

## Nimbin Chamber of Commerce Meeting Minutes October 2024

**Date:** Monday, 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2024

**Time:** 5.30pm

**Location:** Nimbin Bush Theatre/ Zoom

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### 1. Opening Section

### 2. Call to Order

- David Hyett, the Chairperson, officially called the meeting to order at 5.50pm.
- Acknowledgement of Country was made by David Hyett.

### 3. Members Present:

David Hyett (President), Aline Binetruy (Vice President), Ariescia Matheson (Treasurer), Nicole Lindner (Secretary), Caroline Todd and Diana Roberts (OAM).

Apologies: Ben Hartley & Jeanne Platel (resigned).

**Guests:** Wick – Aether Agency.

### 4. Declaration of Conflicts of Interest – 7.00pm.

David Hyett declared a conflict of interest concerning the selection of the venue for the upcoming NCOC Annual General Meeting (AGM).

### 5. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes -

The September minutes were approved as presented.

- **Motion:** Ariescia Matheson moved the September 2024 minutes be accepted.  
**Seconded:** Diana Roberts.
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## Ordinary Business

### 6. Carried Over Topics from Previous Meeting/ Business Arising from Minutes.

- **Newsagency Mural:** Progress is ongoing. David will continue to follow up on developments.
- **Byron & Beyond Visitor Guide – Nimbin Information Section Update:** The magazine editor has been contacted, and a message was left. Caroline will follow up to ensure completion.

- **October Small Business Month Workshop:** Aline has reached out to Wil and Tina from LCC and is currently awaiting their response.
- **Interagency Committee Initiative:** NCOC will organise the inaugural meeting of the Interagency Committee. This will involve creating a list or map of organisations (including NPOs with Indigenous representation), drafting an agenda, and inviting attendees. Diana and Aline are responsible for organising the first meeting and compiling the invitee list.
- **Update on Return & Earn Initiative – Sarah-Jane McGrath:** An update was presented to the executive committee. Nicole will follow up with Sarah-Jane McGrath regarding arrangements for the showground.
- **Laneway Mural Vandalism:** Graffiti has been removed. NCOC has offered to provide paint and any additional support if needed. Note that the mural was completed before being vandalised.
- **Visitor Brochure:** The brochure has not yet been received and is pending pick-up.

## 7. Correspondence

- **Incoming: NSW Small Business Month Team** – Invitation to the Northern Rivers Small Business Month Expo.
- **Incoming: Destination North Coast** – Information on the "Cyber Wardens" course to help small tourism businesses protect against cyber threats.
- **Incoming: Women & Leadership Australia** – Announcement of a new round of Women's Leadership Development Scholarships.
- **Incoming: Business NSW** – Invitation to the NSW State Business Awards.
- **Incoming: Destination North Coast** – Latest issue of the Visitor Economy News.
- **Outgoing: Denise Whitney, President of A&I Society** – Correspondence regarding Bellevue Park.
- **Outgoing: Sarah-Jane McGrath** – Communication concerning the Nimbin return point proposal.
- **Outgoing: LCC** – Request for information on current street cleaning and maintenance services in Nimbin.
- **Outgoing: Roger Foley Fogg** – Response regarding the Nimbin Rainbow Lights Stage 2 proposal, including next steps and funding considerations. Nicole to request an itemised breakdown of each quote to support grant applications.
- **Outgoing: Nimbin Aquarius Foundation Inc.** – Letter of support for their grant application aimed at preserving the Aquarius Archives.

## 8. Business Arising from Correspondence (see above).

## 9. Financial Report

A financial debrief was presented by Treasurer, Ariescia Matheson outlining the Nimbin Chamber of Commerce's (NCOC) current financial commitments and standing.

**Motion:** *Ariescia Matheson proposed acceptance of the financial report and that the Chamber can meet its financial obligations and pay its debts as and when they fall due.* **Seconded:** *Nicole Lindner.*

#### **Clarification of membership status:**

- Nimbin Good Times: membership status confirmed.
- Nimbin School of Arts – recognised as a community group.
- Nimbin Bowling Club – recognised as a community group.
- Djanbung Gardens – recognised as a community group.

#### **10. Subcommittee updates:**

- **Women in Business:** The next event is scheduled for 14th November in the Nimbin Youth Centre. This session will focus on collaboratively workshopping participants' projects, issues, and ideas. Attendance will be ticketed to facilitate accurate headcounts.

#### **11. Applications for Membership:**

- **Akira Kugawa** – Nimbin Shokudou
- **Arwen Beaton** – Virtual Assistant and Support Services

**Motion:** *David Hyett proposed that the above nominations be added as members to NCOC.*

**Seconded by:** *Caroline Todd.*

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#### **12. General Business**

- **Visa card:** Summerland Bank are to be asked to establish a new account for Nimbin Chamber of Commerce that will require only one signatory. This account is to be issued with a visa card with a limit of \$1,000. The signatory to this account will be Ariescia Matheson (Treasurer).

**Motion Proposed:** *David Hyett proposed the motion NCOC apply for a new Visa card to maintain financial payments in a timely manner.*

**Seconded:** *Diana Roberts.*

**Resolution:** *Resolved, the NCOC shall apply for a new Visa card as proposed, to facilitate efficient and timely financial management.*

**Action Item:** Ariescia Matheson tasked with initiating the application process with Summerland Bank.

Current Nimbin Chamber of Commerce Beneficial owners – David Hyett (president), Nicole Lindner (Secretary) & Ariescia Matheson (Treasurer)

Current Signatories: Diana Roberts, David Hyett, Nicole Lindner & Ariescia Matheson.

- **Lighting System for Eastern Carpark Access:**  
A proposal to install a lighting system along the road leading into the eastern carpark to improve visibility to the laundromat and the rear of the town hall. The area currently lacks lighting on both sides, making it difficult to navigate downhill at night. Discussions are underway with the hall committee to explore lighting options. As a community issue, the responsibility for ongoing electricity costs will fall to the provider of the lights. NCOC will bring this matter to the upcoming meeting with LCC. Notably, both carparks are privately owned.
- **Town Hall Mural Project:**  
The side wall of the town hall has been identified as a potential mural site. The Perceptio wall may feature a walking track mural or promotional artwork, potentially as a Chamber-led project that would likely involve management by the School of Arts. Diana will follow up with Martin Sutar at the next meeting. Additionally, there is another wall further down the area that could serve as a future mural site.
- **Annual General Meeting (AGM):**  
Proposed date: 19th November at 5:30 PM, venue to be confirmed. Caroline Todd will confirm the costs and availability of the Nimbin Bowling Club for an estimated 30–40 attendees, with a final decision to be made at the next meeting. November 20th is also under consideration as a backup date and will be added to the November agenda.
- **NCOC Executive Committee Meeting:**  
The next Executive Committee meeting is proposed to be rescheduled to Wednesday, 6th November, at 5:30 PM.
- **Sustainable Nimbin Community Plan – Chamber Project Summary:** Awaiting receipt of the Sustainable Nimbin Community Plan and associated survey. Aline Binetruy will prepare a summary of Chamber projects and identify relevant stakeholders for outreach. The survey results will be used to prioritise the Chamber’s initiatives based on feasibility and community feedback.
- **Corporate Annual Calendar:**  
Ariescia Matheson will compile the calendar using the main Google account. Wick will establish the primary chamber calendar.
- **DCM Action Sheet:**  
The system is functioning effectively with Aether, and thanks were extended to Wick for his contributions. The website is now looking highly professional.
  - **60-Second Promo Video:**  
Wick put forward a proposal to create short promotional videos to highlight

members on social media and the website. These videos would feature individual members (e.g., the "face behind the business"). The initial video could focus on the benefits of Chamber membership. There is potential to add a brief article accompanying each video to stimulate discussion. The NCOC will fund the first video to assess costs, time investment, and impact. Future videos may have a small participation fee for members opting in.

- **Visitor Information Services on Website:**  
Updates to visitor information services on the Chamber website are pending the completion of Council's redesign of the Visit Nimbin website. Adjustments will follow once that site is finalised.
- **Online Itinerary Proposal:** Jeanne Platel's proposal to create an online itinerary for visiting Nimbin; to be revisited later.

### **13. Upcoming Events and Important Dates**

- Roots Festival - October
- AGM - November
- Mushroom Summit – November in Nimbin

### **14. Open Forum**

- **Permanent Zoom Capability for NCOC Executive Committee Meetings:** No further action.
- **Filtered Water Bottle Filler Request:** Proposal to install a filtered water bottle filling station with an attached dog bowl along the walking track. A petition for support will be discussed with the Council.

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## **Closing Section**

### **15. Next Meeting**

- Next Meeting scheduled for Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> November at 5.30pm at Nimbin Bush Theatre.

### **16. Adjournment**

- The meeting was adjourned at 7.30pm by Chairperson David Hyett.
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