

Violet Town Business Network

A sub-committee of Violet Town Action

MEETING NOTES Wednesday 10 September 2008



1. Present

- Pat Glynn Violet Town Thrifty Link Hardware
- Trish Delahey IGA Friendly Grocer
- Jo Beavis Violet Town Hairdressing
- Christine Nunn VTBN Coordinator
- Howard Myers The Parish, Walnut Processing & VTAG

2. Apologies

- Irene Jones Blue Wren Lavender Farm
- Pat Storer Victoria Police
- John Dunn Rural Works
- David Arnold Land Planning and Contracting
- Andrew Walter Walter Farming

Apologies to anyone who has been missed. Thanks to everyone who replied!

Please Note:

The following is a record of discussions and agreements made by the participants and taken by the VTBN Coordinator. It is important to note that whilst the agenda has been followed in this record discussions did not necessarily occur in this order.

3. Introductions

Participants introduced themselves and Chris welcomed all, advised of and received apologies.

4. Buy Local Policy

Chris advised that she and Marg had not been able to up-date the policy as yet.

5. Buy Local Christmas Promotion

Chris indicated that it would be good to start getting organised early and all agreed with this, especially as it is a promotion that all businesses want to support.

Agreements:

- Prizes to be reduced: 3-5 only, otherwise it takes too much time and is too difficult to manage
- Will keep eligibility for entry at \$10 and need to be present at the Christmas Carols
- Chris to follow-up Council to check if they are going to provide us with some funds
- Chris to contact all businesses asking for their participation, thank for last year, say how they can be involved
- Pat to contact Geoff regarding the use of his trailer again
- Chris to check the date of the Christmas Carols
- There will be a Christmas lights competition – Chris to notify community via Village Voice.
- There will be no competition between the businesses this year.

The decoration of the Cowslip Street was discussed. It was suggested that we should put silver for 1-1.5m on street trees and then have red material like a candy stick with a bow on top.

Agreements:

- The banners used last year couldn't be seen so were not really very good
- This was agreed as a good idea
- Chris to investigate mediums which could be used, need to consider weather, ability to reuse etc
- A working bee will be held on 22 Nov and if necessary 29 Nov to get the decorations up

6. Supporting the Business Network

Chris advised that it was difficult to get everything done in the time available, hence the minutes not having been prepared in as timely manner as previously. There was discussion about whether the number of meetings a year should be reduced and also where funds could be found to increase the hours available.

Agreements:

- December meeting will be working bee to sort the prizes
- In 2009 meetings should be held in Feb, March, April, May, Aug, Sept, Oct, Nov
- Chris to approach Sue Robertson and Catherine Macmillan regarding possible funding:

VIOLET TOWN BUSINESS NETWORK

Wednesday 10 September 2008

Business Network, geo-pressure concept, further up-grade of Cowslip Street and marketing products

- *Chris to review other funding as identified in the My Community newsletter*

7. Cowslip Street Improvements

Jo advised where the project was up to. Chris advised that Bruce was willing to come into town and take some photographs of works happening, but that someone from the group needs to ring him and advise when something is happening. It is expected that the works will be completed by October. The process has taken many more hours than anticipated and considerable negotiation with Council.

Agreements:

- *Chris to prepare media release when completed that talks about the process, what has been achieved and what we still have to do. It should also include a photograph of the works and acknowledge Council's input.*

8. Signage and road improvements

Chris advised that Pat and John were unable to attend the meeting to discuss the concerns about speed, pedestrians, intersections etc and that this will not occur until the November meeting due to prior commitments.

Agreements:

- *Chris to invite others that indicated an interest in this issue at the COW to the November meeting*

9. Thank-you

Everyone present thanked Jo for her hospitality

10. NEXT MEETING

The next Business Network meeting will be held on Wednesday 8 October 2008 at Violet Town Cafe commencing at 6.30pm

11. Meeting Closed 8.30 pm