



NIMBIN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE Inc
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MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MINUTES

Monday 02 November 2020 at Nimbin Law

Meeting commenced 1730hrs

Acknowledgment of Country

1. **MINUTE TAKER:** David Spain
2. **COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:** Diana Roberts [President], Teresa Biscoe [Vice President], Peter Hughes [Treasurer], David Spain [Secretary], Stephanie Seckold, Kylie Cain, Samantha Allen, Caroline Todd **Apologies:** --- **Absent:** ---

3. **CHAIRPERSON:** Diana Roberts

4. **NON-CONTENTIOUS ANNOUNCEMENTS / CONFLICTS OF INTEREST:**

Biskit advised that 2023 is the 50th anniversary of Aquarius festival and the founding of various communities.

5. **MINUTES OF LAST COMMITTEE MEETING :**

The chairperson traversed the draft minutes of last committee meeting.

Diana / Kylie	That the draft minutes of 12-10-2020 be accepted	Carried
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6. **BUSINESS ARISING FROM LAST COMMITTEE MINUTES:**

Shared Spaces Template: LCC has approved the stencil and is making it. They will supply paint (gold colour). Caroline will attend to applying the stencil to pavements, after liaison with adjacent proprietors.

Small Business Bushfire Recovery Funding: A joint State - Federal funding program was not extended to Nimbin as only a council could apply but LCC failed to do so -- although it did itself get \$145,000 bushfire tourism-funding impact. Secretary to write to John Baliaro asking for a special dispensation to be included in the second tranche.

Daizy's Mural: Benny Zable has not done anything, and has not been asked to (other than star above emporium). So Biskit will refresh instructions to Elspeth to refresh the mural above Daisy's.

Walking Trail: Diana is liaising with LCC and state officers regarding obtaining a grant of some \$700k-\$800k for Stage 1 (construction from 11a Alternative Way, past Headers to 12 Cecil Street), relations with the developer and who will own the land. It would be best if the grant came to NNIC rather than LCC but insurance would be a big issue (on skate park is \$16,000 pa). An offer has been accepted on 12 Cecil Street but the potential incoming-owner has indicated willingness for walkway to proceed. As regards 11a Alternative Way, RPC is still interested in purchasing but might subdivide or do a boundary adjustment with NCCI.

LCC LEP Review: We need to make a further submission for low impact visitor attractions such as alternative technology, bushwalks, permaculture tours, art & craft trails, open gardens & farm stays to be permitted or permissible under LEP.

ST VINNIES Are definitely not reopening Op Shop but are considering what to do.

7. CORRESPONDENCE: Correspondence

From / To	Subject	Response / Action
DFT	Post-Covid requirements	
NCOC	Tourism Consultation Attendees	[List]
Tash Fuller	Location of VIC	See Minutes
Roger Foley-Fogg	Lighting Issues	See Minutes
COSBOA	Buy Local Toolkit	
Paula Newman	LCC Strategic Planning -- DCP	See Minutes
Corporate to Community	Business Resilience Grant	Nil as competitor
Kevin Hogan MP	Grants	Being sought
LCC	Footpath Stencil (Spacing)	See Minutes
Vinnies (To)	Closure of Op-Shop	See Minutes
LCC (To)	promotion of Rural Tourism	See Minutes

8. BUSINESS ARISING FROM CORRESPONDENCE: See minute items.

Resilience Program: NC BC is working with LCC to develop a Resilience program, to be administered by LCC and local business chambers, seeking a Grant to help analyse & structure businesses to deal with floods, fire and other disasters. Secretary to write supporting proposal.

Stage 2 lighting delay have to get a further grant – NCOC to arrange John to check system before Christmas.

Biskit / Kylie	That we engage John Wrigley to do annual maintenance check on the lighting system as suggested by Roger Foley-Fogg	Carried
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9. TREASURER’S REPORT (Tabled, Accepted).

The only significant was the Small Business Grant for the VIC survey & report. \$350 was paid for hall hire. The hall (Nimbin School of Arts Inc.) will be paying \$1000 off their share for mural retouching

Peter / Kylie	That the Financial Statement be accepted	Carried
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10. MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS:

The following applications were received and admitted to membership:

Peter / Biko	Jodee Tichbourne, Pot of Gold	Carried
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11. AGM & PRESIDENCY

The Committee reaffirmed delay in AGM until November 2021, on basis of general DFT permit (due to Covid).

Diana has been spending 2 days pw doing president stuff and, after 2 years, is reluctant to continue, except maybe until the AGM. Attending meetings at Ballina etc. takes a lot of effort but does bring serious respect & gravity. Biskit said Diana had been extremely dynamic and we have to think seriously about who could succeed her. The committee gratefully accepted Diana’s offer to stay on until the next AGM.

12. **MOBILE LIBRARY** Richmond-Tweed Regional Library needs to save costs and is exploring other options. Its library truck is at end of life and very expensive to replace, difficult to park & turn, but will be here for another 3 years. Smaller vans are a future possibility. Shelley Oldham advises LCC is considering grant application to get a permanent library in Nimbin (maybe at Anglican Church or showground).

13. **GENERAL MEETING (PUBLIC) ABOUT VIC [29 October 2020]**

Jane Laverty facilitated. Cherie Pugh advised that major funding would be required for a new VIC and walking trail and setting up workshop tours for promotion on website. We need tourists (especially older ones) to see Nimbin as clean, safe & relaxed, as close to nature, as reacting positively with locals, as enjoying unusual new experiences (like acupuncture). The VIC should aim at increasing stay, yield from tourists, needs paid co-ordinator. Need organized coach tours going thru workshops, best practice website, unique product (such as the proposed Rainbow Trail), tear off maps. There would be 3 major themes for the website and promotion – environmental, indigenous, commercial. A final report will go to the grant funders.

Diana said the public survey overwhelmingly endorsed a physical VIC. Grants may be available for VIC setup in towns that have lost their international tourists due to Covid. Whilst we have no thorough surveys and rely on anecdotes, we need to address a professional, cashed-up demographic that is interested in trails. We should organize a demographic survey of tourists, over the Christmas period. LCC may transfer us their “Visit Nimbin” website; we need to incorporate it into our own website (cost \$1650) but we can replicate it using better images. We should apply for funding to develop & maintain a website, signage & brochure; these serve all businesses. Aurelie or Jeff would be good for this job of developing & maintaining the website. The website could be so good that businesses pay to be on it. It was agreed that Biskit & Steph would work on draft signage & brochures (on Nimbin alone, not specific drives & trails) to support the grant application.

Establishing a physical VIC is a very different proposition to a website. We need a venue. LCC will let us use their VIC accreditation (until next June) if we can present a venue. Diana suggested that 7 Sibley Street could probably never be viable as an approvable VIC venue as it is small with no parking or toilets. We may get funding to setup a physical VIC, but this is major as it has to be funded for ongoing operation including a paid coordinator. VICs are not profit-making; funding one is beyond the capacity of NCOC.

Bush Theatre is larger and does have parking. It now has LCC approval to operate a shop. But LCC says a VIC is a change of use, necessitating public toilets and sealing the carpark. Possibly the complex would help fund driving of a VIC there, especially if run by volunteers under a BT employee. We could retain ownership of fitout and sale of paraphernalia.

Caroline said 7 Sibley would be best venue, and community-owned (so no-one profits from on-sale) but approval & setup costs are prohibitive. There is no need for a physical place. A good website can achieve much of this service. Signage (of historical spots etc.), maps & brochure can communicate much info. Biskit endorsed a physical centre, which would have to be at Bush Theatre, so long as there is an MOU binding the owners there.

Biskit/ Steph	That the Chamber conduct a visitor survey during January 2021 and ask Cherie Pugh to draft the questions, with Finlay Hoolihan to conduct same at \$15ph	Carried
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End: 1945 hrs

Next Meeting: Monday 07--12-2020

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