

MINUTES

ABORIGINAL REFERENCE GROUP

11.00AM ON TUESDAY 24 AUGUST 2021



PRESENT	
Lord Mayor Gordon Bradbery	Aunty Sharralyn (Shas) Robinson
Leanne Olive	Michelle Moore

IN ATTENDANCE	
Armando Reviglio – Chair	Alison Bradford
Scott Morgan	Dale Wright
Tom McColl	Kristeen Sandercock (Minutes)

- 1 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY – by the Chair
- 2 APOLOGIES – Apologies were received and accepted on behalf of Cr Mithra Cox, Aunty Bev Armer, Errolyn Strang, Brad Anderson
- 3 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST – NIL
- 4 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 25 MAY 2021 – CONFIRMED
- 5 BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES
Action Summary
 - Request to remove existing art works , Aunty Shas has tried contacting Sheryl Davis – still waiting to meet with her to discuss.
 - Bush Tucker & Medicine Garden guided tour at Botanical Gardens – confirmation Clarence Slockee is leading these tours.
 - Confirmation of Aboriginality – Michele confirmed that Wadi Wadi Coomaditchie Aboriginal Corporation do have the Common Seal to confirm Aboriginality.
- 6 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT UPDATE
Tom McColl introduced Dale Wright who commenced working as the Aboriginal Services Officer in the Community Engagement team. Dale responded and expressed his excitement about working for Council and the ability to make a difference for the Aboriginal Community in this role.
Tom provided updates on the following matters:
 - **Illawarra Escarpment Mountain Bike Concept Plan** – still working with National Parks & Wildlife Service on this plan (plan does not include the Mt Keira area). Area covers Mt Kembla towards the south. Geotech and environmental assessments being undertaken. Paul Knight from Lands Council identified a list of names of community members to give to consultants to be included when the trails walkthrough takes place. Draft Concept Plan will be placed on public exhibition for feedback.
 - **Corrimal Coke Works** – Development is underway to change the zoning plans for his area to enable a housing development for this 18-hectare site. Submissions close on the 31 August 2021.
 - **Hooker Point Footbridge** – extensive damage has occurred; plans are being developed to repair the footbridge. The artworks will need to be removed while repairs take place. Aunty Gwen Brown, Uncle Reuben Brown, Aunty Lorraine Brown and Aunty Narelle Thomas have been advised. The plans for the footbridge will go out for exhibition to the community in 2 weeks' time.

- **Hill 60 Master Plan 2016** – Adjustments meet the Heritage NSW requirements and final plans are being completed. This Reference Group and Community Stakeholders will be kept informed about these plans.

7 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT WORKER UPDATE

Kembla Grange Cemetery

- A staff member from Council's Design & Landscape team have been allocated to work on this project. Two community consultation workshops were to have been held before the end of the Financial year but due to Covid restrictions they did not take place. It is now planned to conduct the two community consultations virtually in the near future.
- Council will use its drone to take aerial footage over the cemetery. Footage will be shown at the online community consultation workshops and will help develop the design plan which will go out to the community for further comment.

NAIDOC Week

- NAIDOC events were postponed from July to mid-September but have again been postponed as the Covid lockdown restrictions continue. Decision to be made after restrictions ease if and when events may be held.
- Lord Mayor's Elders lunch is proposed for October – date to be determined.
- Regional NAIDOC Awards Dinner has been postponed until 23 October.
- NAIDOC week grants have been paid to the successful applicants. Council can now advise the total amount of funding for the 2022 NAIDOC grants will increase to \$7,000.00.
- As suggested in the meeting on 25 May 2021, an approach was made to the General Manager requesting a "one off" payment to the Illawarra Koori Men's Group for NAIDOC 2021. This payment has been made.
- Council's NAIDOC week grants policy to be reviewed before the 2022 NAIDOC week grants are offered. A suggestion was made that the word "Regional" or "Illawarra" be substituted for the words "Wollongong LGA". All members of the Reference Group supported this suggestion. It was explained that under the current policy a community group from outside the Wollongong LGA can apply for a NAIDOC week grant, but the event needs to be conducted in the Wollongong LGA. The Koori Men's Group will take that into consideration for the location of their NAIDOC event in 2022.
- 2022 Regional NAIDOC Awards Dinner will be hosted by Wollongong City Council.

Transport for NSW

- Interpretive signage to be placed on current Transport for NSW signage located in Bellambi, Wollongong and Kiama areas – Scott is meeting with Transport for NSW to provide advice to them in relation to our local government area.

Reconciliation Action Plan

- Waiting for Reconciliation Australia (RA) to endorse our last draft of Council's Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP). Once the RAP is endorsed by RA it will then go to a Council meeting for consideration.

8 WELCOME TO COUNTRY

Protocol has been developed and implemented.

9 ITEMS TO BE INCLUDED AT NEXT MEETING

If you have any items you'd like included please email Armando Reviglio areviglio@wollongong.nsw.gov.au
Council will be in caretaker mode from November awaiting results of the Council election to be held in December.

10 GENERAL BUSINESS

- West Dapto naming – has the process been finalised? A shortlist of names is open for public comment until September. List of names will be presented at a Council meeting. Council's decision on the list of names is then provided to the NSW Geographical Names Board who make the final decision as to which name/s are used for suburbs in the area.
- Karrara Bridge – two signs with artwork by Dapto High School students are due to be completed and displayed on the bridge by the end of the year. The Reference Group Members are excited to see this finalised.

11 NEXT MEETING – **TUESDAY 23 NOVEMBER 2021 – ONLINE**

The meeting concluded at 12.00pm.

Minutes to be confirmed at the next meeting to be held at 11.00am on Tuesday 23 November 2021.

2021 – Future Meeting Schedule		
Tuesday 23 November	Online	11am – 1pm

ACTION SUMMARY

Item	Action	Officer	Status
5	Request to remove existing art works	Carly Pascoe/ Aunty Shas	In progress
5	Bush Tucker & Medicine Garden guided tour at Botanic Gardens	Armando Reviglio	Complete