



Hastings District Council

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OPEN MINUTES

INTERNATIONAL ADVISORY GROUP

Meeting Date: **Monday, 29 July 2013**

**Minutes of a Meeting of the International Advisory Group held on
29 July 2013 at 3.30pm**

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HASTINGS DISTRICT COUNCIL

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE INTERNATIONAL ADVISORY GROUP HELD IN THE LANDMARKS ROOM, GROUND FLOOR, CIVIC ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, LYNDON ROAD EAST, HASTINGS ON MONDAY, 29 JULY 2013 AT 3.30PM

PRESENT: **Chair:** Councillor Watkins
Mayor Yule and Councillor Henderson
Mrs S Russell (NZ China Friendship Society); Mr T Too (Multicultural
Association); Mr B Young and Mrs J Too (Hawke's Bay Chinese
Association); Ms P Huddlestone (Youth Council Representative); Mr
D Brownrigg and Mr J Morgan

IN ATTENDANCE: Project Manager: Executive Office (Ms C Paget)
Economic and Social Development Manager (Mr S Breen)
Committee Secretary (Mrs C Hunt)

1. **APOLOGIES**

Councillor Watkins/Councillor Henderson

**That apologies for absence from Mrs Padfield and Ms Speekenbrink and
apologies for lateness from Mayor Yule be accepted.**

CARRIED

2. **CONFLICTS OF INTEREST**

The following members declared a conflict of interest:

- Mr Tong Too (Multicultural Association, Hawke's Bay) – Diwali Festival and Asians in the Bay Awards
- Mr Brian Young and Mrs Jenny Too (Hawke's Bay Chinese Association) - Asians in the Bay Awards 2013.
- Mrs Sally Russell (Hawke's Bay China Friendship) - Asians in the Bay Awards 2013.

3. **MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR CONFIRMATION**

Councillor Watkins/Councillor Henderson

**That the minutes of the International Advisory Group held 11 February 2013
be confirmed as a true and correct record and be adopted.**

CARRIED

4. **INTERNATIONAL AND SISTER CITY ACTIVITY REPORT**

The Economic and Social Development Manager, Mr Breen provided a verbal update on international economic activity since the last meeting and highlighted the following:

- A recent workshop of education providers was held and Education New Zealand and Council have a collaborative willingness to put together a regional approach to targeting international students to the Bay.
- Southland has a “best practise model” on how a region can benefit from a collaborative approach.
- There was a core group of schools in Hawke’s Bay that wished to support this initiative and are prepared to contribute \$20,000 for this work.
- Further negotiation is being undertaken with EIT.
- Hawke’s Bay Wine Growers support wine growers in how to improve wine sales in China.
- The Hong Kong Trade Development Council is prepared to cover the costs of Hawke’s Bay wine growers taking a booth at the Hong Kong Food and Wine Expo, 27-29 November 2013. Up to six wineries interested.
- HB Winegrowers are considering funding a person to market Hawkes Bay wine in Shanghai

Mayor Yule joined the meeting at 3.45pm.

- Business Hawke’s Bay is partnering with Council on a trade development project identifying and building local capacity using China to boost business export capacity.
- Hai Sen Yuan Co Ltd intend opening a “New Zealand” Shop in the Hisense Plaza, Qingdao and have via NAC Trading sought assistance from Hastings District Council in introducing them to potential Hawke’s Bay suppliers.
- Hai Sen Yuan are initially seeking approximately one container of NZ products in order to have enough products to open the shop.
- At this stage the shop is likely to stock NZ olive oil, sheepskins, wine, and honey and that they are open to see what other types of NZ product could be stocked.
- Mayor Yule will be attending the store opening in November.

The Project Manager: Executive Office, Ms Paget advised that the purpose of the report was to update the International Advisory Group (Group) about International and Sister City Activity since the last meeting.

International Advisory Group membership – Pippa Huddleston, Youth Council Representative was welcomed to her first meeting of the Group.

Two positions on the Group would remain unfilled (Iwi representative and a representative developing strategic international relations) until after the 2013 Local Body elections.

Education Link Group - A boy and a girl had been selected to come to Havelock North High School and Hastings Girls’ High School respectively under the Nova Lowe Bequest and would arrive on 5 August 2013.

The Bequest would be used for the airfares and travel insurance of the two students chosen according to the criteria.

It was agreed that Ms Paget would research information regarding the Nova Lowe Bequest so that people were aware of the background of the Bequest.

Following the Blue Ribbon – Gerda Leenard exhibition - This exhibition will be held from 21 January to 4 May 2014 in the Holt Gallery at the Hastings City Art Gallery following the Group's sponsorship of \$3000.00.

Osmanthus Garden lighting – It was proposed to link lighting the Osmathus Garden with Chinese New Year (January) rather than the International Cultures Day, but the Group may prefer a winter event. However, the Group agreed that the gardens should be lit in the summer period when the nights are warm and balmy rather than in the cold and wet winter months. It was suggested that lighting in the Osmanthus Garden be all year round.

Guilin Cultural Exchange 2013 - A delegation comprising Mayor Yule, Councillors Collin, Roil, Watkins and Project Manager to the Executive Office went to China from 11-22 June 2013. Phil Carmine, Deputy Principal at Hastings Girls' High School also joined the delegation, which visited Shanghai, Beijing, Guilin, Nanning and Hong Kong

A six person delegation from Guilin led by Vice Mayor Zhou Wei is planning a visit to Hastings in early October. The delegation would travel from Brisbane to Queenstown, before arriving in Hastings to spend two nights here. Hastings District Council has offered to meet the delegation in Queenstown and escort them to Hastings, and to cover their travel, food and accommodation costs while they are in New Zealand. This is still only a small proportion of comparative costs covered by Guilin when our delegations visit there.

Sister City Conference 2013 – Ms Padfield and Ms Paget attended the Sister City Conference in Tauranga from 13-15 March 2013.

Ms Paget advised that Sister Cities New Zealand have asked if Hastings District Council would be willing to host the conference in 2015. Following discussion it was agreed that the decision on whether to hold the Conference in Hastings be deferred until after the Local Body elections.

Mr Brownrigg/Mayor Yule

That a Decision on whether Hastings host the Sister City Conference 2015 be deferred to the first inaugural meeting of the International Advisory Group following the 2013 Triennial Local Authority Elections.

CARRIED

Diwali Festival - The Multicultural Association Hawke's Bay (MCA) organised a Diwali Festival at the Sound Shell in Napier for the first time last year. As the event was so successful and very well attended the event will be held again on 12 October 2013 in Napier.

Mayor Yule left the meeting at 4.30pm.

The Napier City Council are providing the venue at no cost and sponsoring the Association \$500.00. It was noted that there were more Indians living in Hastings than Napier who would benefit from this festival.

Asians in the Bay Awards 2013 – The Awards recognise the Asian contribution to the economy in the Bay. There were five awards; Best Asian

Business; Best Asian Professional; Best Asian Restaurant; Best Asian Community Group and Best Asian Event.

Napier City Council sponsored the Asians in the Bay Awards with a contribution of \$600.00. It was noted that Napier City Council had never been approached for sponsorship for the International Cultural Day.

Mrs Russell advised that Mr Bromwich had been appointed as National President of the New Zealand China Friendship Society. The Group agreed that a letter of congratulations be sent to Mr Bromwich.

Councillor Henderson/Mr Morgan

A) That the report of the Project Manager: Executive Office titled "International and Sister City Activity Report" dated 29/07/2013 be received.

Having previously declared an interest in the Diwali Festival Mr Tong abstained from voting on Recommendation (B).

B) That \$500.00 funding be given to the Multicultural Association Hawke's Bay for the Diwali Festival 2013.

Having previously declared an interest in the Asians in the Bay Awards, Mr Young, Mrs Tong and Mrs Russell abstained from voting on Recommendation (C).

C) That \$600.00 funding be given to the Multicultural Association Hawke's Bay for the Asians in the Bay Awards 2013.

D) That the International Advisory Group acknowledges and commends the people involved in the carving and erection of the Pou in the Civic Centre for the significance it adds to the history of the City and bringing together of Marae and Hastings.

With the reasons for this decision being that the objective of the decision will contribute to good quality local infrastructure in a way that is most cost-effective for households and business by:

i) Strong District Identity: fostering civic pride in our community by developing our relationship with Guilin, China and other international and ethnic communities.

CARRIED

5. INTERNATIONAL ADVISORY GROUP ACCOUNT BALANCE TO END JUNE 2013

The Project Manager: Executive Office, Ms Paget advised that an updated financial account would be emailed to all members of the Group when all accounts had been received and paid for from the Delegation visit to Guilin.

Councillor Watkins/Councillor Henderson

That the report of the Project Manager: Executive Office titled “International Advisory Group Account Balance to end June 2013” dated 29/07/2013 be received.

CARRIED

6. ADDITIONAL BUSINESS ITEMS

There were no additional business items.

7. EXTRAORDINARY BUSINESS ITEMS

There were no extraordinary business items.

The meeting closed at 4.50pm

Confirmed:

Chairman:

Date: