



UNCONFIRMED Minutes

of the

Economic Development Committee

Ordinary Meeting

Date	24 April 2015
Venue	Mercury Bay Community Board room Mercury Bay Area Office 10 Monk Street Whitianga

Present

B Page (Chairperson)	PL French T Brljevic L Hopper G Christian G Leach D Connors
----------------------	--

In Attendance

David Hammond, Ben Day, Ben Dunbar-Smith and Michelle Baker

Meeting Commenced	9:01
--------------------------	------

Adjournment	Start	Finish	Reason
Chairperson Page	10:04	10:19	Morning Tea

Table of Contents

Item Business	Page No.
1 Meeting conduct	3
1.1 Apologies	3
1.2 Public forum	3
1.3 Items not on the agenda	3
1.4 Conflict of interest	3
1.5 24 February 2015 - Economic Development Committee minutes for confirmation	4
2 Anchor projects	4
2.1 Major events 2015-2018 sponsorship programme	4
2.2 Coromandel Great Walks April project status report	4
2.3 Coromandel Harbour April project status report	5
2.4 Hauraki Rail Trail April project status report	5
3 Economic development strategy and work programme	6
3.1 Update on WW1 Memorial Forests - Anzac Day	6
3.2 Development of an Arts Strategy	6
3.3 Upgrading of broadband to Kopu	7
3.4 Bid for Government's broadband upgrade	7
3.5 AA Initiative Report to Economic Development Committee	7
3.6 Business Friendly Initiative report	7
3.7 Heritage Park April 2015 concept study report	8
3.8 Members' reports	8

1 Meeting conduct

1.1 Apologies

There were no apologies received.

1.2 Public forum

Jan Wright – Creative Mercury Bay

Ms Wright spoke to the Economic Development Committee in support of a Coromandel Arts Strategy, as the chair and coordinator of the charitable trust Creative Mercury Bay.

Ms Wright responded to a query from the Committee Chair that the intention would not be to reinvent the wheel however each community had specific needs so would need to be carefully fine-tuned to make sure the strategy fitted each area's needs.

The Committee queried how long Creative Mercury Bay had been running to which Ms Wright advised they were established in 2012 and an arts strategy would aid them facilitate art events and to develop arts infrastructure.

The Committee queried if the strategy would build relationships or whether an Arts Council would better achieve this? Ms Wright suggested that an Arts Council would be a very strong idea however a strategy would allow for better cooperation amongst the different areas.

Committee queried whether the strategy would impact Creative Mercury Bay's external resources and Ms Wright advised they see it would be a positive move, creating an advantage to them to seek and secure funding.

Resolved

That the Economic Development Committee receives the speaker Ms Wright from Creative Mercury Bay in public forum.

Moved/seconded by: French/Leach

1.3 Items not on the agenda

There were no items not on the agenda.

1.4 Conflict of interest

There were no conflicts of interest declared.

1.5 24 February 2015 - Economic Development Committee minutes for confirmation

Resolved

That the Economic Development Committee confirms the minutes of the meeting held on 24 February 2015 as a correct record of proceedings.

Moved/seconded by: Connors/Hopper

2 Anchor projects

2.1 Major events 2015-2018 sponsorship programme

Discussion points

- The Committee queried that if the contract did not work out, how Council would be positioned to pull out of the contracts. Staff advised that Council would have the restraints and protection afforded by the legal contracts.
- Staff further clarified that each partnership would have its own contract and the partnership could then jointly pitch to sponsors to help support the event.

Resolved

That the Economic Development Committee:

1. Receives the 'Major events 2015-2018 sponsorship programme' report dated 1 April 2015.
2. Subject to Council's adoption of the current Draft Long Term Plan and associated events funding, approves the recommended timeframes and processes for the establishment of a 2015-2018 Major Events Sponsorship Programme.

Moved/seconded by: Hopper/Brijevich

2.2 Coromandel Great Walks April project status report

Discussion points

- The Committee sought clarification on whom would own the physical assets, to which staff advised that Council would play a part in the governance of the land however the Trust would own the assets for the community.
- The Committee requested that following the recent conversations around options with or without external funding being received that the project definition be amended and brought back to the next Economic Development Committee meeting.

Resolved

That the Economic Development Committee:

1. Receives the 'Coromandel Great Walks April project Status report' dated 9 April 2015.

2. Requests staff amend the project definition to include the option of no extra funding for the next Economic Development Committee meeting.

Moved/seconded by: Brljevich/Hopper

2.3 Coromandel Harbour April project status report

Discussion points

- The Chief Executive explained that the project had now been split into two parts, one dealing with Sugarloaf and the other a long term concept. This was to enable Sugarloaf to progress while further work could be done looking at long term options for the inner harbour.
- The goal would be to sign a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Coromandel Marine Farmers Association (CMFA). CMFA had initiated this with their lawyers with the intention that CMFA would lead consenting and building the facility, with Council being the front end financier and taking some risk of a failed consent.
- The inner harbour concept is the second phase with different options and would have a potentially large price-tag associated with it. The second phase may involve dredging and reclamation and Council would need to address immediate issues while still planning for the long term usage.
- Staff were currently working on reducing the information to a readable and digestible format for all stakeholders to consider. The business case was to be reviewed and changes made before being presented to the project board within the next few weeks.
- The new project definition for Sugarloaf was being completed following the split from the inner harbour concept. However it would not be an improvement project as it would only address current use.

Resolved

That the Economic Development Committee:

1. Receives the 'Coromandel Harbour Project Status' report, dated 9 April 2015.
2. Asks staff to present a redrafted project plan for Sugarloaf for endorsement at the Economic Development Committee meeting.
3. Asks staff to present an investment proposal for an Inner Harbour Blue Highway by the 18 August 2015 Economic Development Committee.

Moved/seconded by: Christian/Brljevich

2.4 Hauraki Rail Trail April project status report

Discussion points

- This Council has asked the Hauraki Rail Trail Trust to address that the commercial viability of the agreement.
- The Committee requested staff consider what conditions council should accept in committing further funding to the Kaiaua to Kopu (K2K) section of the rail trail.

Resolved

That the Economic Development Committee

1. Receives the 'Hauraki Rail Trail Project Status' report dated 9 April 2015.
2. Requests staff present a defined set of criteria to be fulfilled before further funding is committed to the Kaiaua to Kopu (K2K) section of the rail trail.

Moved/seconded by: Hopper/Connors

3 Economic development strategy and work programme

3.1 Update on WW1 Memorial Forests - Anzac Day

A report was provided to update the Economic Development Committee on the progress in relation to the WW1 Memorial Forests projects, in particular in connection with Anzac Day commemorations.

Resolved

That the Economic Development Committee receives the 'Update on WW1 Memorial Forests' report, dated 12 April 2015.

Moved/seconded by: Leach/French

3.2 Development of an Arts Strategy

Discussion points

- Clarification was sought from the Committee regarding total cost required to create the Strategy to which staff advised \$12,000 is not full amount, \$25,000 is closer to the total amount required but were not seeking the full amount from the Economic Development Committee.
- The Committee Chair suggested that if \$12,000 comes from the Economic Development Committee budget that the remainder of the funds required comes other external sources.

Resolved

That the Economic Development Committee:

1. Receives the 'Development of an Arts Strategy for the Coromandel' report, dated 13 April 2015.
2. Recommends to Council allocating \$12,000 (plus GST) towards the next stage of the development of a Coromandel wide Arts Strategy with any additional costs being met externally.

Moved/seconded by: Connors/Brljevich

3.3 Upgrading of broadband to Kopu

A report was provided to update the Economic Development Committee on the successful upgrading of Chorus broadband services to the Kopu Business Park.

Resolved

That the Economic Development Committee receives the 'Upgrading of broadband to Kopu' report, dated 12 April 2015.

Moved/seconded by: Connors/Leach

3.4 Bid for Government's broadband upgrade

A report was provided to inform the Economic Development Committee about the Government's new funding for urban and rural broadband upgrades and removal of cellphone blackspots, and to seek endorsement to bid for this funding.

Resolved

1. Receives the 'Bidding for the Government's broadband upgrade' report dated 12 April 2015.
2. Endorses the expenditure of the remainder of the \$20,000 allocated to improving broadband capabilities towards obtaining specialist assistance with the bid for the Ultrafast Broadband, Rural Broadband, and Cellphone Blackspot upgrades.

Moved/seconded by: Brljevich/Hopper

3.5 AA Initiative Report to Economic Development Committee

A report was provided to seek the Economic Development Committee's endorsement for the proposal for the Council to take over the operations of the Automobile Association Agency in Thames, from the Thames I-SITE Incorporated Society.

Resolved

That the Economic Development Committee:

1. Receives the 'AA Initiative Report to Economic Development Committee' report, dated 1 April 2015.
2. Endorses the proposal for the Council to take over the operation of the AA Agency in Thames to ensure the retention of this vital service for the greater Coromandel-Hauraki region.

Moved/seconded by: Connors/Leach

3.6 Business Friendly Initiative report

A report was provided to seek the Economic Development Committee's approval to adopt the Business Friendly Initiative as outlined in this report for a trial period of six months.

Resolved

That the Economic Development Committee:

1. Receives the 'Business Friendly Initiative Cover Report' dated 1 April 2015.
2. Approves the Business Friendly Initiative and budget as a 6 month trial.

Moved/seconded by: Christian/Brljevich

3.7 Heritage Park April 2015 concept study report

A report was provided to seek approval of the study from Miles Media in relation to a Coromandel Heritage Region Concept.

Resolved

That the Economic Development Committee:

1. Receives the 'Heritage Park April 2015 concept Study report' dated 1 April 2015.
2. Approves Miles Media to proceed with the Concept Study as outlined in the March 2015 proposal.

Moved/seconded by: Leach/Page

3.8 Members' reports

There were no member's reports received.

Meeting closed at 12:27

The foregoing minutes were certified as being a true and correct record of the meeting of the Economic Development Committee held on 24 April 2015.

Chairperson _____ **Date** _____