

MINUTES



Business Northwest

General Meeting

18/09/2024

Start time 6:05:00 PM Elapsed

Held at RSL

End time 6:52:00 PM **0:47:00**

1.00 Welcome

2.0 Attendees

I Jones, J McErlain, C Hilliger, A Dry, D Hodgetts, G Simpson, S Arnold, M Cannon, G Atkins, J Whiteley.

3.0 Apologies

S Overland, D Pease, D Austin, P Holm, R Jaensch, N Tern, J Lambie.

4.00 Confirmation of minutes

<i>Moved</i>	<i>Seconded</i>	<i>Vote</i>	<i>Note</i>
D Hodgetts	C Hilliger	Accepted	

5.00 President's Report

<i>Moved</i>	<i>Seconded</i>	<i>Vote</i>	<i>Note</i>
I Jones	G Simpson	Accepted	

Comment

August busy month for events: 2 breakfasts, Jack Jumpers lunch, lunch with premier. Visit from investor group from Vietnam. Executive committee session with Stacey Joseph. *Attracting people to general meetings discussion.* Door-to-door business data-gathering survey. Consider abolishing general meeting, add on information session to breakfasts, newsletters announce executive meeting decisions. Make executive meetings accessible. *Discussion on availability of minutes.* **M Cannon:** 'consider becoming a member' message at breakfasts. **I Jones:** Josh & Cyndia attended Beacon Foundation event. Local economy under strain. Business Tasmania urging businesses affected by rain to fill in application. *Discussion on value of Chamber Alliance.*

6.00 Treasurer's Report

BNW Working A/C	\$ 30,631.71	Term Deposit	\$ 51,672.63
BCC Promotions	\$ 21,115.93		
VR Project	\$ 5,222.92		
Cradle Coast Market	\$ 15,638.68	TOTAL	\$124,281.87

Per Report

6.00 Financials

<i>Moved</i>	<i>Seconded</i>	<i>Vote</i>	<i>Note</i>
A Dry	D Hodgetts	Carried	Insurances going up. <i>Discussion on insurance discounts for chamber members.</i>

7.00 Communication

7.01 • Inward

Regular

7.02 • Outwards

Regular

7.03 • Media

2 7BU radio interviews, ABC TV bit about Serco, news radio bit, interview with Andre Leslie.

7.04 Membership update

No update.

8.00 General Business

8.01 Breakfast sessions

Next one is October 9 with Ali Dugand. Try have another breakfast in Wynyard November-ish. Trying to get TasRail.

8.02 Chamber Alliance update

No update.

8.03 Promotions

No update.

8.04 Tourism

C Hilliger: Negative press around occupancy. THA stats don't include all businesses, like caravan parks. Numbers are down from 2023, but similar to previous winters – not as bad as made out. People spending less in cafes, but not to do with marketing issues, more to do with economic climate. Tourism similar to pre-covid numbers – cyclical in this region. Focus on Off Season campaigns. Tourists starting to come in winter. Impacted by Dark Mofo cancellation. Permission To Trespass successful – visitor numbers up by almost 1000. Tourism TAS interested in PTT model. Risky approach if no one locked into regional events role. Strategy focusing on: get event that works across winter across the whole region (Strahan > Devonport). Same theme. Use Devonport's lights, use projectors. Leverage funding for winter solstice event. Leverage off what's there & add to it. Lack human resources at WxNW. Model for centralised events coordination in RTO or Cradle Coast with some council funding. 70% of people at our event were locals. Role there for supporting regional micro events and empowering & training locals to run events, but not over-reliance on volunteers. **J McErlain:** Events folding/slowing down because not enough volunteers. **C Hilliger:** Difficult to understand about the Spirits issue. Pushing to explore all options. Worried about promised capacity. *Discussion on berths, day sailings.* Will continue pushing with state gov/premier. **J McErlain:** Rex loadings are really good. Still don't have owner, but will narrow down. Regional arm is profitable. **I Jones:** *Qantas flight cancellations discussion.* Asked question for next council meeting: what are the cancellations for both airlines, what's the on time arrival/departures? Hopefully gets picked up by journalists. **C Hilliger:** Took out national tourism awards – Stanley & Devonport. Hursey took out best fish restaurant in Australia.

8.05 Retail / Real Estate /
Business /
Performing Arts /
Agriculture

G Simpson – business & council

Business good. Hairdressers going well. Gearing up for end of year. School holidays coming up. Council going through GM process. Simon has 44 days left. Going well. Working with company on psychosafety – going really well. *Discussion.*

S Arnold – building industry

Building industry slowing. New Umina Park accommodation good, due to finish Feb/Mar 2025. *Explanation of finished & unfinished work.* Multiple building companies collapsing on Mainland. *Discussion.* Home warranty program. Trying to get money quarantined for projects. *Discussion on effect of business insolvencies.*

Meeting closed 6:25PM