

BROOME CHAMBER OF COMMERCE (Incorporated)

PO Box 1307, Broome WA 6725

ABN 12 061 483 997



Phone: (08) 9193 5553 Fax: (08) 9193 7353 Email: administration@broomechamber.com.au

MINUTES OF MEMBERS MEETING

Wednesday 17th August 2011 12.10pm

Board Room

44 Blackman Street Broome

1. Attendees and Apologies

Attendees:

Executive Committee: Elisabeth Lucke (Chair), Phil Cox, Teresa Manning, Glen Chidlow, Mike Windle, Mike Young, Nick Belyea, Mike Dunnett, Jillian Philp

Members: Peter Newbound (WA Insurance Brokers), Jo Evans & Darren Jasse (Boilys & Co), Sue Thomas (Engawa Architects), Rob Cox (FESA), Craig Phillips (Eclipse Computers),

Staff: Maryanne Petersen, Aly Gale

Apologies: Tony Proctor, Chris Mitchell, Ron Johnston, Bishop Saunders

2. Executive Officers Report

The Executive Officer, Maryanne presented her report which contained the following:

- Broome Chamber and Dept of Industrial Relations have held two Industrial Relations Forums recently which were well attended. Another Skilled Migration workshop will be held possibly in October to assist employers wanting to access 457 visa or other skilled migration to fulfil work needs.
- Broome Chamber's new membership prospectus is with the printers. The new logo design is in progress. Chambers new website is also being developed which will be more interactive and will have a members only access section with more information for members.
- Tuesday 23rd (next week) there is the Business Women's Lunch co-hosted with Bankwest. There has been a great response of 68 women and more on the waitlist.
- The Chamber has developed a Local Participation Policy for all organisations seeking to do business in Broome. A copy was circulated at the meeting and along with other policy documents will be available on the new Chamber website.
- Kimberley Economic Forum this year is in Kununurra next week. Maryanne will be attending. They have established a website that will be handed on to Broome Chamber to assist with the KEF next year which will be in Broome.

- Maryanne attended a meeting with one of the Woodside Feed Tenderers. She spoke about Chamber's Local Participation Policy, what Broome Chamber of Commerce sees as a future needs for Broome, Social Impact Statements, etc.
- An international basketball event will be held in October at the Cable Beach carpark area with a moveable grandstand. Jillian will followup on whether the stand can be left in Broome after the event. It is planned for this to become an annual event.
- The Shire of Broome Council elections are in October. Broome Chamber of Commerce will be holding a 'Meet the Candidates' session. More information will be provided soon.

3. Administration Coordinator Report – copy attached.

Business After Hours

4. President's activities

No report as President had provided an apology for this meeting.

5. Members questions

Woodside – LNG Hub

Sue Thomas queried how small business would survive if Woodside came to Broome. She discussed with the Executive Committee matters such as relocation costs, disadvantages vis-a-via Perth businesses, lack of factual information being available, Minister Bourke's comments on accommodation and labour costs not being able to be controlled. Sue asked if there could be more facts available, and expressed her opinion that the biggest threat is rapid growth. The Executive Committee advised that Broome Chamber's focus is on assisting business adjust in the next growth and construction period. The Chair explained some prices may rise but advised members to look at their own business and work on a strategy to maintain staffing, and make choices to not be disadvantaged. In discussions with FEED contractors it appears that workers will primarily be housed at their camps not in town and so have a limited direct effect on housing affordability. Other factors are not clear until the FEED contract is confirmed but the concerns of members have certainly been raised with Woodside and their FEED contractors as needing to be addressed.

Further discussions were held on GROH and housing, subsidised housing, government housing and rental costs etc.

Sue asked the Broome Chamber of Commerce to investigate the critical issues and what the market might become. **Broome Chamber of Commerce will make a request to Foundation Housing to disclose more facts about market conditions and the housing accommodation impact on Broome.**

Craig requested the Chamber assist to inform small local businesses on what possible negative impacts to expect and how to deal with them and to pressure DSD to provide more information in an easy to understand format.

The question was raised what is the tendering criteria for Woodside and the percentage of local business support? Govt contracts support 10% local input but what is Woodside policy?

The BCC will seek a response from Woodside and make it available to members.

Letter to Minister Burke

Craig Phillips requested a copy of the Broome Chamber's letter to Minister Burke following his recent meeting which Tony Proctor, Mike Dunnett and others.

A copy has been provided to Craig Phillips.

6. Close of meeting – Closed at 12.55pm