

# MINUTES



## Business Northwest

### General Meeting

15/11/2023

Held at RSL

Start time 6:05:00 PM Elapsed  
End time 7:02:00 PM 0:57:00

1.00 Welcome

2.0 Attendees

I Jones, J McErlain, D Austin, G Simpson, D Hodgetts, T Brumby, J Packham.

3.0 Apologies

S Overland, M Cannon, C Hilliger, A Dry.

Moved	Seconded	Vote	Note
D Hodgetts	J Packham	Carried	

4.00 Confirmation of minutes

4.10 Business arising

5.00 President's Report

Moved	Seconded	Vote	Note
I Jones	G Simpson	Carried	

Comment

Renewable conference in Melbourne. Common need was faster deployment of new transmission networks. TasNetworks - Marinus policy curtailed rollout of TAS transmission networks. *Discussion*. Big question is 'when?'. Breakfasts - lower than average numbers, concerning. D Austin: People more interested in some speakers over others. I Jones: What speakers can we get that will bring 30-40 people along? Last year averaged 25-26 attendees. Don't know what else to do. Devonport experiencing low numbers too. *Discussion*. Lunch with Premier Nov 23 - Justin running it in Ian's absence. *Discussion*. First cruise ship today. Over half around town. T Brumby worried about bad weather in Marine Plaza. *Discussion*. *Covid discussion*. OPTUS outage - businesses not well prepared for disaster, should have back-up phone on other network. Business Tasmania emergency preparation tool kit. Attended Business Tasmania's roadshow - introduced TBAS.

6.00 Treasurer's Report Per Report

BoUs Account	\$ 32,366.00	BoUs Investment	\$ 50,000.00
Promotions account	\$ 23,899.00	PayPal	\$ -
VR Project	\$ 47,653.00	Float	
Cradle Tickets	\$ 5,261.00		

Moved	Seconded	Vote	Note
J McErlain	D Austin	Carried	Many projects in process of quitting. New Permission to Trespass project - 10K grant. Applying for grant from Waratah/Wynyard council for funding to run it. Renew Burnie subscription fee upcoming.

7.00 Communication

7.01 • Inward

Usual

7.02 • Outwards

Usual

7.03 • Media

Normal 7BU media. ABC piece on cruise ships this afternoon. The Advocate article about the courthouse price risen to \$100m.

7.04 Membership update

72 members.

8.00 General Business

8.01 Breakfast sessions

Premier's lunch - 23 Nov. Next breakfasts - Nov 22, Dec 6.

8.02 Events

Undiscussed.

8.03 Chamber Alliance update

Meeting tomorrow. UTAS report on people moving away - echoed around the table. Kids moving. Lacking professional-level employees.

**8.04 Promotions**

Launching 'Have You Discovered Burnie?' - city guide. Stickers & posters around town to encourage use. Promoted to cruise ship visitors on flyer & by volunteers. More & more businesses being added to it.

**8.05 Tourism**

Market changing - starting to see lots of tourists. Most international - UK, Europe, S/E Asia, early stages of US. Expect to see more US because of AUD depreciation. New Zealanders flying direct AKL > Hobart, unfortunate the route will be out-of-action for a while. Occupancy across state still pretty good. East Coast & some of the West Coast not doing very well. Middle of the road places are doing great. Staffing still chronic.

**8.07 GENERAL BUSINESS**

**S Giovanna**

Arts: Preparing for Paper on Skin, Townhall Dec dance graduation, Harness Club - about 10 new people discovered the club through Facebook, really enjoyed it. Really positive. Pink Up October quite successful. Working on next year's. Salon going well.

**D Hodgetts**

PC inspection for Makers - about to hand over, 3-4 weeks to finish. Coastal pathway looking sensational. Moving TIA from Moorville Rd down to here. Cladding for Parkside building. *Discussion*. All the other jobs ongoing, flying along - some going really well, some having a few problems. *Discussion on college building issues*.

**T Brumby**

1. Cruise ships feedback: visitors gobsmacked at amazing service. New location - beautiful atmosphere. Local business feedback - distressed about stalls. Need local business owners' help to promote value of the Makers Market. Most products in stalls are handmade, unique. G Simpson: question from shop owner on why market stall holders aren't charged. T Brumby: Because we want them to come & they don't have a guaranteed income.
2. Energy situation TasNetworks: Found out Thursday morning. Monday met with Minister Bowen - he had no idea about this situation. He was left with no uncertainty about what he needed to do. He also committed to meeting with Tasmania's Energy Minister Nick. *Staverton transmission line discussion*. Energy Minister clueless. *Discussion*. Met with North West chamber presidents, mayors and GMs to discuss how to better work together in the energy space. Need more partners, demand Hobart put some focus on the NW Coast.
3. Burnie Strategic Plan video. Cut it down to 5 minutes and are taking it into the schools. Great opportunity in the schools.
4. Need the family court debacle sorted.
5. 321 Go kids race is on this Sunday.

**D Austin**

Emotional over Cameron Baird memorial sign.

**J Packham**

Rhododendron Gardens AGM 4PM last Friday. G Simpson: The renovations are fantastic. J McErlain: Plant sales have taken off. *Discussion*. Only struggling getting volunteers. As a community, need to keep them afloat.

**D Hodgetts**

*Business Northwest being a complimentary organisation to council discussion*. Crucial T Brumby isn't the only one making noise about the problems Burnie faces - that's why she's trying to instigate linking arms across the coast & stand united.

**I Jones**

I will be speaking at the next Cradle Coast Authority reps meeting - on Dec 10th or 12th. Also speaking at Regional & Economic Development Committee meeting next Tuesday. Committee recently acknowledged the HIF global project as one of regional significance. ARC Energy on list as well. Hasn't fed up into the Cradle Coast Authority board. J McErlain: BNW is connection to business community. Hope council can see the benefit BNW can add as an extra voice that can pick up those issues and run with them.

**D Austin** I have never seen anyone put in the effort that [I Jones, J McErlain, C Hilliger, etc.] put in. There will be no one silly enough to put their hand up to do this job in the future. Need to be prepared.

Meeting closed 7:02PM