

## Late 2013

### Informal Meeting November 26th 2013

Attended by Basil Cameron, Obi McDonald-Saint David Piesse & David Brown.

Discussion was about initiating a master plan process for Mullumbimby and what would be the best form of a proposal to Byron Shire Council.

The outcome of the meeting was that Malcolm drafted a submission on behalf of the Mullumbimby Chamber of Commerce. It was edited in collaboration with the MCC and sent to council on 20th December 2013 (The following is a précis of submission, full text can be provided if asked for)

### Burringbar Street Pole Painting Project

Janelle Stanford has initiated a project to have local schools paint power poles along Burringbar Street, there are approximately 15 poles.

- Attached is a draft of flyer sent out to schools in late November
- Country Energy who owns poles has provided a brief for how poles can be painted.



## Précis of Letter

Dear Ken,

The need for a master plan for Mullumbimby has ....

This proposal asks Byron Shire Council to outlay a minimum of \$40,000 for a master plan and strategic work to enable a range of civic improvements for Mullumbimby in 2014.

The objectives of the Chamber in this regards, are to:

- Stimulate the local economy;
- Foster employment opportunities and access to education / resources;
- Garner new transportation options
- Promote wider arts, entertainment and cultural activity; and
- Manage the visitor economy;

within an environmentally and economically sustainable context.

The benefits would include:

- A healthy and vibrant shopping experience for the community, that feeds back and supports the wider community;
- Strong and proud workforce within the community;
- Free flow of people to and from the community, both visitors and locals; and
- A strong emphasis on the beauty, aesthetics and cultural integrity of the town;

The proposal is in three parts and it is deemed essential that the proposal is enacted as a single package.



Response from Byron Shire Council General Manager Ken Gainger 10th January 2014

## Precis of Proposal

Master Plan for Mullumbimby Township

### Part 1 - Develop a Strategic Vision for the Mullumbimby (10-20% of project budget)

Develop a broad vision for Mullumbimby that is:

- Informed by the history of Mullumbimby; and
- Engages with key stakeholders and a broad cross section of the current community;

This vision should be framed in such a way that it informs:

- Future strategic work;
- Other strategic work or projects outside the scope of this project;
- The specific location and priorities of Part 2 and 3;

### Part 2 - Master Plan of Town Centre (around 50% of project)

Based on the detailed consultation in part 1 a master plan of the Mullumbimby central business area will be developed. Without pre-empting the consultation this is likely to include:

- Burringbar Street from Station Street to Dalley St
- Sections of Stuart St and Dalley Street North of Burringbar to Tincogan Street.
- Sections of Stuart Street and Dalley Street South of Burringbar
- Sections of Station Street North and South of Burringbar Street

### Part 3 - Detailed Design of One Precinct (30-40% of budget)

Part 3 is a detailed technical design and costing of at least one precinct of the master plan, determined in Part 2, this may include a construction certificate.

The reason part 3 is important is that there needs to be concrete outcomes and known timeframes from a project like this, in order to maintain community participation and momentum for the project.

# 11. Mullumbimby Master Plan Submission

At the end of 2013, it was suggested that "Creative Mullumbimby" could mount a community visioning forum the "Mullumbimby Big Picture Show", as a way to bring key stakeholders within the community together and talk about the future.

Late 2014 BSC council told Suvira that a Development Application would be needed to progress Gateway Sculpture Project. BSC also conducted early risk assessment processes on proposal.

Creative Mullumbimby Association



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### Creative Mullumbimby Meeting

Minutes - 4PM Wednesday 5th February 2014

Present: David Piesse, Stephen Hall, Suvira MacDonald, Malcolm Price & David Rousell

Items discussed:

#### 1. Gateway Sculpture Project

Suvira updated the group on the progress of this project.

Project will require a development application, the group discussed whether it might be better to develop a wider DA for all or part of the proposed Mullumbimby Sculpture Walk.

**Action:** Malcolm and Suvira to meet with Wayne Bertram to discuss options



#### 2. Mullumbimby Big Picture Show

An initial outline of the forum is attached. Discussion included background of idea, what we might achieve, logistics, who would be invited, scale and sponsorship. Group agreed it is an idea worth pursuing.

**Actions:**

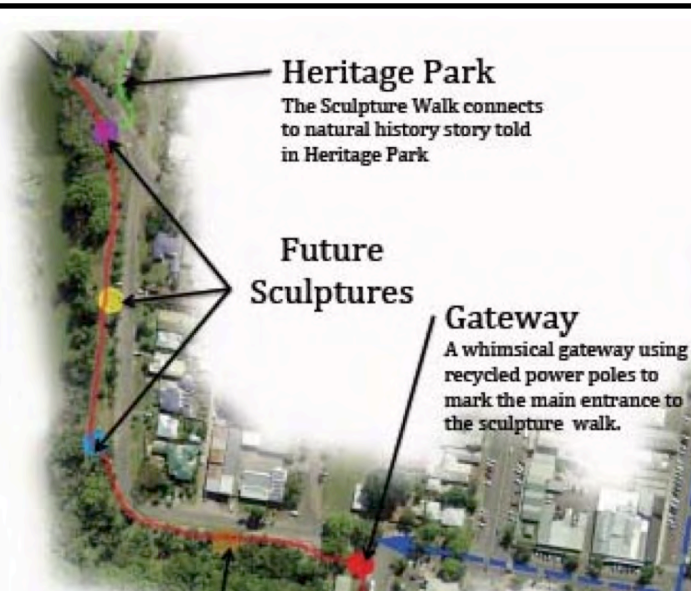
- To lock in a date and venue.
- Prepare a list of proposed invited organisations.
- Approach The Echo for support

#### 3. Masterplan Submission to Council

We discussed the submission that we prepared for The Chamber of Commerce and next steps.

#### 4. Creative Mullumbimby Logo

Action: We decided to have a little workshop to develop a logo. The workshop to be held at Suvira's place at 10:30am on February 15th.



#### Meeting with Byron Shire Council

Monday 10th of February - Present: Wayne Bertram (BSC) & Malcolm Price  
Discussion about the nature of a development application required to approve Gateway Sculpture Project.

Three application options were discussed:

1. The Gateway Sculpture Project alone;
2. The whole of the proposed Sculpture Walk from Mullumbimby Swimming Pool to Federation Bridge
3. A section of Sculpture Walk from Federation Bridge to Gateway Site including sites for around four additional sculptures.

It was agreed option 3 would be the best option.

DA will require: a plan with parameters for future sculptures; a statement of environmental effects and drawings of Gateway Project.

Actions - Wayne will provide Malcolm with a detailed plan of Palm Park, preferably in electronic form.

Creative Mullumbimby will prepare and submit a DA on BSC's behalf.

### "The Mullumbimby Big Picture Show"

#### Early Draft Proposal

#### Creative Mullumbimby Forum

##### Background

Many years ago in the mid 90's a group of concerned locals created a local forum on sustainable development called "The Byron Shire Big Picture", it turned into a number of events, and workshops that feed directly into the proposed new LEP that council was then preparing (but never happened). Maybe it is time for a new Big Picture Show focused on Mullumbimby.

##### Purpose of Proposed Forum

**Engagement** - Engage with Mullumbimby community and key stakeholders.

**Expo** - Invite local groups including associations and organisations interested in the future of Mullumbimby as a creative place, to set up tables to promote themselves and interact.

**Ideas Forum** - A number of presentations (around 15minutes each) possibly including:

- How did we get here - The story of Mullumbimby
- A new Mullumbimby Heritage Conservation Plan
- Community mapping and storyboarding - a process recording our future?
- What should happen on the former Telstra depot site?
- "Public Art in Mullumbimby" and the proposal for a Sculpture Walk.
- "Is Mullumbimby a transition town?"
- "Tallowood Ridge, what is it proposing"

**Workshops** - Facilitated workshops, where local people can share ideas on what they would like to see happen in Mullumbimby and how they would like that happen.

**Self Promotion** - Creative Mullumbimby will set up a stall including the projects we are currently focused on, to promote support and membership.

**Fund Raising** - Take donations for particular project ideas; ie Gateway Project

**Lunch** - shared lunch using Civic hall facilities

##### Proposed Venue

Mullumbimby Civic Centre

##### Proposed Date of Forum

Late April - Early May

## 12. Early 2014 Meetings

Creative  
Mullumbimby  
Association





### Background

In the mid 1990's a group of local people created a forum called the Byron Shire Big Picture Show. There were around five events held over three years, the first of which attracted around 2,000 Byron residents. The event included an exhibition of sustainable development, a cultural program and workshops. Primarily it was an educational event with speakers from all over Australia talking about best practice in a range of areas, including local government, economic development, building, agriculture and technology. A second event focused on community engagement and the third on helping Byron Shire Council engage more effectively with its community.

The strength of The Big Picture Show was its combination of education and community engagement. It educated local people about the real constraints facing Byron Shire and good practices and ideas from elsewhere. This became a base to engage locals on the future shape of the Shire.

### Why the Need for a Forum?

Creative Mullumbimby believes The Big Picture Show is a model that should now be resurrected. It is seeking to stage a forum with other local organisations, in particular the Chamber of Commerce, to look at the future of Mullumbimby. Much has changed in the past ten years, and yet there has been very little planning to understand and address the needs imposed by these changes. Some of these changes include:

- The disappearance of Mallams, a local business and the single largest financial supporter of local organisations for close to 100 years;
- The arrival of Woolworths in Mullumbimby, the first significant external corporate intervention of its kind in the town's history;
- The closing of the rail line and a significant increase in car traffic;
- A bruising encounter with the State government over the future of Mullumbimby Hospital and the dissolution of the Hospital Reserve Trust;
- A high turnover and vacancy rate of shops in the CBD;
- Development of Tallowood Ridge Estate, the first significant new residential development in 20 years;
- A significant decrease in housing affordability that has pushed many long term residents out of the area and made it difficult for young people and families to stay in town; and
- A significant aging of the population while, at the same time, the housing stock remains largely detached and unable to meet the needs of these folk.

Few people who identify Mullumbimby as their home would say they are unhappy living there. However, there is a sense that forces in the wider world are changing the town. This is happening with minimal strategic guidance from Council or local people having a say.

So, whose responsibility is it to direct development in Mullumbimby? Is it a remote State government

more interested in lowest common denominator solutions more suited to Sydney? Is it Byron Council with its limited financial resources and focus on survival? Or should the community take the initiative and lead both levels of government?

The idea behind The Big Picture Show was always to explore a third way, a way in which the community forms effective partnerships with government and other stakeholders.

A local organisation, Creative Mullumbimby, has recently formed, it has grown out of the Mullumbimby Chamber of Commerce, its main role is to help facilitate a place-making approach to developing a clear strategy for the town's future. This would be based around the town's identity, cultural interests, history and natural environment and supported by the majority of residents.

Announcing  
**The MULLUMBIMBY  
 BIG PICTURE SHOW**  
 A half-day forum devoted to  
 bringing the Mullumbimby  
 community together to talk about  
 what is special about our town  
 and what would we like to see  
 happen here in the next twenty  
 years.  
 A Saturday Morning at the  
 Mullumbimby Civic Hall

### The Show

The Mullumbimby Big Picture Show is proposed to be a grass roots melting pot of the community's ideas and plans for the future. There are three aims:

1. To reflect on what we value about our town now;
2. Consider and imagine what we want for the future; and
3. Begin to create partnerships with government and other stakeholders, particularly Byron Shire Council.

The Big Picture Show will begin with a **Community Expo** where all local community organisations are invited to promote their activities, and share ideas and resources with other groups. Associated with the Community Expo is the **Community Projects Soapbox**, this allows community groups to promote community project ideas with a brief presentation of up to three minutes.

The Expo will then transition into a two-part **Forum**. The first part will focus on the past and present, the second on the future. The forum will include a range of speakers:

- Mullumbimby's Story: "How Mullumbimby became what it is";
- Who lives here and how do we compare to other places?
- What are the main problems facing the town today?
- What would a creative Mullumbimby look and feel like?
- The role of public art in the future of Mullumbimby.

Apart from the **Community Projects Soapbox** there will also be a number of expanded presentations on specific projects such as:

- The future of Tallowood Ridge Estate.

Each part of the Forum will include a workshop, to give participants an opportunity to share their ideas.

The Mullumbimby Big Picture Show will conclude with lunch.

# 13. Mullumbimby Big Picture Show



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