

**Minutes of the Aboriginal Advisory Committee Meeting
of Shellharbour City Council held in the Ground Floor Training Room
on Wednesday, 21 May 2025 commencing at 4:00 PM**

Attendance

Present:

Mayor Chris Homer (Chair)	Councillor
Cr Lou Stefanovski	Councillor
Cr Robert Petreski	Councillor
Aunty Lindy Lawler	Community Representative
Uncle Richard Davis	Community Representative
Jodi Edwards	Community Representative (on-line)
Anne-Maree Fohrman	Community Representative
Suzanne Clapham	Community Representative (on-line)

In Attendance:

Cr John Davey (part)	Councillor (observer)
Kate Jessep	Executive Director Community and Culture
Matt Sutherland	Executive Manager Community and Creative Services
Bonnie Hittmann	Manager Community Life
Maiquilla Brown	Aboriginal Community Liaison Officer
Anne Peden (part)	Project Delivery Officer
Fiona Robbe (part)	Consultant (on-line)
Lisa Davey	Governance Manager
Allison Bonaz	Corporate Meetings Officer (Minute Taker)

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 Councillor Kane Murphy.

3 Confirmation of Minutes

Committee Recommendation: Jodi Edwards / Cr Stefanovski

That the minutes from the Aboriginal Advisory Committee Meetings held on 12 March and 2 April 2025 be received and noted.

CARRIED

4 Disclosures of Interest

Nil

5 Presentations

Committee Recommendation: Cr Petreski / Cr Stefanovski

That the presentation on the Boonerah Point Project by Fiona Robbe was received and noted.

CARRIED

ACTION: Jodi Edwards to meet with Fiona Robbe to provide clarification of the story and connection of Gurangaty and Mundarbri.

At this point in the meeting Fiona Robbe presented via Teams the 11th award received for the Yirran Muru project, the 2025 Monocle Design Award for Best Playground.

6 Reports

6.1 Aboriginal Employment Update (Standing Item)

Committee Recommendation: Uncle Richard Davis / Cr Stefanovski

That the Aboriginal Advisory Committee receive and note the Aboriginal Employment Update Report.

CARRIED

Aboriginal Community Liaison Officer, Maiquilla Brown announced that she has resigned from Council to take up an opportunity with the University of Wollongong. Maiquilla was thanked by the Committee for her passion and the work she has done for the community.

6.2 Aboriginal Community Events Update

Committee Recommendation: Jodi Edwards / Cr Petreski

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

CARRIED

6.3 Aboriginal Interpretive Centre Update (Standing Item)

Committee Recommendation: Uncle Richard Davis / Jodi Edwards

That the Aboriginal Advisory Committee receive and note the update report on the Aboriginal Interpretive Centre including:

1. a presentation on the project site due diligence to date;
2. the draft objectives and design principles for the business case for feedback during the meeting; and
3. a workshop on key stakeholders and needs analysis.

CARRIED

ACTION: Following the presentation and discussion, the Committee decided that the Aboriginal Interpretive Centre (AIC) Subcommittee should meet with senior staff to further progress the AIC and bring the outcome back to the Committee. The IAC Sub-committee includes Uncle Richard Davis and Jodi Edwards.

ACTION: As per the Minutes of the previous meeting, the Committee discussed the appointment of members to the Aboriginal Culture and Heritage Subcommittee. Following discussion it was determined to continue with Uncle Richard Davis and Jodi Edwards until further discussion can occur at the next meeting.

6.4 Reconciliation Frameworks Update

The Committee agreed to defer this item to the next meeting in August 2025.

7 General Business

Nil

8 Next Meeting

20 August 2025 at 4:00pm

9 Meeting Closed

5:35pm