

**Minutes of the Aboriginal Advisory Committee Meeting
of Shellharbour City Council held in the Ground Floor Training Room
on Wednesday, 17 April 2024 commencing at 3:30 PM**

Attendance

Present:

Mayor Chris Homer (Chair)	Councillor
Cr Lou Stefanovski	Councillor
Cr Colin Gow	Councillor
Aunty Lindy Lawler	Community Representative
Ann-Maree Fohrman	Community Representative

In Attendance:

Kate Jessep	Executive Director Community and Culture
Matt Sutherland	Executive Manager Community and Creative Services
Belinda Crook	Acting Manager Community Life
Maiquilla Brown	Aboriginal Community Liaison Officer
Lisa Davey	Governance Manager
Cr John Davey	Councillor (Observer)
Justine Ledwidge	Administration Officer (Minute Taker)
Marjorie Papagallo-Dix	Administration Officer (Technical Assistant)
Dean Adams	Asset Officer (Part)
Leslie Reid	Coastal Program Coordinator (Part)
Ben Stewart	Executive Director Infrastructure Services (Part)

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

An apology was tendered on behalf of Community Representatives, Uncle Richard Davis, Dr Jodi Edwards and Manager Community Life, Bonnie Hittmann.

3 Confirmation of Minutes

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: Cr Gow/ Aunty Lindy Lawler

That the Minutes of the 29 November 2023 and the Minutes/Notes of the 28 February 2024 of the Aboriginal Advisory Committee meetings as circulated be taken as read and confirmed as a correct record of proceedings.

CARRIED

4 Disclosures of Interest

Nil

5 Presentations

Executive Director Infrastructure Services, Ben Stewart attended the meeting at 3:35 pm to share with the committee the Diversity and Inclusion Award Council received at the Institute of Public Works Engineering Australasia (IPWEA) Excellence Awards for the Yirran muru, Aboriginal Interpretive play space.

Ben Stewart congratulated the committee and members on their contribution and collaboration with the Aboriginal community and schools.

Ben Stewart left the meeting at 3:40pm

5.1 Capital Projects Update

A presentation was provided by Council's Asset Officer, Dean Adams on Capital Projects for King Mickey Park ACHA, Bass Point Reserve Road Upgrade and Boonerah Point Reserve Projects.

Dean Adams left the meeting at 3:49pm

5.2 Environmental Grants Update

A presentation was provided by Council's Coastal Program Coordinator, Leslie Reid on the Environmental Grants awarded for:

- Bass Point Restoration
- Warilla Beach
- Coastal Values Grant
- Sydney infringement undertaking
- Feasibility Study – Dredging Lake Illawarra, Koonah Bay, Burroo Bay and Horsley Creek Inlet.

Grants have been applied for:

- Urban River catchment
- Coastal Management Program (CMP) – Stages 2-4
- Litter Grant – Stream 3

Leslie Reid left the meeting at 3:59pm

5.3 SACYA / Oakleigh Hall Update

Aboriginal Community Liaison Officer, Maiquilla Brown provided a verbal update on where this matter is up to detailing that SACYA outreach programs have occurred for the last 12 weeks.

An Engineering Consultant, Aboriginal Community Liaison Officer - Maiquilla Brown and approximately six other Council representatives attended the site on 6 April 2024. The engineer reviewed both spaces being the office at the front of the building and the hall on the oval side where programs are run from.

The engineer checked the office space, and determined it is not currently suitable for use. The flooring in the hall is in appropriate condition and the hall can be used, all bookings and enquiries need to go through SACYA as the leaseholder.

Council is developing an Oakleigh Hall masterplan, liaising with four major users, Stingrays, SACYA, Kookas Cricket Club and Warilla High School. Internal planning with technical experts has occurred. The draft masterplan will go to Council to be placed on public exhibition.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: Cr Stefanovski/Aunty Lindy Lawler

That presentations for items 5.1 Capital Projects Update and 5.2 Environmental Grants Update and the update on 5.3 SACYA/Oakleigh Hall Update be received and noted.

CARRIED

6 Reports

6.1 Standing Item - Aboriginal Employment Update

Aboriginal Community Liaison Officer, Maiquilla Brown provided an update on the progress of the Aboriginal – targeted role of Library Program Officer, advising Council followed the Committee's suggestions to promote the position, and has been able to establish a suitable candidate pool for interviews through the committee's guidance.

6.2 Standing Item - Bass Point Interpretive Centre Update

Aboriginal Community Liaison Officer, Maiquilla Brown provided a verbal update that a meeting has been set up with Dr Jodi Edwards and Uncle Richard Davis as the members of the Aboriginal Interpretive Centre Sub-Committee on 7 May 2024 to receive a presentation around the Aboriginal Interpretive Centre from Council staff.

Governance Manager, Lisa Davey will arrange for the standing report item title to be changed to 'Aboriginal Interpretive Centre'.

6.3 Standing Item - Projects / Assets Update

Update provided in presentation for Item 5.1 Capital Projects Update.

6.4 Aboriginal Community Events Update

Aboriginal Community Liaison Officer, Maiquilla Brown provided an update on the upcoming Aboriginal Community Events including Reconciliation School Flag Walk, Shellharbour NAIDOC Community Day and Regional NAIDOC Awards.

6.5 Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) Update

Aboriginal Community Liaison Officer, Maiquilla Brown provided an update on the progress of implementation of the Reflect Reconciliation Action Plan.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: Ann-Maree Fohrman/Cr Stefanovski

That the Aboriginal Advisory Committee receive and note report Items 6.1 – 6.5.

CARRIED

6.6 Review of Aboriginal Cultural Policies

Aboriginal Community Liaison Officer, Maiquilla Brown spoke to the *Welcome/Acknowledgement of Country and Elders Protocol* and *Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Cultural protocols*, advising the committee they can take away, review and provide comment.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: Anne-Marie Fohrman/Cr Gow

That the Aboriginal Advisory Committee received the Review of Aboriginal Cultural Policies report and discussed a number of opportunities to improve the protocols and requested that a further report be considered at the next meeting providing an updated draft of the protocols.

CARRIED

7 General Business

Aboriginal Community Liaison Officer, Maiquilla Brown updated the committee on the recommencement of the Aboriginal interpretative signage project.

8 Next Meeting

19 June 2024 3:30pm

Meeting closed: 4:57pm