
PRESENT

Councillor Rob Turner
Councillor Trevor Sargeant
Karen Archer (Hastings Business Women’s Network)
Ross Cargill (Mid North Coast NSW Business Chamber)
Joy Corben (Port Macquarie-Hastings Education and Skills Forum)
Rob Hamilton (Greater Port Macquarie Tourism Association)
Anthony Thorne (Hastings Construction Industry Association Inc.)
John Saunders (Camden Haven Chamber of Commerce & Industry)
Professor Heather Cavanagh (Higher Education)
Haydn Oriti (Port Macquarie Chamber of Commerce)
Jill Follington (Industry Mid North Coast)
Belinda Richardson (Independent)

Other Attendees:

Craig Swift-McNair (General Manager)
Tricia Bulic (Director Community & Economic Growth)
Liesa Davies (Group Manager Economic Development)

Guests:

Ashley Grummitt (Group Manager, Commercial and Business Services)
Paul Arrighi (Graphic Designer)

The meeting opened at 8.30am.

01 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

The Acknowledgement of Country was delivered.

02 APOLOGIES

CONSENSUS:

That the apology received from Councillor Mike Cusato be accepted.

03 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

CONSENSUS:

That the Minutes of the Economic Development Steering Group Meeting held on 6 April 2016 be confirmed.

04 DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

There were no disclosures of interest presented.

05 BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

ITEM 08 03/02/2016 - ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY - QUARTERLY IMPLEMENTATION UPDATE

Quarterly updates against the four key priorities for 2016 be presented to future Economic Development Steering Group meetings, commencing April 2016.

- Next update on this item due at the EDSG Meeting on 06 July 2016.

ITEM 07 06/06/2016 - BUSINESS CONFIDENCE SURVEY RESULTS

That this item (as it related to questions around local procurement) be discussed by the Economic Development Steering Group by Group Manager, Commercial and Business Services, along with Item 10 of the agenda - Outdoor Dining.

- Item to be removed from the agenda.

ITEM 09 02/03/2016 - TOWNS AND VILLAGES ENTRANCE SIGNAGE WORKING GROUP

That the Economic Development Steering Group note the progress update by the Towns and Villages Entrance Signage Working Group.

- Item to be removed from the agenda.

ITEM 10 06/04/2016 - RENTAL PROPERTY SUPPLY

That the Economic Development Steering Group discuss the student accommodation uptake rate at the May 2016 Economic Development Steering Group meeting.

ITEM 11 06/04/2016 - ADVOCACY ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT MATTERS

That this item be discussed by the Economic Development Steering Group along with Item 07 of the agenda - Major Infrastructure and Other Advocacy.

06 FEEDBACK ON DRAFT CULTURAL PLAN

Councillor Trevor Sargeant and Director Community & Economic Growth provided an overview of the development of the Draft Cultural Plan, overseen by the Heritage Arts and

Culture Priorities Advisory Group, and discussed plans for the Draft Cultural Plan to go to Council and on exhibition in June 2016.

The Group indicated strong support for the plan and the importance as it relates to business and creative industries.

The Group provided feedback around the opportunity to include more detail on potential partnerships with education institutions and the value of town centre activations involving creative industry and business partnerships.

CONSENSUS:

That the Economic Development Steering Group support the draft plan and note the opportunity to provide further feedback during the Draft Cultural Plan exhibition period.

07 MAJOR INFRASTRUCTURE AND OTHER ADVOCACY

The General Manager discussed the exchange of correspondence with Member for Port Macquarie regarding funding for the Orbital Road Feasibility Study and the absence of Federal Government funding avenues for this study.

CONSENSUS:

1. That correspondence be written from the Economic Development Steering Group Chair to the Federal Members for Lyne and Cowper, on the Orbital Road and Town Green Upgrade projects.
 2. That the Member for Port Macquarie be invited to brief the Economic Steering Group on State Government economic development initiatives such as the Jobs NSW Program.
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08 TOWNS AND VILLAGES ENTRANCE SIGNAGE

Councillor Turner noted the work undertaken by the Towns and Villages Signage Working Group and invited Paul Arrighi to present the proposed 3-tier signage concept.

The Group commended the work of Mr Arrighi and the Towns and Villages Signage Working Group.

CONSENSUS:

1. That the Economic Development Steering Group unanimously support the concept presented.
 2. That the Economic Development Steering Group note the opportunity for the signage concept to demonstrate a strong connection with our region's places.
 3. That the Economic Development Steering Group encourage early progress to the design costing, funding and implementation stage.
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09 RENTAL PROPERTIES AND STUDENT ACCOMODATION UPTAKE

CONSENSUS:

That this item be deferred to the June 2016 Economic Development Steering Group meeting due to time constraints.

10 OUTDOOR DINING

The Group Manager Commercial and Business Services updated the Group on recent work around Council's Outdoor Dining Policy and Procedure and provided an update on Council's procurement strategy to assist local business.

CONSENSUS:

In relation to Outdoor Dining, the Group noted:

1. That the promotion of waiver of fees for new outdoor dining applications (outside Port Macquarie) would commence during May, with the trial to officially start 1 July 2016.
2. That updates to Council's Outdoor Dining Procedure/Guideline were nearing completion.
3. That Council is open to consideration of flexible outdoor dining/retailing on a case-by-case basis.
4. That further work is required if a formal trial or policy on footpath retailing is to be adopted.

CONSENSUS:

In relation to Local Procurement:

That the Economic Development Steering Group note the work carried out over the last 18 months on how Council procures from /supports local business.

11 LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY INQUIRY INTO ZONAL TAXATION

CONSENSUS:

That the Group Manager Economic Development draft a submission to the inquiry and circulate to members of the Economic Development Steering Group for comment.

12 GENERAL BUSINESS

Nil.

The meeting closed at 10.12am.