



# **MINUTES**

## **Tourism Strategy Committee Meeting Thursday, 23 February 2023**

**MINUTES OF WINTON SHIRE COUNCIL  
TOURISM STRATEGY COMMITTEE MEETING  
HELD AT THE NEIGHBOURHOOD BOARD ROOM  
ON THURSDAY, 23 FEBRUARY 2023 AT 5:30PM**

**1 COMMENCEMENT OF MEETING**

Cr Anne Seymour (Chair) welcomed those present and declared the meeting open at 5.30pm.

**2 PRESENT**

Cr Anne Seymour (Chair), Cr Gavin Baskett (Mayor), Cr Cathy White, Bruce Collins (Australian Age of Dinosaurs), Robyn Stephens OAM (Outback Festival), Kim Stotter (Winton Historical Society), Jeff Close (The Writers Festival), Lyn Fraser (Corfield & Fitzmaurice Association), Vicki Jones (Winton Business & Tourism Association), Joe Minehan (Winton Business & Tourism Association).

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

, Dirk Dowling (Chief Executive Officer), Shannon Van Bael (Acting Director of Community & Economic Development), Jenny Elliott (Waltzing Matilda Centre), Kirby Reents (Minutes Secretary).

**3 APOLOGIES**

**23.02.01**

Moved: Jeff Close

Seconded: Lyn Fraser

THAT the apologies from Hylton Ward (Winton Business & Tourism Association), James Evert (Queensland Boulders Opal Association), Alison Summerville (Queensland Boulder Opal Association) Geraldine Coughlan (Winton Movie Inc) be received and noted.

**CARRIED**

**4 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

**23.02.02**

Moved: Bruce Collins

Seconded: Robyn Stephens

That the minutes of the Tourism Strategy Committee Meeting held on 23 February 2023 be confirmed.

**CARRIED**

**5 CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER UPDATE**

*Dirk Dowling*

Advised the group that along with all current Council Committees, the Tourism Committee will be reviewed in the near future i.e. many committees have currently morphed into something they were never intended to be, and hopefully with some minor adjustments the committee process can return to its original purpose to engage with community and provide recommendations to Council.

## 6 BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF PREVIOUS MEETING

*Cathy white*

- Could we get an update on Number 6 Correspondence from minutes 5 December 2022?

Alison Summerville-

- The mining moratorium has been lifted by the Department of Resources. This was a significant win for small scale mining, and you can now lodge new mining claims again. The department were forced to recognise the significance of the sapphire and opal industries to regional towns and tourism through the 200 submissions received. Thank you to the Winton Shire Council for supporting us. Onwards and upwards.

Council submit feedback regarding - Small Mining Regulatory Framework along side QBOA.

*Gavin Baskett*

- A letter of support will be sent out from Council.

## 7 GENERAL BUSINESS

*Jeff Close,*

- Road Closures – Would like to draft a plan for when people stuck in town due to road closures..
  - List of people they could contact (group).
  - Bus tours / Movie Theatre / Waltzing Matilda Centre.

*Anne Seymour*

- Workshop – Email through some ideas to come up with a plan to bring back to the next committee meeting.

### 23.02.03

Moved: Jeff Close

Seconded: Lyn Fraser

That the Tourism Strategy Committee recommend the promotion of tourism events by displaying them in the Winton Shire Council Calendar moving forward and for the Tourism Strategy committee to proof read before printing.

**CARRIED**

### 23.02.04

Moved: Lyn Fraser

Seconded: Joe Minehan

That Council investigate the Electrical Vehicle Station opening date.

**CARRIED**

### 23.02.05

Moved: Robyn Stephens

Seconded: Jeff Close

That a Sign Audit and Strategy plan to be developed.

**CARRIED**

*Jeff Close*

Outback Writers' Festival Inc report.

The eight Outback Writer's Festival will be held in Winton from Tuesday 20th June 2023 to Thursday 22nd June. The 3000 word maximum short story competition is now open - the theme simply 'The Outback'. Our point of difference as a festival is that the best of the short stories are printed in an annual volume and offered for sale. Corfield and Fitzmaurice is a major outlet for these.

We already have a mix of sessions - all open to all and free to the public. From "The Call of the Kimberley's" to poetry by Bronze Swagman Winner Don Crane to a new book called 'Barcaldine Downs' by Kerry Yates. A how to write session is also included.

As usual there will be the Association's AGM, a dinner where the winners are announced and a social function, utilising Red Dirt tours. We are negotiating to have sessions at the new Lost Poet Cafe and the library, as well as the Waltzing Matilda Centre.

## **8 CLOSURE AND NEXT MEETING DATE**

Ordinary Meeting TBA

**The Meeting closed at 7:00pm**

**The minutes of this meeting were confirmed at the Tourism Strategy Committee held on TBA**

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**CHAIRPERSON**