

MINUTES

ABORIGINAL REFERENCE GROUP

2.00PM ON WEDNESDAY 22 AUGUST 2018



PRESENT

Lord Mayor Cr Gordon Bradbery

Aunty Bev Armer

Cr Vicky King (3.10pm)

Leanne Olive

APOLOGIES

Aunty Sharralyn Robinson

Uncle Richard Archibald

IN ATTENDANCE

Armando Reviglio (Chair)

Mark Bond – Recreation Services Manager

Kristeen Sandercock (Minutes)

Steve Maidment – Recreation and Open Space Project Officer

Kerry Hunt – Manager Community Cultural and Economic Development

Susan Wardle – Public Relations Manager

Karina Ponne – Legal Counsel
Erina Kilpatrick – Planning Lawyer

Vanni De Luca – Environment and Conservation Services Manager

1 WELCOME – Chair

2 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY – Chair

3 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST – Nil

4 APOLOGIES – Apologies were received and accepted on behalf of Aunty Sharralyn Robinson and Uncle Richard Archibald

5 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 23 MAY 2018 – ACCEPTED

- Item 10.3. Smoking Ceremony List – Uncle Gerald Brown can conduct smoking ceremonies
- Brad Bevis – cannot conduct smoking ceremonies and his name is to be removed from list.

6 BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

- Item 8.4. Cultural Plan – Kiosha contacted groups – now completed.

7 KARREUAIIRA PARK NAME UPDATE – MARK BOND / STEVE MAIDMENT

- For the new reserve located in the new housing development in Wongawilli – ILALC had supported to name the Reserve 'Karreuaira' Reserve, (a local Aboriginal word meaning Fig Tree) as there is a predominate figtree onsite.
- This was publically exhibited and was considered at Council meeting on 11 December 2017 and was endorsed by Council.

- In February 2018, the Geographical Names Board (GNB) NSW sought clarification around the pronunciation of Karreuirra and their preference for an Aboriginal word. Jakelin Troy from GNB has requested a "sound file" for the correct pronunciation. Other factors the GNB consider in selecting a name is in the event of an emergency, a name chosen needs to be easily pronounced that Emergency Services have the correct address information to attend as quickly as possible.
- At its March meeting, Council rescinded its resolution of 11 December 2017 – Outcome of Exhibition of Proposed Naming of Karreuirra Reserve Wongawilli.

Following the Notice of Rescission being carried, the following resolution was carried –

- Council advise the GNB of the rescission motion.
- A detailed briefing be provided on the processes undertaken in the naming of the park.
- The Aboriginal Reference Group be advised of the Aboriginal Land Councils decision and be included in the consultation before the matter returns to Council.
- The matter returns to Council.
- On 12 June Council received a briefing with Councillor concerns around the pronunciation of the name.
- The matter was discussed at today's Aboriginal Reference Group meeting for the Reserve to be called 'Garreearra' not Karreuirra. This would allow for it to be spelt as it is pronounced – 'Garr-ee-air-a'.
- Aunty Bev Armer and Leanne Olive agreed to change of name as 'Garreearra' – CONFIRMED
- It was suggested that an interpretive sign be placed at the Reserve acknowledging and explaining the Aboriginal meaning of the name and the reason to spell it as Garreearra for ease of pronunciation and not Karreuirra.
- It was agreed to take the new name back to the Aboriginal Land Council and their decision will be relayed to the Reference Group members once received.
- Once confirmed, name to be taken back to Wollongong City Council Meeting.
- Cr Vicky King noted (after 3.10pm) that interpretive signing is lacking in the Wollongong LGA.
- She explained to the Aboriginal Reference Group that her rescission motion was no reflection of the support of Aboriginal names but rather she thought the name may be better placed in a larger more significant area of the LGA. She also thought that the name Karreuirra may have been used at another park in Reid town (near Fern Hill). The view of the Aboriginal Reference Group was that the GNB would have taken this into account so it must be alright to use the name Garreearra as they are supportive of that word for Wongawilli.
- Reference Group members explained that there are at least 4 main language groups within the Aboriginal community in the Illawarra and as such a suburb may need to have 1 to 4 names to represent each language of the area.
- Cr Vicky King will bring a motion to Council to develop "interpretive signage" across the LGA.

8 LAKE ILLAWARRA COMMITTEE NOMINATIONS

- All current members of the Lake Illawarra Estuary Management Committee end on 31 October 2018.
- New representatives are to nominate for the new Committee and Wollongong Council's Aboriginal Reference Group has one representative position on the committee
- The current representative is Aunty Sharralyn Robinson and it was agreed at today's meeting she continue to be the representative unless she is unavailable. Chair to confirm with Aunty Sharralyn.

9 DRAFT WOLLONGONG BOTANICAL GARDEN MASTERPLAN & MOUNT KEIRA SUMMIT PARK PLAN OF MANAGEMENT – VANNI DE LUCA

- Vanni explained about the Draft Botanic Gardens Masterplan:
 - what it's about
 - what is the plan for the next 20 years?
- This Draft document includes information from Community feedback.
- Document is on public exhibition at present until 3 September 2018.

- Please encourage your friends and contacts to view the Masterplan and provide feedback.
- DRAFT MOUNT KEIRA SUMMIT PARK PLAN OF MANAGEMENT – is not on public exhibition.
- Copies of this document will be circulated through the Aboriginal Community at a later date.
- Vanni acknowledged the first Consultant contracted for Mount Keira Plan of Management did not consult with the wider Aboriginal Community due to limitations in their consultancy approach.
- A second Consultant has been appointed and will conduct an extensive consultation with the Aboriginal Community.
- The Consultant has 3 main points they will follow in regard to the Aboriginal Community Consultation:
 - Respect
 - Appreciate
 - Involve
- Any proposals for this site must demonstrate these points before being considered.
- A meeting in late September at the Summit Park will be held with the Aboriginal community to talk about the strategy being developed and to consult particularly around “no-go” areas.

EXTRA ITEM | NATIVE TITLE CLAIM UPDATE – KARINA PONNE AND ERINA KILPATRICK

- Native Title Claim Update (ACT).
- Map handed out of individual claims. (Attached to Minutes)
- Crown Land laws have changed.
- Now managed by Local Government Councils.
- Karina is Native Title Manager for Wollongong City Council.
- It is now Council's Legislative role to manage this.
- Information about proposed activities /use of the land has to go to Native Title Board (NTBS).
- Information for the Reference Group Meeting – Beck Simon's family is part of the South Coast Native Title claimant/s. As such for internal processes, she has been separated from any involvement in this area while at Council.
- Any questions should be directed to Armando Reviglio and he will pass on to Karina and the legal team.
- Council doesn't manage the Land it manages the process.
- Aboriginal Land Claims are separate to Native Titles.
- Unresolved claims being looked at by NSW Land Council.
- Refused claims can be appealed. Some in our Local Government Area fall into this category at present.

10 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT WORKER UPDATE

- Beck Simon is the new Aboriginal Community Worker and will be working four days in the role. However she will also be working one day a week as the Aboriginal Community Transport Officer (funding for the next two years) which in effect means she is working 5 days a week covering both roles.
- Regional NAIDOC Awards dinner was held 28 July 2018 in Kiama – 230 people attended.
- The 4 Councils met after the event to debrief about the success and areas for improvement for the running of the next awards dinner which will be hosted by Shoalhaven Council. It was noted that the running of the event is resource consuming for the 'host' Council each year. Looking at other ways to plan and prepare.
- Suggestion that process documentation be put together and then handed to the host Council every year. This is now being considered by the 4 organising Councils.
- The Lord Mayor suggested that the Illawarra Shoalhaven Joint Organisation (ISJO) could perhaps run the event each year and that would assist with resourcing for it.

- The Process for Nominations for Elder of the Year needs to be improved. There have been some questions asked as to how the identification of nominees being regarded as an Elder was done.
- Suggested that the closing date for nominations be brought forward so more time is available for vetting each nomination.

11 WELCOME TO COUNTRY

- Deferred to next meeting.

12 GENERAL BUSINESS

- Nil.

The meeting concluded at 3.30pm.

Minutes to be confirmed at the next meeting to be held at 2.00pm on Wednesday 28 November 2018.

2018 – Future Meeting Schedule

Wednesday 28 November

Level 10 Committee Rooms 2 and 3

2pm – 4pm

ACTION SUMMARY

Item	Action	Officer	Status

