
**MINUTES OF THE NOWRA CBD REVITALISATION STRATEGY COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD ON WEDNESDAY 20 JANUARY 2016 IN JERVIS BAY ROOM 1, LEVEL 3, CITY
ADMINISTRATIVE CENTRE, BRIDGE ROAD, NOWRA COMMENCING AT 4.05 PM**

The following members were present:

Grant Gleeson – Chairperson
Brendan Goddard
Mark Crowther
Annie Aldous
James Caldwell
Sivan Agam
Jessica Rippon – General Manager’s Nominee
Tim Fletcher - Director Planning and Development
Ben Stewart – Director Assets & Works

Others present:

Clr Gash
Clr Kearney
Clr White
Clr Kitchener
Rhonda McGuire, Nowra Alive CBD Coordinator
Gordon Clark – Strategic Planning Manager
Michael Park – Planner, Strategy North
Roslyn Holmes – Unit Manager, City Design and Services

Apologies:

Apologies were received from Russ Pigg, George Parker

1. New Committee Member

The Chair welcomed the new Community member, Sivan Agam.

2. Minutes of Previous Meeting

MOTION

Moved: Grant Gleeson / Second: Annie Aldous

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the meeting of the Nowra CBD Revitalisation Strategy Committee held on Monday 7 December 2015 be confirmed.

CARRIED

3. Additional Item – Grant Gleeson: Membership

File 50242E

Grant raised for the Committee’s information that he will no longer be a CBD business owner from 1 March 2016. Under the Terms of Reference, his committee membership is that of a CBD Business Owner/Operator, therefore he may not continue as the Chairperson or a member.

Nowra CBD Car Parking Study - Members discussed the report, in particular the east / west utilisation.

It was noted that as the report is on public exhibition, any concerns may be raised as part of the consultation process.

Action – Ben Stewart to liaise with the Manager, Traffic and Transport and Mark Crowther regarding meeting to discuss the Nowra CBD Car Parking Study Report.

GENERAL BUSINESS

Rhonda McGuire, Nowra Alive CBD Coordinator, tabled the following reports for the Committee's information and provided an update.

- Coordinator's Report
- Media Coverage for Nowra CBD
- Best Dressed Window & Foyer – Radio promotion with 2ST and PowerFM

The best dressed window and foyer promotion was very successful, with many positive comments received. Shops reported being busier this year, leading up to Christmas, than last year. The fairy lights also received many positive comments.

It was noted that the fairy lights used most of the lighting budget with minimal available for the mini flood lighting. The mini flood lights have been installed but are not effective.

Action – Ben Stewart to investigate black paint flaking off lighting poles.

An upcoming edition of the South Coast Style magazine will promote the Nowra CBD.

Members discussed future opportunities and the need for an 18 month/2 year plan.

The Nowra Alive CBD Coordinator recommended that a report on the outcome of the survey be provided to those who contributed feedback (some feedback included the environment around the Stuart Place bus depot). The report will be ready to be released in around 2 weeks.

It was noted that a National Stronger Regions Fund grant proposal will be put together for Council's consideration. Projects in the Nowra CBD will be nominated for consideration. Grant funding must be matched on at least a dollar for dollar basis.

The Committee discussed:

- CBD retailer's support and the importance of demonstrating to the community the achievements to date and what needs to be done in the short term.
- Need "buy-in" at the local level.
- The need for Nowra CBD to be a destination for reasons other than shopping.
- Way finding signs and alternatives such as directions on roadway and paths instead of road signs.

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- How to measure success, for example, no empty shops.

MOTION:

Moved: Grant Gleeson / Second: Brendon Goddard

RESOLVED that the Nowra CBD Revitalisation Strategy Committee

- a) Receive the Nowra Alive CBD Coordinator's report for information
- b) Request the Nowra Alive CBD Coordinator provide the completed report and executive summary prior to the next Committee meeting
- c) Schedule a Committee meeting in February to discuss the report and determine the way forward

CARRIED

6. Kinghorne Street Footpath Upgrade / Kerb Line Extension File 49356E, 7483E, 47827E

The Unit Manager, City Design and Services provided an update. Work start date will be no later than 7 February 2016 and shopkeepers have been advised that work will probably extend into the Easter period. There will also be night work. A media release will go out to assure the community that the shops will be open for business during this time. Issues raised by shopkeepers will be addressed.

Action: Unit Manager, City Design and Services to follow up rollout of the NBN in the CBD and advise the Committee.

Members discussed possible moveable parklets for use in Kinghorne Street and blisters.

MOTION:

Moved: Grant Gleeson / Second: Annie Aldous

RESOLVED that the Nowra CBD Revitalisation Strategy Committee

- a) Confirm the approved current plan of work for the Kinghorne Street Footpath upgrade to enable it to proceed.
- b) Request Council investigate options for the provision of a moveable parklet for use in Kinghorne Street.

CARRIED

7. Additional Item – Twilight Junction Street Markets File 51811E

Development Approval for the Twilight Junction Street Markets has been issued. Members discussed ability for shop owners trading on the footpath.

It was noted that the \$3000 funding has not yet been fully expended, and may be utilised, for example, consideration for traffic control if required. Any remaining funds will come back to the committee's funds.

Action: Peter Russell, Integrity Real Estate, be invited to attend the next Nowra CBD Revitalisation Strategy Committee meeting to provide an update on the Twilight Junction Street Markets.

8. Additional Item – Suggested Sites for Murals File 49356E, 6185E

The Nowra Alive CBD Coordinator advised that the following suggestions for sites for murals in the CBD have been made:

- The old Telstra Building facing Stewart Place carpark
- The wall facing Quest Apartments on the EyeQ Peter Rose's optometrists
- The brick wall as an entry into the arcade near Woolworths and below Jelly Bean Park.

It was noted that there has been an offer of a renowned artist to visit Shoalhaven to undertake another large wall mural. Investigation is underway regarding budget to fund the mural. Also wall locations are currently being considered, with Sturgis Newsagency and the Holt Centre being possible options.

A register of walls is being put together (small, medium and large areas), with the next step being securing agreement to use the walls for murals. A sculpture for the Arts Centre is also being considered.

Members discussed the importance of using local artists and working closely with young artists and the Aboriginal community. Members agreed that when these artists are used it should be widely promoted to the community.

It was noted that requests to do art work can be made via the Nowra Live website.

9. Additional Item – Shoalhaven Visitor Information Centre File 1478E

The Shoalhaven Visitor Information Centre in Nowra will move to the Shoalhaven Entertainment Centre in mid-June 2016.

10. Additional Item – Nowra Alive CBD Coordinator Position File 49356E, 49739E

Note: Nowra Alive CBD Coordinator left the meeting at 5.45pm

The Committee discussed the Nowra Alive CBD Coordinator position with regard to accomplishments to date and what the focus of the position should be in the future.

Members agreed the database, when complete, will be a valuable resource.

MOTION:

Moved: By Consensus

RESOLVED that the Nowra CBD Revitalisation Strategy Committee:

- a) Extend the current contract of the Nowra Alive CBD Coordinator position for approximately 1 month.

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- b) Discuss the future nature of position and the process to fill the position at the next meeting of the Committee.

CARRIED

11. Additional Item – Committee Meetings File 50242E

James Caldwell expressed concerns regarding scheduling of Committee meetings.

12. Additional Item – Nowra Revitalisation Strategy Implementation and Master Plan
File 49356E

Sivan Agam requested background on the Nowra Revitalisation Strategy Implementation and Master Plan.

Action – Information on the Nowra Revitalisation Strategy Implementation and Master Plan to be provided to Sivan Agam and the opportunity extended to meet with Council staff to discuss.

There being no further business, the meeting concluded, the time being 6.05 pm.

Grant Gleeson
CHAIRPERSON