**Report from Hills Shire Conference 18/11/2014**

Karen Tucker 9/12/14

Session 6: Writing a successful Grant

See hand- out for notes.

\*Demographic data (available on council website) must be used to support any application.

\*We need to define a need that is in line with the “Hills Shire Council Communities Plan 2014-2015” themes (see p4 of this draft plan handout)

\*Only the top 10-15% of applicants get looked at by the council. Assessors weed out the others.

\* If a grant is given, constant monitoring and reporting back to council is needed

Session 5: Event Management- Best Practice

See hand-out headed : “The Event Institute”

\*Main theme was to do walk- throughs and check all the details before the event, especially of risks.

Session 4: Community Group Sustainability

See Draft plan from Hills Shire

\*There are 5 priority areas for action:

 ^Information and referral (see Hills Shire Website)

 ^Consultation and Development (an Expo is proposed)

 ^ community Hubs

 ^Governance & Collaboration

 *^ Stakeholders’ needs from council ie. a refined Grants Programme* *which is Outcomes and Priorities focussed (in line with council’s draft plan) There will be two rounds of grants: up to $200,000 from 22nd Jan ‘15, due 1st March; and less than $1500 from 1st July ’15 until it runs out.*

*There will be sessions to help apply for grants, dates yet to be announced.*

Session 3: Marketing and Social Media

There was no hand out for this. Please pass my notes on to any interested person. I think our marketing people would be already up on most of this.

Session2: Governance in Depth

See hand out notes from Hodgkinson McInnes Legal

\*An interesting talk about organisations, constitutions, tax, contracts, duty of care, insurance, sponsorships etc. I think we have most of this covered , but it is certainly worth regular reviewing, as a few NFP organisations have inadvertently been caught out.