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1. Acknowledgement to Country

Shellharbour City Council acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the Dharawal Country and recognise their continued connection to the land we meet on today. We pay our respects to Elders past, present and emerging and the contribution they make to the life of this city and this region and extend our recognition to their descendants who continue to live on country.

2. Apologies / Leave of Absence**3. Confirmation of Minutes****3.1 Aboriginal Advisory Committee Meeting 3 August 2021**

That the Minutes of the Aboriginal Advisory Committee Meeting held on 3 August 2021 as circulated be taken as read and confirmed as a correct record of proceedings.

4. Disclosures of Interest**5. Presentations****5.1 Shellharbour Hospital Redevelopment Project**

Presenter – Paige Blanton
NSW Health Strategic Commissioning

5.2 Introduction from Human Resources and Aboriginal Employment at Council

Presenter – Kelly Stehr
Group Manager Human Resources, Shellharbour City Council

5.3 Suburb Entry Signage Project

Presenters – Toni Lindwall, Team Leader Communications and Engagement and Bryce Hammond, Assets Officer, Shellharbour City Council

5.4 Update on the Aboriginal Interpretive Centre Project

Presenter – Bonnie Hittmann
Manager Community Life, Shellharbour City Council

6. Staff Reports and General Business**6.1 Update on the Bass Point Tourist Road Renewal Report (11741000)**

The purpose of this report is to provide an update on the Bass Point Tourist Road Renewal project.

Council is currently undertaking works to renew a stretch of Bass Point Tourist Road. An email was distributed to AAC members in August advising that the works were going ahead, providing information on the scope of the works and inviting any comments or questions in relation to the project. This process is in addition to the due diligence requirements that had already been undertaken.

One committee member raised concerns about some particularly sensitive areas close to the road site, in particular two bush areas where bush ovens once existed (Attachment 1 – Bass Point Tourist Road – bush oven sites).

A meeting was subsequently held with the committee member and the project staff to discuss the concerns and options to ensure Aboriginal culture and heritage is protected as the project progresses.

The recommendation from that meeting was to appoint an Aboriginal site officer to be onsite on the days that works commence near the two bush oven sites. This recommendation has been acted upon and Richard Campbell has been appointed as the site officer for that work.

Recommendation:

That the Aboriginal Advisory Committee receive and note the Bass Point Tourist Road Renewal Report.

Responsible Manager: Bonnie Hittmann, Manager Community Life

Date of Meeting: 5 October 2021

Attachments:

1. Bass Point Tourist Road – bush oven sites – *Page 4*

Attachment 1 – Bass Point Tourist Road – bush oven sites



6.2 Community Facilities Strategy Update Report (11741001)

The purpose of this report is to provide an update on the Community Facilities Needs Study, Strategy and Action Plan.

Over recent months, Council has undertaken work on a Community Facilities Needs Study, Strategy and Action Plan for Shellharbour. Based on extensive research and community engagement, the Community Facilities Strategy will provide Council with the necessary guidance to help plan, manage and activate some of our community facilities including:

- Halls, function and event spaces
- Baby, parent and child centres
- Club houses and amenity rooms
- Youth facilities
- Senior citizen centres
- Community and neighbourhood centres
- Arts and cultural centres

The Community Facilities Strategy includes guidance on how Council can provide appropriate community facilities that cater specifically to the local Aboriginal community.

The draft Community Facilities Needs Study, Strategy and Action Plan documents are currently on public exhibition and open for community feedback until 21 October 2021 and can be viewed at Let's Chat:

[Help us uncover our Community Facilities potential! | Let's Chat Shellharbour \(letschatshellharbour.com\)](https://letschatshellharbour.com)

Recommendation:

That the Aboriginal Advisory Committee receive and note the Community Facilities Strategy Update Report.

Responsible Manager: Bonnie Hittmann, Manager Community Life

Date of Meeting: 5 October 2021

6.3 Development of a Reconciliation Action Plan Report (11741002)

The purpose of this report is to provide information on a proposed Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP).

Reconciliation Australia is a national organisation whose vision is to promote and facilitate respect, trust and positive relationships between the wider Australian community and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. One way they achieve this is by encouraging organisations and businesses across Australia to establish a Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP).

In support of the vision towards reconciliation, Council staff are preparing to report to Council's Executive Leadership Team (ELT) seeking their endorsement to commence work on a RAP for Shellharbour City Council with the aim to have the Plan developed by June 2022.

The RAP will support Council's Business Plan and will include practical actions that will enhance reconciliation outcomes both internally and in Community.

If endorsed, Council staff will follow the process and guidelines as provided by Reconciliation Australia when developing the RAP – this will include having the AAC as key stakeholders in the project, engaging with members at key milestones along the way.

Recommendation:

That the Aboriginal Advisory Committee endorse a recommendation to the Executive Leadership Team for Shellharbour City Council to establish a Reconciliation Action Plan.

Responsible Manager: Bonnie Hittmann, Manager Community Life

Date of Meeting: 5 October 2021

6.4 Elsa Dixon Update Report (11740999)

The purpose of this report is to provide an update on the explorations of the Elsa Dixon program.

At the meeting of 3 August 2021, AAC members were advised that Council staff were exploring options to apply to the Elsa Dixon program to provide a training or employment opportunity for an Aboriginal person at Council.

A meeting was held with the Program Coordinator, Darrel Brown, to discuss the program and the options available. Further discussion were then held with key staff across the Community Life and Human Resources teams to consider the options available.

The recommendation at this stage is to not pursue the Elsa Dixon program until the current stay at home orders have eased and Council has established a Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) and has more considered and strategic guidance on the most appropriate education, training and employment initiatives to enhance employment opportunities for Aboriginal people.

Council will however promote the Elsa Dixon program to our Senior Management Team so that managers who are recruiting in the shorter term can consider the program and applying if/when a suitable position is available.

Recommendation:

That the Aboriginal Advisory Committee receive and note the Elsa Dixon Update Report.

Responsible Manager: Bonnie Hittmann, Manager Community Life

Date of Meeting: 5 October 2021

**6.5 Aboriginal Advisory Committee Membership Renewal Report
(11741003)**

The purpose of this report is to provide an update on the AAC membership renewal for the next two year period from October 2021 to October 2023.

Council is currently undertaking a process of renewing the Community Representatives for all relevant committees, including the AAC. Nominations were opened up on 2 September 2021 and closed on 16 September 2021. All current AAC members were notified and invited to re-submit an application for membership.

Council staff are currently reviewing the nominations and the final recommendations will go to an Ordinary Council meeting on 12 October 2021. Nominees will be notified in writing of the outcome of their application once endorsed by Council.

Recommendation:

That the Aboriginal Advisory Committee receive and note the Aboriginal Advisory Committee Membership Renewal Report.

Responsible Manager: Bonnie Hittmann, Manager Community Life

Date of Meeting: 5 October 2021

6.6 NAIDOC Events Update Report (11740998)

The purpose of this report is to provide an update on the NAIDOC events.

At the meeting of 3 August 2021, the committee were informed of proposed changes to the 2021 NAIDOC events – both the Community Day and the Local Government Regional NAIDOC Awards. At that time Council staff were proposing the Community Day to be postponed to a later date (date to be determined) and the NAIDOC Awards to be rescheduled to 23 October 2021.

Since the time of that meeting, due to the ongoing public health orders and the NSW Government position on outdoor events, a decision has been made to cancel the Regional NAIDOC Awards event. However, staff are aiming to still acknowledge this year's award recipients and celebrate the 10 years of Regional NAIDOC through a film and online initiative. A further verbal update will be provided at the meeting.

Recommendation:

That the Aboriginal Advisory Committee receive and note the NAIDOC Events Update Report.

Responsible Manager: Bonnie Hittmann, Manager Community Life

Date of Meeting: 5 October 2021

6.7 Request for Nomination to Coastal Management Advisory Committee (11743770)

The purpose of this report is to seek a nomination for an Aboriginal Community Representative to be a representative on the Shellharbour Coastal Management Advisory Committee for two years. This committee will meet approximately 2-4 times a year, with the first committee meeting starting early next year.

The purpose of the Coastal Management Advisory Committee is to enable the community and other stakeholders the opportunity to provide input, feedback, and support to Council on the development and implementation of the Coastal Management Program (CMP) for Shellharbour's Open Coast.

The person nominated should demonstrate an interest, understanding and commitment to coastal management across the entire Shellharbour coastline and coastal zone.

Council staff are currently reviewing the nominations and the final recommendations will go to an Ordinary Council meeting on 12 October 2021. Nominees will be notified in writing of the outcome of their application once endorsed by Council.

Recommendation:

That the Aboriginal Advisory Committee nominate a member to be a representative on the Coastal Management Advisory Committee to be endorsed by Council.

Report Prepared by: Leslie Reid, Senior Coastal Officer

Responsible Manager: Natalia McGregor, Manager Environment

Date of Meeting: 5 October 2021

7. Items for Information

8. Next Meeting

Please note that today's meeting is the final meeting with the current Community Representatives as their two year term will expire October 2021.

New Community Representatives appointments for the period October 2021 to October 2023 will be endorsed by Council at its meeting on 12 October 2021 and representatives will be informed via email.

The next meeting of the Aboriginal Advisory Committee is **to be advised**.