from Director General Nakano. Bruce Hardy indicated that he would reply to Director General Nakano advising that Council would be liaising with him directly regarding his requests concerning Professor Ogura.

07.03 DASHI FESTIVAL

Mr Bruce Hardy enquired if Council had received an invitation to send representatives to attend the upcoming Dashi Festival to be held in October. General discussion took place regarding the Dashi Festival which occurs every five (5) years in Handa City, Japan.

Liesa Davies advised that an invitation had been received by Council and it is understood that the Mayor - Councillor Peter Besseling and a representative from Council's Economic Development Steering Group are proposing to attend. Council was also exploring the possibility of a small trade delegation visiting at the same time.

Both Bruce Hardy and Patricia Johnson outlined their concerns for Council considering sending more representatives than the invitation detailed, especially during the Dashi Festival, as in the past, sending additional attendees has caused some concern for Handa City. Handa City has three Sister City Relationships; Xu Ing in China, Michigan in the USA and Port Macquarie in Australia. Three delegates from each city is extended an invitation to attend the Dashi Festival to participate in the celebrations planned. It is suggested that should Council wish to plan a trade delegation to travel to Handa this be done at another time away from the Dashi Festival. Council staff will raise the issue with the appropriate portfolio Councillors.

07.04 APRIL MEETING

Deb Doyle advised that she will be unavailable to attend the meeting proposed for April. Bruce Hardy and Patricia Johnson also advised that they will be unavailable to meet in April.

Following the above, the decision was reached to cancel the meeting set down for 13 April 2017. Email to be forwarded to all committee members.

Council's Community Events Coordinator to liaise directly with the representative of Hastings Secondary College regarding the upcoming Handa Higashi Senior School Study Tour proposed for July and advise the representative of the cancellation of the April Meeting. An invitation to attend the May meeting will be extended.

The meeting closed at 5:20pm.