

**MINUTES OF THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SHOPFRONT COMMITTEE
30 MAY 2012**

Present: Cr Neville Castle, Clr G Danaher, Mr Roger Bailey

Officers: Mrs Carol Farnsworth, Mr Matthew Brewster, Mr Andrew Muir

Apologies: Nil

Declaration of Interests: Nil

Meeting opened: 3.30 pm

ITEM: 1 UPDATE ON LEASED COUNCIL OWNED PREMISES

SUMMARY

To advise on Council owned premises which are currently vacant.

COMMENTARY

The Committee was advised that all Council premises are occupied as at 30 May 2012 but notice has been provided for the following properties.

All properties mentioned are listed with L J Hooker who are seeking prospective tenants:

- 160 Mort St Lithgow from July 2012
- 29 Eskbank St Lithgow from mid June 2012 (a new tenant has been located and will commence tenancy on exit of the previous tenant)
- Suites 20, 21 & 22 2nd floor Hartley Building from Oct 2012

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the information be received

MOVED: Clr G Danaher

SECONDED: Clr N Castle

ITEM: 2 CURRENT USERS OF THE HOSKINS INSTITUTE, LITHGOW

SUMMARY

At the Shopfront Committee meeting of 1 February 2012 a report was considered, in relation to the relocation of the current users of the Hoskins Institute.

The recommendation was that the Shopfront Committee liaise with the current users to find situation alternative accommodation if necessary.

COMMENTARY

As at the 30 May 2012 the position of the current users of the Hoskins Buildings is as follows:

Lithgow Senior Citizens:

The Lithgow Senior Citizens have organised premises with a private body and will remove all possessions from the Hoskins Building by mid June.

Lithgow Musical Society:

Council Officers met with the Executives of the Lithgow Musical Society on Tues 28 February 2012. Prior to the meeting Council contacted the UWS and it was agreed that the Musical Society will be able to use the Hoskins Building, as they have done so in the past, for their June production. The Society further advised that have organised to perform their Xmas production at the Lithgow High School.

Lithgow Theatre Group:

Council and the Theatre Group spoke on 10 February 2012. Council offered temporary storage facilities in the 'old' kiosk area at the Lithgow Swimming Pool but the Theatre Group have since advised they will relocate to suitable permanent accommodation at the State Mining Museum.

Private Gym:

As with the Theatre Group, Council Officers also spoke with the owners of the private Gym on 10 February 2012. They have since vacated the Hoskins Building prior to the 30 May 2012.

Residential Tenant:

Council's Managing Agent, L J Hooker advises that the tenant has relocated prior to 30 May 2012 to suitable alternative premises.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT

The Committee note contact with all users of the Hoskins Institute and progress with regard to vacating the premises

MOVED: Clr N Castle

SECONDED: Clr G Danaher

ITEM: 3 APPLICATIONS & ENQUIRIES: POLICY 8.8 MAIN ST FAÇADE RESTORATION PROGRAM

SUMMARY

The Committee were advised that since the previous meeting of the Shopfront Committee, on 12 March 2012, Council has received a number of verbal enquiries in relation to the Main St Façade Restoration Program.

COMMENTARY

Council has received a number of verbal enquiries in relation to the Main St Façade Restoration Program since the Shopfront Committee meeting of 12 March 2012.

To further promote the program Council's Economic Development Officer suggested that he will develop and distribute a brochure in relation to the subsidy and provide additional advertising on Councils website to promote the program.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT

Council's Economic Development Officer will develop and distribute a brochure in relation to the Main St Façade Restoration Program as well as do further promotion of the program on Council's website.

MOVED: Clr N Castle

SECONDED: Clr G Danaher

ITEM: 4 GENERAL BUSINESS

SUMMARY

General Business brought to the Committees attention.

COMMENTARY

General discussion was held on the following items:

1. Council to consider development of signage for a building heritage 'walk' program. Information on heritage buildings may be compiled by local historians with the final aim of the project to erect plaques and / or storyboards on or near the buildings
2. In coming weeks Councils Economic Development Officer will investigate a night lighting display of buildings in the CBD.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT

1. Council Officers investigate the costs involved for signage / storyboards and contact the Lithgow Library and local historians to gather interest in the project
2. Receive a report to a future meeting from Councils Economic Development Officer following investigation of a lighting display of heritage buildings in the CBD

MOVED: Clr G Danaher

SECONDED: Clr N Castle

The meeting closed at 4.05pm