

PRESENT

Members:

Mayor Peter Besseling
Councillor Trevor Sargeant
Bruce Hardy
Mitch McKay
Patricia Johnson
Deborah Doyle
Noel Hoffman
Corbi Wentzell

Other Attendees:

Lucilla Marshall – PMHC Group Manager Community Development
Jenny Mead - PMHC Place Facilitator - Events

The meeting opened at 4.30pm.

01 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

The Acknowledgement of Country was delivered.

02 APOLOGIES

CONSENSUS:

That the apologies received from Brian Peel, Graeme Cook and Chantelle Perkins be accepted.

03 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

CONSENSUS:

That the Minutes of the Port Macquarie-Handa Sister City Sub-Committee Meeting held on 6 August 2015 be confirmed.

04 DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

There were no disclosures of interest presented.

05 BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

CONSENSUS:

That the Sub-Committee note the information contained in the report item 05- Business Arising from Previous Minutes.

06 2015/2016 INCOME AND EXPENDITURE REPORT

CONSENSUS:

1. That the Sub-Committee note the information outlined in the 2015 income and Expenditure Report and verbal update provided by Council's Place Facilitator - Events.
2. That following discussions with John Cassegrain regarding the Commemorative wine produced in relation to the 25th Anniversary celebrations, Council's Place Facilitator - Events provide feedback to the Sub-Committee.
3. That once all accounts have been finalised that Council's Place Facilitator - Events send an email out to the Sub-Committee advising total expenditure in relation to the 25th Anniversary celebrations.

07 2015 HANDA HIGASHI SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDY TOUR

CONSENSUS:

1. That the Sub-Committee note and discuss the information contained in the 2015 Handa Higashi Senior High School Study Tour report.
2. In an effort to boost responses to the Host Family survey, that Council's Place Facilitator - Events arrange for sufficient hard copies of the survey to be forwarded to the Japanese Teacher at St Columba Anglican School for distribution to the Host students of this year's study tour group.
3. That the Sub-Committee members bring back to the first meeting in 2016 ideas for the 2016 Study Tour itinerary.
4. That Councillor Sargeant arrange to meet with representatives of Billabong Wildlife Zoo prior to the first meeting in 2016 to discuss inclusions and entry price for the 2016 Study Tour Group.

08 UPCOMING 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE PORT MACQUARIE-HANDA SISTER CITY AGREEMENT

CONSENSUS:

1. That the information outlined in the 25th Anniversary of the Port Macquarie-Handa Sister City Agreement report and verbal updates provided at the meeting be noted.
2. That the Sub-Committee note that all feedback received regarding the four day visit by the Mayor of Handa, his entourage and the unofficial guests was that the entire tour was very successful. The inclusion of Blokes Notes and performance by the Birpai Dance Group at the final Glasshouse event added to the overall success of the tour.
3. It be noted that since the groups departure an email has been received by Patricia Johnson OAM from a member of the Handa International Travel Association to say thank you.
4. That Council's Place Facilitator - Events arrange "thank you" gifts for both volunteer interpreters, and the volunteer bus driver.
5. That Council's Place Facilitator - Events prepare a letter for the Mayor's signature thanking MacKillop Senior College Campus Principal for hosting the 14 year old student from Handa during his recent visit to Port Macquarie as a member of the unofficial visitors from our Sister City in Japan.

09 2015/2016 MEETING DATES

CONSENSUS:

That the Sub-Committee members note that this is the last meeting scheduled for 2015. The first meeting for 2016 will be scheduled for early March 2016.

10 GENERAL BUSINESS

10.01 Tour of Japan:

The Mayor advised that Sharon Green is interested in arranging a tour of Japan which she is hoping to include a 1 or 2 day visit in Handa and is seeking a contact in Handa to assist with arrangements. Council's Place Facilitator - Events to forward Tomo Matsuishi's contact details to the Mayor's office. Mayor's office to then prepare a letter of introduction for Sharon Green. Mr Tomo Matsuishi and Sharon Green to liaise directly with each other regarding the upcoming tour arrangements

10.2 CLAIR Representatives:

The Mayor advised the Sub-Committee that the two CLAIR representatives that were invited and attended the 25th Anniversary celebration at the Glasshouse commented to him that were very impressed with our Sister City Relationship and are keen to follow our

progress especially in relation to our attempts to strengthen the relationship through economic trade.

The Mayor left the meeting at 5.05pm.

10.03 Trip by Heritage Christian School:

Yoshiya advised the Sub-Committee that he will be taking a Year 6 class from his school to Japan and will also be hoping to include a visit to Handa during the trip.

10.04 Expressions of interest from other schools to host:

General discussion took place surrounding schools in the LGA and offer to host future study tours beyond 2016. It was determined that an approach be made to high schools throughout the LGA seeking their interest in hosting future Study Groups from our Sister City next year, with this item to be relisted in the Agenda for the first meeting to be scheduled for March 2016.

10.05 Koala Orchestra:

Patricia Johnson OAM advised the Sub-Committee that the Koala Orchestra are planning their next visit to Handa to take place in April 2017. An invitation is extended to any members of the Sub-Committee to accompany them on this trip to Japan. Any members taking up this offer to join the Koala Orchestra on this 3 week trip are responsible for meeting their associated travel costs.

10.6 Glasshouse Galley Exhibition:

Council's Place Facilitator - Events to contact the Sub-Committee members to ascertain their availability to assist in the pack-down of the "Handa by the Sea" exhibition currently on exhibition at the Glasshouse until 13 September 2015. Discussions to be held with the Glasshouse to determine what level of assistance is required to pack-down and catalogue the exhibited items to enable the details to be captured for future reference.

The meeting closed at 5.25pm.