

PRESENT

Members:

Councillor Rob Turner
Councillor Trevor Sargeant
Councillor Mike Cusato
Kelly Lamb (Hastings Business Women's Network)
Ross Cargill (Mid North Coast NSW Business Chamber)
Joy Corben (Port Macquarie-Hastings Education and Skills Forum)
Kathryn Balodis (Greater Port Macquarie Tourism Association)
Anthony Thorne (Hastings Construction Industry Association Inc.)
John Saunders (Camden Haven Chamber of Commerce & Industry)
Jill Follington (Industry Mid North Coast)

Other Attendees:

Craig Swift-McNair (General Manager)
Rebecca Olsen (Acting Director Corporate Services and Industry Engagement)
Liesa Davies (Group Manager Economic Development)

The meeting opened at 8.35am.

01 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

The Acknowledgement of Country was delivered.

02 APOLOGIES

CONSENSUS:

That the apologies for Councillor Peter Besseling (Mayor), Haydn Oriti (Port Macquarie Chamber of Commerce), Lisa McPherson (Chambers of Commerce in Port Macquarie & Wauchope) be accepted.

03 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

CONSENSUS:

That the Minutes of the Economic Development Steering Group Meeting held on 10 September 2014 be confirmed with the following amendment:

1. Remove the following members from the present listing as they were not present:
Haydn Oriti (Port Macquarie Chamber of Commerce)
Jill Follington (Industry Mid North Coast)
2. Remove Dr. Muyesser Durur (Higher Education) from the present listing as she is no longer a member.

04 DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

Tony Thorne asked the Committee to note his interest in item 06 (Infrastructure Gap Analysis), as representative of land owners who may be affected by any southern link road development. This was acknowledged by the Committee.

05 BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

ITEM 06 - 10.09.2014 - COMMITTEE VACANCY:

CONSENSUS:

That the item be removed as it is addressed at this meeting.

ITEM 09.01 - 10.09.2014 - COMMITTEE VACANCY:

CONSENSUS:

That the item be removed as it is addressed at this meeting.

ITEM 09.02 - 10.09.2014 - COMMITTEE VACANCY:

CONSENSUS:

The Committee agreed that Council staff would review the Economic Development Steering Group terms of reference to ensure it:

- Supports appropriate representatives of key industries now identified in the Economic Development Strategy.

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- Has provision for the filling of Committee vacancies, should an individual step down.
 - Is appropriate in terms of the tenure of existing members.
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06 INFRASTRUCTURE GAP ANALYSIS

CONSENSUS:

The Committee noted the Infrastructure Gap Analysis report from PSA Consulting. Whilst there were some differing opinions about specific elements represented in the report, overall it was commended as an important tool for future planning. It was agreed that the Economic Development Steering Group would formalise key priorities and opinions on the report for presentation to Council at the November EDSG meeting.

07 MANUFACTURING INDUSTRY ACTION PLAN

CONSENSUS:

The Committee agreed that Council should undertake further discussion with regional stakeholders, with a view to developing the action plan on a regional basis. The Economic Development Steering Group to be kept informed of progress via monthly Economic Development Strategy implementation update.

08 SMALL BUSINESS FRIENDLY COUNCIL PROGRAM

CONSENSUS:

The Committee noted and supported Council's participation in the 12 month trial of the Small Business Friendly Councils Program. A further update is to be provided on business improvement initiatives and current procurement practices at the December 2014 meeting.

09 BUSINESS CONFIDENCE SURVEY RESULTS

CONSENSUS:

The Committee noted the overview of the second wave survey results. They encouraged widespread publication and presentation of the results as a means to encourage local business interest in and support for future surveys.

10 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS

CONSENSUS:

The Economic Development Steering Group noted progress related to the Economic Development Strategy implementation.

11 GENERAL BUSINESS

Nil.

The meeting closed at 10.15am.