

**Rockdale Chamber of Commerce General Meeting  
Wednesday 6 December 2006**

**Time:** 8:00am – 9:00am  
**Venue:** Grand Hotel – Princess Hwy, Rockdale  
**Chairperson:** Rami Abdallah

**Attendees:**

Diana Julia – Rockdale City Council  
Craig Bucknal - Bullie Graphics  
Mohamad Mobayed – Trendy Hair Cuts  
Alam Smith – A&L Easy Printing  
Maria Tsounias – Rockdale City Council  
Snez Cakoska – Work Directions  
George Kamateros – Zorpas Café + Restaurant  
Mike Baired – RAMS Home Loans  
John Dickson – Dickson’s Fashion + Shoes  
Tom Mackovski – Rockdale Newsagency  
Angela Dedovic – Touchdown Technologies  
Annette Leffley - Rockdale Dentists est. 1954  
John Touma – The property Center Rockdale  
Robert Ayar – Ayar Dental Practice  
Jim – Gianmisis – Rockdale Dentists Est 1954  
Joe Mandile - Joe Mandile Real Estate  
Walter Herrmann – Walter Herrmann Real Estate  
Paul De Maria - Hales Redden & Partners  
Nazmi Salib – Soul Pattinson Chemist  
Phil Favero - The Good Guys  
John Goff – Grand Hotel Rockdale  
Darwin Luhur – Rainbow Camera House  
Allan Wight – Metropolitan Funerals  
Albert Lee – Perfection in Sight  
Rami Abdallah – Richardson and Wrench  
Shaun Fraser - Rockdale Community Church of Christ  
Zahwat Hoballah – ITSYS Australia Pty Ltd

**1. Meeting Open: 8:00am**

Shaun open meeting and welcome everyone. Due to time constrains and church growing Shaun announced he is stepping down as president of the

Chamber. Constitutionally Rami Abdallah, the vice president becomes the president. Shaun becomes vice president (Rami and Shaun swap positions).

## **2. Apologies:**

Kim Chung – Migrant Resource Centre  
Tom – Bar Frisco

## **3. Correspondence:**

**Zahwat :** Letter from Council regarding King St Closure plan.

## **4. Council update - November 2006 – By Dianna**

Refer to Council Update at the end of the minutes below.

## **5. Website Update - Craig**

No web site update due to other special items on the agenda of today's meeting.

## **6. General Business**

Rami welcome Michael Cominos from Frank Sartor city office. Happy to take questions in relation to : Geeves Av proposed multideck car park, F6 Corridor, Cooks Cove project, Marina in Brighton-Le-Sands (Destinations Rockdale).

**Michael:** RTA want to keep F6 Corridor option. if it happens however it shouldn't use open space

**Cooks Cove Project:** Council was about to discuss two proposed plans for the project

**Michael in relation to Destinations Rockdale:** Frank Sartor's view that if people want it won't stop it.

**Tom:** Any plans to make princess hwy 24 hour clearway

**Michael:** No. Frank Sartor wants more connected town center not a scattered one.

**Angela:** Any update on the loading zone in Seven Ways.

**Dianna:** can't make it official it's a two minutes loading zone.

**Shaun:** Traffic committee won't meet before February 2007.

## **King St Closure Plan Presentation**

Shaun conducted a presentation about the King St plan to members. The plan involves developing a lot of infrastructure around the Street by council: plant boxes, street lights, seats with light, new trees, performance stage, big display screen for major sporting and other events. Most of that infrastructure is unique to identify and relate to Rockdale City. A lot of them are mobile to be able to be moved around as needed.

**Walter :** Asking where is the \$8 million or so council got from the sale of Keats Av car park supposedly to spend on car parking facilities in Rockdale Town Centre.

**John Dickson :** can buses stop on Princess Hwy during clearway time.

**Answer:** Yes

**Shaun:** Council plans to complete King St project by September 2007. Bill Woodcock plan is not limited to King St but to rejuvenate lanes around it as well.

**Walter:** Would the Council, as part of the project, spend some money on shop fronts in King St to make them more alike and consistent with new look of mall.

**Maria:** idea to be considered. DCP for King St project approved and master plan adopted . The plan is to complete King St as stage one and lanes around it as stage two.

**George Kamateros:** Better for the plan to be developed in one go for King St and Lanes around rather two stages.

**Tom:** No fashion shops in King St to bring people.

**Rami:** the idea is to have a mall for dining and recreation with restaurants, coffee shops etc.

**John Dickson:** Parrammatta mall had to be reopen because it didn't work

Question whether we loose any car park spaces on Princess hwy due to new bus stop

**Answer :** No

**Walter:** King St closure plan adopted and too late to oppose. Let's make the best of it

**Phil Favero:** we seem to be opposing a project that is good for Rockdale Town Centre. Let's be more positive and see the potential good side of it.

**Zahwat:** if council is prepared to spend 2 to 3 million dollars on infrastructure in the heart of the town centre it may be good and help expand the Town Center around the newly created mall rather than being limited to a small area. Let's push the council to develop the plan in such a way that, if any, it impacts positively on businesses around the affected area.

**Shaun:** the chamber will only support projects that it believes are in the best interest of its members.

King St Closure concept, subject to conditions stated in Chamber letter to council, put to vote. Adopted by Chamber.

**Alan Wight:** Funeral Directors business in Seven ways amalgamated with Metropolitan Funeral Directors. New White Lady Funeral Directors branch will open in the vacated premises in Seven Ways.

Meeting closed 9:00am

## **December 2006**

### **Improvement Grants**

Applications have now closed for the latest round of Shopfront Improvement Grants. We received 21 applications which described improvements valued at over \$47,000. Expect to hear the recipients announced over the next few weeks.

### **Christmas Campaign**

The Christmas Campaign is now in full swing! It contains 3 components:

**Christmas Advertising Brochure:** Please collect your copy here today and take some to give to your customers. It's a great way of promoting Rockdale Town Centre and the new calendar inside is also useful into the new year. Advertising spaces were offered first to Chamber of Commerce committee and members and all sold out so unfortunately we were not able to include everyone this time. Copies will also be going to residents and inserted into the St George edition of the Leader next Tuesday. Enjoy!

### **Santa Visits:**

Santa will be visiting the town centre from Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> to Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> December, every day except Sunday. He will be there from 10.30 – 2.30, walking around and

offering balloons and lollies for children. There will also be photo opportunities at King St at 11.30 and Walz St at 1pm each day. Look out for Santa or visit him for your free photos!

### ***Christmas Decorations:***

We have arranged Christmas decorations to go to each shopfront which have now been delivered. Each store received a set of lights (in Rockdale colours – blue, yellow or white) and a cut out (Santa's face, Santa with presents or Wreath), in alternating designs. Please ensure you put them up in your shop windows so the whole street can look fabulous with matching decorations! If your neighbours haven't put theirs up please ask them to!

### **King Street Master Plan**

Rockdale City Council has adopted a master plan for King Street Rockdale. This master plan proposes to close King Street between Princes Highway and Market Street to traffic.

The street will be converted into a pedestrian mall which will include:

- New larger trees
- More lighting
- New flower boxes
- More public seating
- New paving
- Improved public areas for pedestrians
- A children's play area
- More opportunities for outdoor dining.

The plan has also been created to allow the street to be used in a variety of ways including, outdoor markets, big screen events and festivals.

Taxis will still be able to pick up and drop off on King Street near Princes Highway and bus stops will be available close to King Street, on Princes Highway and Market Street.

Rockdale City Council hopes to start the transformation in early 2007 and will keep the community updated.

More details on the master plan can be viewed at Council' Customer Service Centre or on our web site at [www.rockdale.nsw.gov.au](http://www.rockdale.nsw.gov.au)

### **CRMS Feedback**

These are the CRMS requests that have been actioned since the last meeting.

**13931 Tree – Street 4-Dec-2006** A tree has a broken branch which has snapped and is hanging down onto the footpath, slightly onto the road as well, at 2-6 Market St

- **Finalised** 4-Dec-2006 Tree team is programed to remove broken limb by 10/12/06

**13929 Tree – Street 4-Dec-2006** The blue metal frame around a tree on Walz St is damaged and is leaning on the tree itself.  
- **With Officer**

**13921 Pedestrian Crossing Maintenance 4-Dec-2006** On the pedestrian crossing on Walz St, there is about a metre and a half of a white painted section where the crossing meets the footpath which becomes extremely slippery when wet. A couple of people have fallen here, could this please be made safer?  
Thanks.  
- **With Officer**

**13913 Traffic Signs New 4-Dec-2006** The position of the No Stopping sign opposite cnr of King & George Sts does not quite allow 2 car spaces, it has been repositioned to suit the new traffic island but can it be moved a metre further along to allow 2 full car spaces? Thanks.  
- **With Officer**

**13910 Traffic Signs New 4-Dec-2006** Shopkeepers near George St / King St / Bryant St often get people coming in confused about the street numbers and are wondering whether the street signs can include street numbers or whether they can be painted on the kerbs  
- **With Officer**

**13908 Signs or goods on footpath 4-Dec-2006** Premises on Frederick St have food items on ground and lots of rubbish out front, can someone please regulate this?  
- **Finalised** 4-Dec-2006 The owner of the reported business was spoken to and advised of Council's DCP in relation to goods and signs on footpath.

**12818 Drainage Maintenance 08-Nov-2006** At Tramway Arcade, there is a drain / man hole with a cover missing. A cone has been put upside down in it to cover it temporarily.  
- **Finalised** 09-Nov-2006 Issue investigated. Lid missing of boundary trap. Property owners responsibility to have repair carried out by licensed plumber.

**12363 Streetsweeping 27-Oct-2006** Shopkeepers have commented that the streets are starting to look dirty again and are wondering when the next round of water blasting is scheduled for? It would be great if it looked good coming up to Christmas. Particularly on both sides of the Princes Hwy in the main areas.  
- **Finalised** 31-Oct-2006 Water jetting has commenced in this area and will be ongoing up until Christmas.

**HOMEWORK : Please continue to report any waste / cleansing issues using Customer Request Forms.**

**Other issues investigated**

- Loading zone at The Seven Ways – declined by RTA (location too dangerous)
- Parking out front of the Spotlight / Good Guys (conditions of consent for development were based on no parking out front)
- Moving median strip outside Spotlight / Good Guys to allow for safe turns (with RTA)
- Loading zone at Keats Ave (conditions of consent for development were based on loading being contained within premises)