

SHELLHARBOUR CITY COUNCIL

Aboriginal Advisory Committee Meeting – Wednesday, 29 November 2023

**Minutes of the Aboriginal Advisory Committee Meeting
held at Civic Centre Ground Floor Training Room
on Wednesday 29 November 2023 commencing at 3:30pm**

Present:

Mayor Chris Homer (Chair)	Shellharbour City Council
Cr Lou Stefanovski	Shellharbour City Council
Cr Robert Petreski	Shellharbour City Council

Community Members:

Uncle Richard Davis	Community Representative
Aunty Lindy Lawler	Community Representative

In Attendance:

Kate Jessep	Executive Director Community and Culture
Claire Killeen	Executive Manager Marketing and Communications
Matt Sutherland	Executive Manager Community and Creative Services
Bonnie Hittmann	Manager Community Life
Lisa Davey	Governance Manager
Allison Bonaz (Minute Taker)	Corporate Meetings Officer

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. Introductions and Apologies / Leave of Absence

The Mayor asked the Committee to formally introduce themselves prior to taking apologies.

An apology was tendered on behalf of Councillor Colin Gow, Jodi Edwards, Community Member, and Maiquilla Brown, Aboriginal Community Liaison Officer.

CARRIED

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3. Confirmation of Minutes

3.1 Aboriginal Advisory Committee Meeting 30 August 2023

Councillor Petreski proposed the following amendment to Item 7 General Business of the minutes of the meeting held on 30 August 2023:

Councillor Petreski asked the Committee to clarify the wording of the Dharawal names and endorse the proposed Notice of Motion to the 5 September 2023 Ordinary Council Meeting.

This was agreed and supported by the Committee with further clarification to be provided to the Corporate Meetings Officer for inclusion in the Business Paper.

Cr Stefanovski then moved confirmation of the minutes with this amendment, which was seconded by Uncle Richard Davis.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: Cr Stefanovski/ Uncle Richard Davis

That the Minutes of the Aboriginal Advisory Committee Meeting held on 30 August 2023 as circulated be taken as read and confirmed as a correct record of proceedings, with Item 7 General Business to be amended to:

Councillor Petreski asked the Committee to clarify the wording of the Dharawal names and endorse the proposed Notice of Motion to the 5 September 2023 Ordinary Council Meeting.

This was agreed and supported by the Committee with further clarification to be provided to the Corporate Meetings Officer for inclusion in the Business Paper.

CARRIED 4/1

FOR: Cr Lou Stefanovski, Cr Rob Petreski, Uncle Richard Davis, Auntie Lindy Lawler

AGAINST: Mayor Chris Homer

4. Disclosures of Interest

Nil

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5. Verbal Updates/Discussions

5.1 Reflect Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP)

Bonnie Hittmann, Manager Community Life provided a verbal update on the Reflect RAP.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: Uncle Richard Davis / Cr Stefanovski

That the verbal update on the Reflect Reconciliation Action Plan be received and noted.

CARRIED

5.2 Regional NAIDOC Awards

Bonnie Hittmann, Manager Community Life provided a verbal update and tabled a printed copy of the Sponsorship Package for NAIDOC 2024 and Language translations sheet used for the sponsorship document.

Bonnie asked the community representatives to provide feedback to her or Maiquilla Brown.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: Cr Stefanovski/Aunty Lindy Lawler

That the verbal update on the Regional NAIDOC Awards be received and noted.

CARRIED

5.3 Aboriginal Community Events for 2024

Bonnie Hittmann, Manager Community Life provided a verbal update on the early stages of planning for the Aboriginal Community Events for 2024:

- Reconciliation School Flag Walk – Monday 27 June 2024
- NAIDOC Community Day – Monday 8 July 2024

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: Uncle Richard Davis / Cr Stefanovski

That the verbal update on the Aboriginal Community Events for 2024 be received and noted.

CARRIED

5.4 Summary of Achievements and Future Opportunities for AAC Members

We would like to thank the current term of AAC community representatives for their advice and support over the past 2 years. Collectively the group have contributed to and advised on the following achievements:

- Development and implementation of the Reflect Reconciliation Action Plan
- Development, design and launch of Yirran Muru – Aboriginal Interpretive play space at the Civic Centre
- Supporting and advising Council on how to proceed with the Rutledge Collection of First Nations artefacts
- New suburb entry signs including Dharawal names and language, and art by local artist Jasmine Sarin
- Advising on cultural and heritage aspects of important local locations such as Bass Point, Killalea, and Reddall Reserve

The community representative nominations for AAC membership for the next two-year term, are open and will close on Friday 1 December 2023.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: Cr Stefanovski / Uncle Richard Davis

That the verbal update on the achievements and future opportunities for Aboriginal Advisory Committee Members be received and noted.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: Cr Stefanovski/Cr Petreski

That the Aboriginal Advisory Committee members be thanked for their contribution to the committee in 2023.

CARRIED

6. Next Meeting

Committee Meetings commencing next year, will be determined following the endorsement of the community representatives at the next Ordinary Council Meeting on 12 December 2023.

As per the Terms of Reference, the meetings will generally occur every two months on a Wednesday afternoon at 3:30pm, held at the Civic Centre.

Committee members thanked everyone for the work completed over the previous term and wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

Meeting closed at 4:24PM