

**REPORT OF THE BALRANALD SHIRE COUNCIL TOURISM COMMITTEE
MEETING HELD AT THE BALRANALD SHIRE COUNCIL CHAMBERS ON
TUESDAY 3rd July 2018 COMMENCING AT 5.00PM**

1. **PRESENT:** Iain Lindsay-Field (Chair), Ken Spinks, Wayne Whitby, Peter Lawler, Kathy Anderson, Ken Barnes, Cr German Ugarte, Dianne Williams
2. **APOLOGIES RECEIVED:** Michael Kitzelmann (General Manager – Balranald Shire Council), Terri Bilske (Director Corporate and Community Development), Leigh Byron (Mayor – Balranald Shire Council), Simone Carmichael, Linda Nelson, Bronwyn Brougham
3. **ACCEPTANCE OF THE MINUTES FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING:**
The Minutes were accepted from the previous meeting.

Moved: Ken Spinks
Seconded: Wayne Whitby

4. BUSINESS ARISING:

- a) Fish Restocking – Consideration of Ken Barne’s letter.

Ken Barnes clarified a couple of points regarding his Fish Restocking letter to the Hon Niall Blair, Minister for Primary Industries, Land and Water with also copy to Austin Evans, Member for Murray.

Action: Chair to make amendments as clarified by Ken prior to forwarding the letter to Council (see attached letter).

It was resolved to ask Council to review letter and send to addressed individuals and further that a copy of sent letter be provided to Tourism Committee.

Moved: Ken Barnes
Seconded: Dianne Williams

- b) Fence Discovery Centre

Reported that Director Infrastructure & Development has organised and erected “no parking on grass signs”.

Kathy reported that the signs are ineffective with locals still parking on grass.

It was resolved to ask Director Infrastructure and Development for options to this problem of cars parking on the grass at the back of the Discovery Precinct.

Moved: Ken Spinks
Seconded: Peter Lawler

- c) New Committee Members – Director Corporate and Community Development has not advertised as yet for New Members, as generally there is a limit to how many Members a Committee can have. Ask Director Corporate and Community Development what number of Members we should have.

Note: Director Corporate and Community Development advised (at the June meeting of this Committee) that we need to continue with 12 Members and seven for a Quorum. Councillors are included (Cr Ugarte at this time) but not Council Staff. We currently have ten Members so looking for two new Members. Ema and Shirley are the retired members.

It was resolved to get clarification on 12 Members being the correct number for the Tourism Committee and, if so, have the Council advertise for two new members.

Moved: Dianne Williams
Seconded: Ken Spinks

- d) Template for Projects – there were no Project Templates submitted for the month. Chair reiterated that all Members need to get busy completing their requests and submit them to a Tourism Committee meeting for confirmation. We would not be able to get the requests in this year's Budget but the matters will provide ready material for next year's Budget.
- e) Key Tourism Actions for 2018 Document – Director Corporate Services had nothing to report. Cr German reported that the Deputy Mayor is going to talk with the General Manager to try and get things moving on this front...note that the 2018 year is over half gone.
- f) Progress on selection of new Tourism Co-ordinator
Cr Ugarte reported that at today's Council meeting structure of council management has been reviewed with 5 positions being advertised – one of which is a Tourism Co-ordinator.

5. NEW BUSINESS

- a) Tourism Statistics and Traveller Comments
Kathy will report next month, on June 2018, so that from now on the Discovery Centre Staff will have a month to prepare tourism statistics.
Action: Cr Ugarte offered to assist Kathy to compile data to compare year to year tourism statistic trends.
- b) Meeting with Destination Riverina/Murray General Manager Richie Robinson and Destination NSW Gabby Brown.
Iain and Dianne attended this meeting. They highlighted the following:
1. Market Street Revitalisation Project
 2. River Bend Revitalisation
 - 3 Viewed AC/DC Frogs in the Gaol
 - 4 Friends of the Southern Cross as a successful tourism project
- 5 Reiterated our disappointment regarding having no Tourism Co-ordinator since January 2018 with no one being appointed to date.
- c) Cr Ugarte suggested a Community event (gathering) to officially open AC/DC frogs. Cr Ugarte expressed his concern that we are losing momentum with Tourism and the Committee agreed.
Cr Ugarte suggested setting a date to officially open the AC/DC frogs at the goal and invite the community to attend. Perhaps ask Council to provide a sausage sizzle. Either wait for new tourism Co-ordinator to organise OR link to co-ordinate with the 5 Rivers Festival.
Action: Balranald Inc. Chair (Dianne) will invite German to next Five Rivers Festival meeting to discuss this.
- d) Subsidies & Tourism Tribe Package
Destination Riverina/Murray advises possible subsidies for marketing support packages for local tourism businesses. Cr Ugarte has requested a prospectus and will share same with the Committee.
Action: The Tourism Tribe offering was also mentioned and Cr Ugarte has not raised this package with Council yet, but will do.
Dianne reported she has subscribed to the Tourism Tribe package for Lake Paika Accommodation and that Outback Beds are also subscribing and that she sees this as a great opportunity to help learn how to market businesses better.
- e) Famil of Yanga by Local Businesses
Set date for Famil with local tourism business for tour of Yanga. Cr Ugarte suggested linking to the 5 Rivers Festival.
Action: Balranald Inc. Chair (Dianne) to invite Cr Ugarte to discuss at next Five Rivers Festival Meeting.

f) Clean up of Ivanhoe Road litter

The Chair raised the issue of litter along the Ivanhoe Road, one of our main Tourist destination routes. There was discussion, but no resolution. It was also mentioned that if anyone sees the fellow currently cleaning up along the Sturt Highway to stop and make him aware of the Ivanhoe Road. Chair has made application to the "Clean up Australia" day for Feb 2019.

5 CLOSURE:

The meeting closed at 5.55pm

6 NEXT MEETING: 7th August 2018