

MINUTES OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Tuesday 27 September 2022 at 3pm

Gallery Room, Coonabarabran Council Building

Present: Cr Brady, Cr Newton, J Houghton, S Edwards, T Hayman, D Baker, D Mulligan, L Doyle.

In Attendance Via Zoom:

Meeting Opened: 2.03pm

1 Apologies

Cr Doolan, Cr Kopke, L Ryan

2 Declaration of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests

- Cr Newton declared a non-pecuniary interest due to being involved in organising the event Warrumbungle Wings & Things.
- S Edwards declared non-pecuniary interest due to her role as community representative for Renewable Energy Zone (REZ)

3 National Parks – Coolah Tops Update

John Whittall gave PowerPoint presentation with information and images of storm damage, process involved to reopen, progress with contractors, and upcoming and completed improvements.

Action: Manager EDT to find out expected date for outcome for Council's road upgrade funding application.

Action: Manager EDT to email D Mulligan's email to J Whittall.

Action: John Whittall to find the best contact to discuss tourism activities such as walking trails and birds watching in Goonoo National Park.

4 Minutes from Previous Meeting

4.1 Business Arising from Minutes

Action: EDT committee members to notify local history groups about the removal of old town entrance signs and would they like them as a matter of preserving history.

Action: To put forward to Gilgandra Shire Council if it's feasible to collaborate with infrastructure at Hickey's Falls such as toilets.

Action: S Edwards to follow up contact details for billboard and process to renew signage.

4.2 Town Signage Project

Action: Manager EDT to resend Coolah's and Dunedoo's designs.

Action: EDT committee members to go back to their communities for town consultation for town signage.

Action: EDT members to email Manager EDT before next meeting information on town signs. This includes proposed locations, wording, customised designs for each town's identity.

5 Reports

5.1 Community Event Program

Recommended: That the tourism report be received and noted.

S Edwards/L Doyle

5.2 Tourism Report

Recommended: That the Tourism Report be received and noted.

S Edwards/D Mulligan

5.3 Economic Development Report

Action: Manager EDT get an update on revised REDS with consultation and survey results.

Action: S Edwards to email a document to EDT committee seeking information for scope for proposed Rail Trails and to contact existing Rail Trail LGAs/community organisations.

Recommended: That the Economic Development Report be received and noted.

D Mulligan/S Edwards

5.4 Visitor Information Centre Report

Action: VIC staff to promote Coolah Tops now it's open again.

T Hayman left meeting at 4.43pm

Recommended: That the Visitor Information Report be received and noted.

L Doyle/S Edwards

New Business:

- **Capture the Cosmos** – acknowledge 2022 photography competition will not go ahead for 2022 and for the committee to decide at next EDT meeting whether is continues for 2023 and beyond.
- **Newell Highway Bypass** – D Baker informs Stage 1 of Bypass will commence 2024. Stage 1 will take approximately 2 years.
Action: Cr Newton and Cr Brady to get feedback from Mayor about Bypass.
Action: Manager EDT to resent Bypass submission.

Next Meeting: 23 November 2022

Meeting closed: 5.10pm