

# MINUTES

## WOLLONGONG HERITAGE REFERENCE GROUP

5.15PM ON THURSDAY 1 DECEMBER 2022



### PRESENT

Cr Ann Martin	David Bottin
Meredith Hutton	Fiona Reynolds
Sandra Pires	Nicholas Gill
Rod Logan	

### IN ATTENDANCE

David Green – Land Use Planning Manager WCC via Microsoft Teams	Hillary Powell – Local Studies Library Manager WCC
Joel Thompson – Coordinator Heritage WCC	Chris Stewart – Manager City Strategy
Carly Boag – Heritage Officer WCC via Microsoft Teams	

### 1 WELCOME

The Chairperson opened the meeting at 5:15pm and welcomed all present.

### 2 APOLOGIES

Linda Davis, Aara Welz and Sofia Gibson.

### 3 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

The Chair provided an Acknowledgement of Country and welcomed all Aboriginal people present.

### DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Nil declarations of interest.

### 4 MINUTES OF MEETING

The Reference Group recommend that ***the Minutes of the Meeting held on the 20 October 2022 are noted and confirmed.***

Moved by Sandra Pires and second by Nicholas Gill

### 5 WOLLONGONG HERITAGE STRATEGY REVIEW

The Wollongong Heritage Strategy 2019-2022 requires updating for the next period of time, this is a key priority of the Group as identified in the Charter. The Strategy sets out priority list and actions identified by the Group, as well as day to day management of Heritage by Council and aspirational actions. Scheduled to report the Strategy to a Council Meeting in early 2023 to commence public exhibition.

Council's Heritage Staff noted that resourcing and Council program limitations are important to consider in prioritising actions.

Cr Martin suggested that increasing the Strategy to a 5-year period in line with the Councillor Election cycle for the Group to consider.

Membership discussed key priorities:

- The promotion and conservation of Aboriginal cultural heritage;
- Stage 2 of the Heritage Schedule Review as a key priority to ensure Schedule 5 of the Wollongong LEP is up to date.
- Conservation of the Illawarra Escarpment and the broad range of coal mining, natural heritage and Aboriginal cultural heritage
- Updates on State Heritage nominations being progressed by Heritage NSW including the Mount Kembla Mining Disaster Site and Edna Walling Site
- Actions to ensure best practice heritage asset management is undertaken by Wollongong City Council
- Film requests on Council owned sites to promote the LGA as a Destination for Film, which would require buy in from Council's Community and Culture Division
- Identification and promotion of heritage items and stories across LGA

David Green raised that a number of studies have been progressed relating to the Escarpment including Aboriginal, Historic and Coal Mining Studies (2006), to be circulated to the Membership for their information.

Members encouraged to review Strategy and Action Plan and share any thoughts on actions or priorities to the broader group and a revised version of the Strategy will be drafted by Council's Heritage Staff and circulated to the Membership.

***The membership noted the information provided.***

## 6 MIALA HOUSE – PROPOSED LISTING

David Green provided update on the Marshall Vale/Duck Creek Neighbourhood Plan.

**The Membership resolved to advise Council's Heritage Staff that it supports the preparation and exhibition of a draft planning proposal to add Miala House, Dairy Complex and Fig tree to Schedule 5 of the Wollongong LEP 2009 and adopt the proposed curtilage and recommended within this report along with the other recommendations of the Wollongong Local Planning Panel and that the ongoing use of the site as a dwelling should be explored.**

***Moved by Meredith Hutton, seconded by Nicholas Gill.***

## 7 HERITAGE BLUE PLAQUES PROGRAM

The Membership were advised people based nominations were supported in previous rounds of the Blue Plaques. Doug Boleyn (former WHRG Member) provided two recommendations for nomination of prominent people from the Illawarra.

Membership should consider nominating particular sites or people by the due date on 21<sup>st</sup> December 2022 or provide a recommendation to Council's Heritage Staff, with a focus on women, migrants and Aboriginal stories.

Membership discussed seeking funding from Create NSW or other sources for a Council driven project to identify key stories and heritage items as an action in the updated Heritage Strategy.

***The membership noted the information provided.***

*David Green left the meeting at 6.22pm*

## 10 NATIONAL TRUST HERITAGE FESTIVAL 2023

Previous events held across the LGA were discussed by the Membership such as the Puckey's Ghost Tours and Gleniffer Brae events. Council's Heritage Staff noted that the Wollongong Art Gallery, Library and Botanic Gardens events being held are promoted during the Heritage Festivals period.

Yesterday's Stories and the Illawarra Museum Trail are launching self-guided tour and film premiers that may be suitable as an event.

The Council website should be updated to provide a link to Heritage Festival page through the events page and Destination Wollongong, Council Staff to arrange required updates once the event guide is announced by the National Trust in February 2023.

Members to keep Heritage Staff informed of any events planned for the festival period from April-May.

***The membership noted the information provided.***

## 11 STREAM HILL UPDATE

Joel Thompson and Cr Martin gave an update on the Council Report on the sale of Stream Hill.

***The membership noted the information provided.***

*David Bottin and Sandra Pires left the meeting at 6.45pm*

## 12 HERITAGE STAFF REPORT

## 13 OTHER MATTERS

***Councillor Martin closed the meeting at 7.00pm***

## ACTION SUMMARY

Item	Action	Who	Status
1	<b>Recognition of previous membership</b> Letter of thanks from the Lord mayor be sent to former Reference Group Members including Doug Boleyn Martin Gorrick, Lorraine Neate, Sharralyn Robinson, Georgina Element for their years of service and commitment to the conservation of Wollongong's Heritage	Heritage Staff	
2	Circulate Illawarra Escarpment and Coalmine Studies to Membership	Heritage Staff	<b>Complete Emailed 2 December 2022</b>

