

MINUTES

ABORIGINAL REFERENCE GROUP

2.00PM ON WEDNESDAY 28 AUGUST 2019



PRESENT

Lord Mayor Gordon Bradbery	Aunty Sharralyn Robinson
Councillor Vicky King	Leanne Olive
Aunty Bev Armer	

IN ATTENDANCE

Sue Savage – Community, Cultural & Economic Development Manager	Kristy Blackburn – Environmental Project Officer
Armando Reviglio – Chair	Scott Morgan – Engagement Officer
Kristeen Sandercock – Minutes	

1 WELCOME & ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

2 APOLOGIES – Apologies were received and accepted on behalf of Alison Bradford, William Henry, Beck Simon

3 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST – Nil

4 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 22 MAY 2019

5 BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

Mt Keira POM

- * No mountain bike on top of the mountain
- * Car park – Vanni de Luca to provide further information
- * National Park classification – Mt Keira is not classified as a National Park

6 LAKE ILLAWARRA MANAGEMENT PLAN DRAFT – UPDATE

Kristy Blackburn provided a hand out (attached) and presented the following update:

- * Currently open for Public consultation
- * Coastal Management Program (CMP) is a long term strategy
- * You can go to "Have Your Say" page on Council's website
- * Audit on every action undertaken over last 15 years – only 5 actions dropped out
- * Previous consultations with Aboriginal Groups/Land Councils
- * Look at places where erosion can happen and money for areas where erosion can be managed
- * This is a powerful document gazetted by the Government and Councils
- * Project cost – \$37million over 10 years to implement 37 actions
- * Some actions are taking place through money already allocated to them
- * Community fishing is not in the guidelines
- * Significant amount of requests for dredging of bays – they will be included

Windang Island was raised as an area which is currently eroding and needs care. This comes under Shellharbour City Council. Burials and middens are located on the island.

The Reference group noted the concern for the Island and agreed for Aunty Sharralyn to follow up with Shellharbour City Council.

7 ABORIGINAL COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Scott presented information around Councils proposed Aboriginal Community Engagement Framework which will guide Council and its employees as to engaging with the Aboriginal Community in a culturally appropriate way for Council matters. The process will be developed over the next 12 months period beginning in September 2019. Key outcomes of the Aboriginal Community Engagement Framework are:

- * Developing efficient and effective protocols, understanding of sensitivity of projects and cultural sites
- * Key Values: recognising local culture, appropriate approach to engage with Aboriginal people
- * Strategy: Community organisations or individuals gathering information to be included in framework, to guide and to offer respect when engaging with the Aboriginal Community.

Scott is meeting with internal staff to gain understanding on how they meet with the Aboriginal Community. He will keep this Reference Group updated on his progress.

Another project that Scott is working on which runs alongside the Aboriginal Community Engagement Framework is the Aboriginal signage project which will look at having the appropriate Aboriginal name/s and meanings on suburb signs and areas of significance.

8 WEST DAPTO BRIDGE NAMING

Lisa and Helena (Property) presented update information around the bridge. The community has been asked by Council to name the bridge. Suggestions are invited up until 9 September 2019.

- * Bridge will link Dapto to west Dapto and Horsley
- * A Case study is the Nepean Bridge which has "Walking in Past & Present"
- * Key Aboriginal groups have been advised
- * There will be artwork underneath the bridge which will also act to prevent graffiti
- * Over 100 suggestions have been offered at this stage – 12 are Aboriginal meanings
- * Dapto High School suggested "Karara"

Members of this Reference group suggested they contact Carole Speechley as she is recognised as having knowledge of Aboriginal language. Names will be checked and narrowed to a small group to be put forward to the working group.

9 250TH ANNIVERSARY OF FIRST LANDING

Chair handed out copy of an email received from Michael Organ through the Lord Mayors office requesting coordination with the Aboriginal community in recognising this event. To be minuted: the Aboriginal Reference Group is not interested in supporting this event.

10 MICHELE MOORE EMAIL – WELCOME TO COUNTRY

Chair handed out an email received from Michele Moore regarding her views on Welcome to Country (WTC) and who can conduct them. The following notes around WTC were offered:

- * Aboriginal Reference Group has an approved list that can still be used, as the Elders of the Illawarra area have given their cultural approval for the non-Traditional Custodians on the list to be allowed to conduct a WTC
- * The Illawarra Aboriginal Corporation (IAC) held a recent meeting at "the land" and is developing a new protocol for who can conduct a WTC if you engage the IAC to do so. It does not apply to any other person or group who wants to conduct a WTC outside of the IAC
- * No individual can say who can and can't do WTC
- * To enforce a Cultural protocol restricting our Elders is not on!

Aboriginal Reference Group members respect the culture of this Community and will continue to support the Community and the people in this area.

Chair will reply to this email from Michele.

11 REFERENCE GROUP MEMBERSHIP

In recent times only three members have been able to regularly attend this meeting. Uncle Richard Archibald has resigned due to his relocation to Northern NSW. Other members do not attend and under the Charter this needs to be addressed. There are four more meetings until the new EOI for Reference Group members in September/October 2020 are to be sent out in accordance with the Charter of the Reference Group. Members of the Reference group decided today to not seek any new EOI for membership for the group between now and next year but rather to encourage the non-attending members to come to future meetings.

12 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT WORKER UPDATE

- * Beck is returning to work next week
- * Lord Mayor Elders NAIDOC Luncheon was a great day enjoyed by all who attended
- * Regional NAIDOC Awards dinner held in the Shoalhaven:
 - event went well – over 300 people attended
 - thanks go to Leanne Olive for helping to organise transport.
 - 2020 is the 10th anniversary of the regional awards dinner – Shellharbour Council will be hosting

13 WELCOME TO COUNTRY

List to remain as is.

14 ITEMS TO BE INCLUDED AT THE NEXT MEETING

Notify Armando (Chair) if you have any agenda items for the next meeting

15 GENERAL BUSINESS

- * Mount Keira – POM is on exhibition.
- * Jenny Healey – Environmental Strategy. Suggestions on who to contact and engage with Community in regards to food, water and how to survive using self-sustainability, suggestion was made to contact Coomaditchie, Aunty Sharralyn and Jade Kennedy

16 NEXT MEETING – WEDNESDAY 27 NOVEMBER 2019

The meeting concluded at 3.50pm.

Minutes to be confirmed at the next meeting to be held at 2.00pm on Wednesday 27 November 2019.