

**Minutes of the Aboriginal Advisory Committee Meeting
of Shellharbour City Council held in the Ground Floor Training Room
on Wednesday, 8 October 2025 commencing at 4:00 PM**

Attendance**Present:**

Mayor Chris Homer(Chair)	Councillor
Cr Lou Stefanovski	Councillor
Cr Kellie Marsh	Councillor (online)
Aunty Lindy Lawler	Community Representative
Jodi Edwards	Community Representative (online)
Anne-Maree Fohrman	Community Representative
Suzanne Clapham	Community Representative (online)

In Attendance:

Kate Jessep	Executive Director Community and Culture
Matt Sutherland	Executive Manager Community and Creative Services
Lauren Peters	Acting Manager Community Life
Rylee Goodman	Acting Governance Manager
Claire Killeen	Executive Manager Marketing and Communications (part)
Melissa Ritchie	Tourism Manager
Marcello Chiodo	Executive Manager Technology and Corporate Services (part)
Trudy Costa	Coastal Environment Officer, Wollongong City Council (part)
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 Cr Robert Petreski.

3 Confirmation of Minutes

Committee Recommendation: Cr Stefanovski / Aunty Lindy Lawler

That the minutes from the Aboriginal Advisory Committee Meetings held on 20 August 2025 be received and noted.

CARRIED

4 Disclosures of Interest

Nil

5 Presentations

5.1 Lake Illawarra Coastal Management Program (CMP) Implementation Group

Committee Recommendation:

That the Aboriginal Advisory Committee receive and note the presentation from the Coastal Environment Officer from Wollongong City Council on the Lake Illawarra CMP Implementation Group meetings between the two Councils.

CARRIED

The Mayor thanked Trudy Costa for the presentation and she left the meeting.

6 Reports

The Committee agreed to bring Items 6.3 and 6.4 forward as two Community Representatives need to leave the meeting before 5:00pm.

6.3 Naming Reserve 143 in Albion Park and the creek using Dharawal language

Marcello Chiodo, Executive Manager Technology and Corporate Services spoke to this Item and outlined the process for naming reserves and creeks.

Jodi Edwards mentioned that the reserve and creek would already have Dharawal names. This would require some investigation to confirm.

Marcello to liaise with Jodi after the meeting concludes.

Committee Recommendation:

That the Aboriginal Advisory Committee:

1. Receive and note the Reserve 143 and Creek naming report;
2. Provide recommendations for suitable Dharawal language words or names to be used for naming Reserve 143 Albion Park and the creek that flows through it.

CARRIED

The Chair asked to Receive and note the remainder of the Items en bloc as Jodi Edwards and Suzi Clapham needed to leave the meeting.

The Committee agreed.

At 4:42pm Marcello left the meeting.

At 4:45pm Jodi and Suzi left the meeting.

Quorum was no longer reached for the remainder of the meeting

6.4 Destination Management Plan Workshop

Melissa Ritchie, Tourism Manager, gave a presentation on the Destination Management Plan currently on public exhibition.

The Community Representatives, Aunty Lindy Lawler and Anne-Marie Fohrman took part in a workshop with Cr Lou Stefanovski.

Further feedback can be provided via Council's [Let's Chat](#) platform which will be sent to the Committee with the minutes.

Committee Recommendation:

That the Aboriginal Advisory Committee consider and provide feedback on the discussion questions outlined in this report.

CARRIED

6.1 Aboriginal Employment Update (Standing Item)

Committee Recommendation:

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

CARRIED

6.2 Aboriginal Interpretive Centre Update (Standing Item)

Committee Recommendation:

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

CARRIED

6.5 Capital Projects Update (Standing Item)

Committee Recommendation:

That the Aboriginal Advisory Committee receive and note the Capital Projects Update report.

CARRIED

At 5:18pm Claire and Melissa left the meeting.

7 General Business

Aunty Lindy showed the Committee a program that was completed by Jesse acknowledging the work he has done for the library and community.

8 Next Meeting

3 December 2025

Meeting Closed: 5:31pm