

Minutes

Minutes of the Aboriginal Advisory Committee Meeting held Friday 18 June 2021

Venue:

Mike Rayner Room, Tweed Heads Civic Centre - Administration Office

Time:

9.30am

Present:

Des Williams (Tweed Byron Local Aboriginal Land Council - TBLALC); Leweena Williams (Tweed Aboriginal Corporation for Sport); Marcia Browning (Tweed Wollumbin Aboriginal Education Consultative Group - TWAECG); Tina Pidcock (Tweed Aboriginal Co-operative Society); Dale Williams (Bugalwena); Victor Slockee (Canowindra); Cr Katie Milne (Tweed Shire Council).

Ex-officio:

Helen Carter, Gabby Arthur (Minutes) (Tweed Shire Council).

Apologies:

Jackie McDonald (Tweed Wollumbin Aboriginal Education Consultative Group - TWAECG); Tracey Stinson (Tweed Shire Council).

Guests:

Stewart Brawley (Tweed Shire Council).

Chairperson for meeting

Nominated: Victor Slockee

Moved: Dale Williams

Seconded: Leweena Williams

RESOLVED that the Chair was declared vacant and nominations were called. Victor Slockee was nominated and was unanimously elected to Chair the meeting.

Victor opened the meeting with a welcome to all present and paid respect to Elders past, present and emerging.

Minutes of Previous Meeting:

Moved: Dale Williams

Seconded: Des Williams

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Aboriginal Advisory Committee meeting held Friday 7 May 2021 be accepted as a true and accurate record of the proceedings of that meeting with the exception that one minute's silence was observed for Gladys Phillips.

Business Arising:

BA1 The Tweed Tourism Co - 'Welcome to Gondwana' signage at the Visitor Information Centre at Murwillumbah

At the last meeting, The Tweed Tourism Co (Tweed Tourism) requested that the AAC suggest the names of community members it can work with regarding the new 'Welcome to Gondwana' signage at the Visitor Information Centre at Murwillumbah. The AAC requested

that Council request specific details from Tweed Tourism regarding the nature of the expertise required eg. wording or cultural design.

BA2 The Tweed Tourism Co - Visitor Guide

At the last meeting, Tweed Tourism requested that the AAC suggest names of community members who could tell their stories for inclusion in future publications of the Visitor Guide.

The AAC suggested that the first interview be with the AAC members collectively as a way to embed the correct cultural stories of the Aboriginal community. The title of the story could be 'Taking care of Country in a cultural context' and could include information from the AAC's 'Celebrating Our 20 Year Journey' publication.

Action: *Community Services Unit to liaise with Brad Nardi of Tweed Tourism Co to set up a meeting/interview with the AAC following its meeting on 6 August 2021. Brad to be requested to provide advice on the format of the interview and questions prior to the interview.*

During the meeting, the AAC viewed Tweed Tourism's latest publication which included an image of Cook Island. Des mentioned that Cook Island is culturally significant and not just a nice landscape to be photographed and that Council needs to acknowledge the cultural significance of Cook Island.

BA3 The Tweed Tourism Co - Welcome to Country for the Australian Society of Travel Writers Convention in October 2021

At the last AAC meeting, Tweed Tourism requested that the AAC suggest the names of community members who could provide the Welcome to Country for the Australian Society of Travel Writers Convention in October 2021. Tina advised that the convention has been postponed to October 2022 and will be held at Peppers Mantra, Kingscliff. The AAC jointly nominated Victor Slockee and Deidre Currie to provide the Welcome to Country.

Moved: Tina Pidcock

Seconded: Des Williams

RESOLVED:

That the Aboriginal Advisory Committee nominates Victor Slockee and Deidre Currie to jointly provide the Welcome to Country for the Australian Society of Travel Writers Convention in October 2021/2022.

BA4 Nomination of candidate for 2021 NAIDOC Week Hall of Fame

The AAC advised that the organisations will separately nominate a candidate for the 2021 NAIDOC Week Hall of Fame.

BA5. Letitia Road Closure - Councillor Workshop

Des and Victor were advised that the Councillor Workshop on 23 June 2021 will now commence at 5.30pm at the Murwillumbah Council Chambers. All AAC members were encouraged to attend the workshop. The AAC noted that the requested closure is only to motor vehicles, not to emergency vehicles, pedestrians or cyclists.

The AAC agreed that a survey regarding the road closure be undertaken of the Letitia Road residents. Tina advised she will prepare the survey for distribution and collection prior to the workshop.

Cr Milne advised that a second legal opinion is being sought in relation to interpreting the Roads Act.

BA6. Parking at Fingal Head Caravan and Camping area

A report is being prepared to the Local Traffic Committee recommending the installation of 'parallel parking' signage along Letitia Road adjacent to the Fingal Head Caravan Park and Camping ground. The process is; consideration of the report by the Local Traffic Committee on 1 July 2021, the Executive Leadership Team on 14 July and recommendation to the Council meeting on 5 August 2021 for endorsement.

Des advised that rather than having parallel parking, it would be preferable to remove the fence at the Fingal Head Camp Ground altogether. The AAC requested that 'No Parking' signage be installed along Letitia Road opposite the cemetery. The AAC also requested that the Managers of the Fingal Holiday Park and Campground limit the number of vehicles allowed for each site.

Action: *Community Services Unit request that 'No Parking' signage be installed along Letitia Road, opposite the cemetery.*

Action: *Community Services to provide advice to Manager Holiday Parks & Cultural Facilities requesting that the Managers of the Fingal Holiday Park and Campground limit the number of vehicles allowed for each site.*

BA7. CDO-Aboriginal Recruitment

Helen advised that three panel nominations have been received from the AAC; Tina Pidcock, Des Williams and Tracey Mackenzie or Marcia Browning (if Tracey isn't available). The two council representatives are Helen Carter and Stewart Brawley.

Moved: Leweena Williams

Seconded: Victor Slockee

RESOLVED:

That the Aboriginal Advisory Committee endorses the nominations of Tina Pidcock, Des Williams and Tracey Mackenzie or Marcia Browning to the interview panel for the Community Development Officer-Aboriginal position.

Marcia Browning left the meeting at 11.05am

Incoming Correspondence:

IC1. Tweed NAIDOC Committee - Request for nomination of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Community Person of the Year

The AAC nominated Kevin Byrnes as the NAIDOC 2021 Community Person of the Year for his ongoing work in the community. Victor advised that he will prepare the nomination and submit it to the NAIDOC Committee.

Moved: Victor Slockee

Seconded: Des Williams

RESOLVED:

That the Aboriginal Advisory Committee nominates Kevin Byrnes as the Tweed NAIDOC 2021 Person of the Year for his ongoing work in the community.

IC2. Request from Transport for NSW to consult with AAC re Tweed Transport Plan (Helen Carter)

Council has received communications from Transport for NSW seeking to consult with the AAC re the Tweed Transport Plan. The AAC requested that an invitation be extended to the Transport for NSW's Aboriginal Liaison Officer to attend a future meeting.

Action: *Community Services Unit to extend an invitation to the Transport for NSW's Aboriginal Liaison Officer to attend a future AAC meeting to consult on the Tweed Transport Plan.*

Outgoing Correspondence:

OC1.NSW Department of Primary Industries - Fisheries (AIATSIS Research Ethics Committee re Assessment of Cultural Fishing to Inform Local Management Plan Trial)

A copy of the letter sent by TSC to the AIATSIS Research Ethics Committee on 28 May 2021 was tabled.

General Business:

GB1.Welcome to Country by TBLALC at Councillor Induction

TBLALC has nominated Victor Slockee for the Welcome to Country for the new elected Councillors on 20 September 2021.

GB2.Burringbar Community Plan (Helen Carter)

Helen advised that the Burringbar Community Plan is a locality plan which has been written by the community and sets out their aspirations and plans for the area. The Plan hasn't yet been finalised and isn't ready for implementation. Des provided information on the outcomes of two cultural studies done by the TBLALC in the area. The AAC requested that Helen seek specifics of what the Burringbar Community Association would like from the AAC regarding the Plan.

Action: *Unit Coordinator Community Services to request that Burringbar Community Association provide specific details to the AAC of what it requires for the Burringbar Community Plan.*

GB3.Rail Trail

Cr Milne advised that the tender for the rail trail was adopted by Council at its meeting on 17 June 2021. Cr Milne asked if the TBLALC or AAC has been consulted on cultural heritage significance regarding the rail trail and whether cultural heritage has been considered in awarding of the tender for the rail trail.

Action: *TBLALC to investigate whether its Site Officers have been involved in providing cultural heritage advice regarding the rail trail.*

Action: *TBLALC to review the cultural heritage mapping for the area of the track as it may cross cultural heritage sites.*

Action: *Community Services Unit to search the AAC Minutes for consultation on the rail trail.*

GB4.Kangaroo sighting in Kennedy Drive, Tweed Heads West

The AAC were advised of the sighting of a kangaroo near Freckles Kindy & Learning Centre in Kennedy Drive, Tweed Heads West. The AAC noted the sighting and acknowledged that it was referred to Council's Sustainability & Environment Unit and the National Parks & Wildlife. The AAC thanked the resident for reporting the sighting.

Agenda Items:

A1. Draft Concept Plan for Goorimahbah – Place of Stories - Stewart Brawley (TSC)

The Goorimahbah – Place of Stories Inclusive Park and Playspace draft concept plan is on public exhibition until Monday 28 June 2021. The AAC were encouraged to provide a submission. The AAC were invited to attend the community information session on Saturday 26 June 2021 from 9am to 11am at Jack Evans Boat Harbour. The draft concept plan and information were tabled at the meeting. The inclusive park and playspace is scheduled to be constructed by May 2022. Please contact Jodie Hewett, Council Recreation Planner on (02) 6670 2400 for further information.

Stewart advised that there have been requests for water play elements in the plan however the concept poses many challenges including the cost of water treatment. Council has considered the options but have decided to proceed with the concept plan already developed. The AAC advised it is happy with the current draft concept plan.

A2. Norries Head Masterplan project - Stewart Brawley (TSC)

Stewart tabled the draft concept plan for Norries Head Masterplan which has been prepared following input from the AAC. Victor and Jackie were involved in the onsite discussions. The proposal is to remove the traffic from the top area and to turn it into a grassed area and for parking to be consolidated into the area near the bottom roundabout. There wouldn't be a reduction in carparks. The proposal also includes relocating the toilet block which is due for replacement in the not too distant future. The walking paths would be defined to make them accessible rather than people making their own pathways.

There has also been discussion regarding making the current structure near the headland less imposing and to making the midden a more significance place eg. creating an adjacent space for interpretation. In the longer term, there is also potential to continue the pathway on the western side of the road. Stewart advised that a Councillor workshop on the draft concept plan is scheduled for July 2021.

Leweena Williams and Tina Pidcock left the meeting at 11.48am

No quorum - the meeting continued with notes being taken.

Stewart advised that Kerrie Foxwell Norton is a resident who is heavily engaged with Council regarding the Cabarita Beach area. Kerrie is employed at Southern Cross University (SCU). Kerrie has advised that two SCU cultural heritage experts have offered to do some cultural heritage assessments in this area free of charge. Their only requirement is that Council offers something back to the community. The AAC advised it and TBLALC would be happy to meet with the SCU experts.

GB5.Pt Danger Marine Rescue Lighthouse Building

Stewart advised that the AAC were previously consulted regarding the Point Danger / Captain Cook Lighthouse building cultural heritage items (storyboards and motives on

building elements). The AAC agreed that Council engage Christine Slabb to complete the works. The Cultural Advisor to the City of Gold Coast, Hague Best has indicated that they would not prefer display cultural elements on a building named Captain Cook memorial. The construction was due to commence in September 2021.

The AAC advised it is a complex issue and that it doesn't support Hague Best's advice. The AAC and the Tweed Aboriginal community feel strongly in relation to the inclusion of the Aboriginal component.

GB6.Koala Beach Park

Stewart advised that once the wording for the Koala Beach Park signage is received, the signage will be designed. The signage will not include any images. TBLALC to draft the wording and have it endorsed by the AAC. Stewart advised that he has photographs of the old signage which he will email to Gabby for distribution to the AAC. The old signage will be donated to TBLALC.

Action: *TBLALC to draft wording for signage at Koala Beach Park and provide to AAC for endorsement.*

Action: *Manager Parks & Active Communities to provide photographs of old signage from Koala Beach Park to Gabby for distribution to the AAC.*

GB7.Tweed Border Marker - Projection

There is the opportunity to project images for NAIDOC Week onto the Tweed Border Marker situated at Tweed Heads/Coolangatta. The AAC approved Image No. 7 provided by Evonne Schaffer and requested that the words 'Heal Country' be included on the image.

Action: *Evonne Schaffer to email Image No. 7 to the NAIDOC Committee (Leweena Williams and Tina Pidcock) and to arrange for 'Heal Country' to be included on the image. Image to be displayed on the Tweed Border Marker during NAIDOC Week 2021.*

GB8.Next meeting: 2 July 2021

The next AAC meeting is scheduled for Friday 2 July 2021. As this is the day before commencement of NAIDOC Week 2021 celebrations, advice was sought from the AAC as to whether it would like to meet on that date or an alternate date. The AAC advised the meeting should proceed on 2 July.

Next Meeting:

The next meeting of the Aboriginal Advisory Committee will be held Friday 2 July 2021.

The meeting closed at 12.18pm.

EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP TEAM'S COMMENTS:

EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP TEAM'S RECOMMENDATIONS: