



NEWCASTLE BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

ABN 93706504579

INC ID 1901584

MEETING MINUTES

Date	Thursday 21/03/24
Location	12 Stewart Ave Newcastle
Minute Taker	Janice Musumeci, JM Consultancy Services

ATTENDEES

Name	Abbreviation	Business represented
Lucy Glover	LG	Kafey Café
Kendall Brooks	KB	Brooks Marketing & Events
Jacinta Fintan	JF	Wall Station
Blake Phillips	BP	Pokey
Shanelle Lowe	SL	Chandler Macleod

GUESTS

Professor Bob Giddings	BG	Northumbria University UK
Dr Marcus Jeffries	MJ	University of Newcastle, NSW
Trish Hilkmann	TH	Project Manager Major Events CN
Tim Daley	TD	Snr Project Planner CN
Dr Hugo Moline	HM	University of Newcastle, NSW
Anita Monticone	AM	Tourism CN

APOLOGIES: Shanelle Lowe

MEETING OPEN: 5.06pm

MEETING CLOSE: 6.29pm

MINUTES

Item	Agenda Item	Details	Actions
1.	Welcome	KB Introductions of guests and all attendees. Opened discussion around how we can collaborate with the SBR funding.	
2.	City of Newcastle	Civic Domain Plan – presentation postponed	
3.	Safe Spaces & Accessibility in the City	<p>MJ greatest example of safe spaces is people on the street – visitation. Best to concentrate on a specific area due to the size of the precinct.</p> <p>KB Review of precinct map by attendees. MJ Civic as a stand-alone area is a good size to work with. Finalisation of the Art Gallery UoN good connection with builders and a possible private sector partner involved.</p> <p>BG Previous discussions around linking civic with Darby St. Public spaces already in place that are underutilised.</p> <p>BP lives in cooks hill and finds the offer underwhelming, not many people in premises. Concerned about the crossing near civic park and Darby St. Walking is very weather dependant.</p> <p>KB Darby St needs to have more of a community feel streets for shared spaces was an attempt to do this, but has it been successful. Two lanes of traffic coming off Hunter st due to light rail has caused traffic congestion. Walkability is extremely difficult.</p> <p>BG Best to look at alternate routes to main street when walking not the bigger roads as this is not comfortable for pedestrians. Need to create spaces where people can walk in comfort. Need to find alternatives to main street and junctions. Make the most of the paces.</p> <p>KB Bus 21 gives a loop around CBD but only during business hours.</p> <p>TH The Interchange is supposed to be a one stop for buses and trains.</p> <p>HM Was introduced to SBR by Thomas Michel was asked to put together a quote for a CN grant.</p>	

		<p>TH to get back to attendees with outcome.</p> <p>JF Interchange is difficult because you cannot cross the road easily where the tram is located. Is a pedestrian danger.</p> <p>HM research and participatory design is his focus</p> <p>BG Suggested do an accessibility survey of an area</p> <p>AM audits to accessibility – Tourism has put out a brief to agencies who have specialist experience to go out and put together a framework of accessibility in the city. As a result, we will look to conduct an audit of CBD venues. Bulk completed this FY. Some CN premises have had accessibility audits completed.</p> <p>BG accessibility information needs to be brought together and in one place. Accessibility issues moving around has not been considered not just getting into venues. Need a strategy</p> <p>KB as a collective we can lobby regarding pedestrian crossing etc</p> <p>JF Why can't we make information available on walking routes and accessibility that would be a more affordable venture.</p> <p>KB research needs to be done before action.</p> <p>BG need to determine a specific area that BIA can handle, survey look at alternatives.</p> <p>TH from a BIA perspective the Civic Domain Plan will be on exhibition mid April mid may. BIA can be informed by that exhibition. A project plan could be developed to add to the plan.</p> <p>HM former SBR grant in conjunction with Makers & Traders was declined. Strategy for a wholistic vision. Linking physical items into digital knowledge.</p> <p>KB Asked about Cr Duncans announcement some time ago of a wayfinding project for the City's cultural precinct.</p> <p>MJ possible linking cruise ships with wayfinding project.</p> <p>KB cruise ships berth at private land</p>	
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		<p>BG Ferries would be better to carry visitors to the city centre people need to feel welcome when they arrive and need o easily get not the city centre</p> <p>NEXT STEPS – View the Civic Domain Plan invite all BG LM MJ</p> <p>JF BIA could play a role in communication to businesses about the Domain Plan</p> <p>BG Will review plan remotely and provide feedback</p> <p>MJ Uni has other internal schemes that might be joint support with another project. Large amount of in-kind contribution from the UoN with staff being involved as part of their day-to-day work. Research as part of the project with a delivery component.</p> <p>KB Port has a funding grant annually as well as some other bigger businesses in the precinct.</p>	
4.	Tourism	<p>Visitor Information Centre is a drop off point how can the BIA build a sense of welcome and direct visitors</p> <p>KB BIA discussion around local businesses to have markets stalls with funding. 1900 - 3000 people dropped off from biggest ships.</p> <p>LG 2 couples from ships each time. However, when dropped off near to Hunter St Mall trade is better.</p> <p>BP concurred</p> <p>MJ what would be the cost benefit analysis of the visitors from the cruise ships.</p> <p>KB/BG The BIA could apply for funding to have a contractor to place people at the drop off points for cruises. What information is needed by visitors?</p> <p>JF What is local and what are tourists looking for. Clarity around % of SBR funds to each.</p> <p>TH There is a tourism and economic development funding stream within the sponsorship program.</p>	

		BP A hop on off bus around city from drop off point or cruise terminal.	
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Next Meeting: April 10 Budget Planning Meeting at TBC