

**TWEED SHIRE COUNCIL
MEETING TASK SHEET**

Action Item - COUNCIL MEETING Thursday, 3 October 2019

Action is required for Item **9** as per the Council Resolution outlined below.

TITLE: [SUB-AAC] Minutes of the Aboriginal Advisory Committee Meeting held Friday 2 August 2019

**Cr W Polglase
Cr K Milne**

RESOLVED that:

1. The Minutes of the Aboriginal Advisory Committee Meeting held Friday 2 August 2019 be received and noted; and
2. The Executive Leadership Team's recommendations be adopted as follows:
 - GB3. Local Government Aboriginal Network Conference (LGAN)

That subject to availability, the Aboriginal Advisory Committee nominates Victor Slockee to attend the 2019 Local Government Aboriginal Network Conference. If Victor Slockee is unable to attend the conference, the AAC nominated Des Williams as the alternate delegate.

The Motion was **Carried**

FOR VOTE - Unanimous

TITLE: [SUB-AAC] Minutes of the Aboriginal Advisory Committee Meeting held Friday 2 August 2019

SUBMITTED BY: Community and Cultural Services

mhm



People, places and moving around
Who we are and how we live

LINKAGE TO INTEGRATED PLANNING AND REPORTING FRAMEWORK:

3	People, places and moving around
3.1	People
3.1.2	Community and Cultural Development - To provide community and cultural development services to foster and improve social and cultural well-being.

ROLE: Leader

SUMMARY OF REPORT:

The Minutes of the Aboriginal Advisory Committee Meeting held Friday 2 August 2019 are reproduced in the body of this report for the information of Councillors.

RECOMMENDATION:

That:

1. **The Minutes of the Aboriginal Advisory Committee Meeting held Friday 2 August 2019 be received and noted; and**
2. **The Executive Leadership Team's recommendations be adopted as follows:**

GB3. Local Government Aboriginal Network Conference (LGAN)

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REPORT:

The Minutes of the Aboriginal Advisory Committee Meeting held Friday 2 August 2019 are reproduced as follows for the information of Councillors.

Venue:

Minjungbal Aboriginal Museum & Cultural Centre

Time:

10.00am

Present:

Des Williams (Tweed Byron Local Aboriginal Land Council representative), Victor Slockee (Canowindra representative) (arrived at 10.18am), Dale Williams (Bugalwena representative), Leween Williams (Tweed Aboriginal Corporation for Sport representative), Jackie McDonald (Tweed Wollumbin Aboriginal Education Consultative Group representative).

Ex-officio:

Tracey Stinson, Robyn Grigg, Gabby Arthur (Minutes) (Tweed Shire Council).

Guests (in order of arrival):

Andrew Illingworth (Tweed Holiday Parks) (arrived at 10.00); Tom Alletson (Tweed Shire Council) (arrived at 10.24am); Sarah McGhee (Tweed Regional Gallery & Margaret Olley Art Centre) (arrived at 10.57am).

Apologies:

Mayor Katie Milne, Cr Chris Cherry, Robert Appo, Chantelle Howse (Tweed Shire Council), Desrae Rotumah (Tweed Aboriginal Co-operative Society representative).

In the absence of a quorum, the meeting proceeded as a discussion with notes being taken. It was noted that the AAC would not be able to make any recommendations/resolutions unless a quorum was achieved.

Business suspended for new Agenda Item A4.

A4. Breach of conduct at Pottsville Community Association meeting on 31 July 2019

In good faith, Council attended a community meeting with Pottsville Community Association during the week to discuss the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Management Plan. During that meeting there was a serious breach of public conduct. Council is acting on the breach and acknowledges that it has a duty of care to its staff. A formal apology has been requested from the member involved which has been received. Council does not condone the behaviour. Council will be rethinking the way that it engages with community and has immediately put in place a new policy. Council is taking a strong position in relation to the incident.

Victor Slockee arrived at 10.18am
Quorum achieved.

The AAC requested that Council make a public comment in relation to the breach of public conduct stating that Council will not tolerate harassment, racist slurs or bad behaviour at any meetings and referring to the Statement of Commitment.

Tom Alletson arrived at 10.24am

Chair: Victor Slockee
Moved: Des Williams
Seconded: Jackie McDonald

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 those emerging.

Business suspended for Agenda Item A1.

A1. Fingal Head Holiday Park Upgrade and Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment – Andrew Illingworth (Tweed Holiday Parks)

Andrew advised that as at 1 July 2019, 'Tweed Coast Holiday Parks' has been rebranded as 'Tweed Holiday Parks' (THP) and 'Fingal Holiday Park' has been renamed 'Fingal Head Holiday Park'. Andrew tabled a site directory and explained the footprint of the holiday park. Andrew advised that over a period of time the holiday van sites will be turned into tourist sites. There is no plan to redevelop the holiday park; only to carry out improvements and enhancements that make the park more authentic. There is no intention to change the footprint the park; it is all about improving the utilities and amenities in the park which would include some of the slabs being removed and replaced and the old pipe network being upgraded.

Andrew advised that the holiday park has undertaken a survey of visitors and tabled a document outlining a summary of comments received. The clear message that has been received is that the visitors love the holiday park the way it is.

Andrew advised the new Business Strategic Plan for the next 10 years includes developing stronger relationships with both the Aboriginal and Fingal Head community, converting holiday van sites to tourist sites and replacement of three of the cabins that are in a bad state of repair.

Two submissions have been received for the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment (ACHA) tender. The ACHA will provide a clear map and plan recognising the boundaries of the cemetery. Andrew advised that whilst the past encroachment cannot be undone, THP will be making every effort to maintain the holiday park in a culturally sensitive manner and is aware that if further investigations indicate the necessity to move the boundary, Council will need to consider moving the boundary.

Leweena advised that the boundary of tent sites seems to be encroaching onto Aboriginal land.

Andrew urged the AAC and Aboriginal community to raise any concerns regarding the holiday park with him.

Action: *Director Sustainable Communities & Environment (Tracey Stinson) to confirm with Environmental Scientist (Sally Cooper) whether the Fingal Holiday Park ACHA notice has been distributed or whether it will be advertised in the Tweed Link and newspaper and to advise the AAC.*

Andrew Illingworth left at 10.57am
Sarah McGhee arrived at 10.57am

A2. Tweed River Estuary Management Plan – Tom Alletson (Tweed Shire Council)

Tom tabled a summary of the Tweed Estuary Coastal Management Program and worked through the document with the AAC. A report has been prepared for Council recommending that the management plan be placed on public exhibition. Tom has met with the AAC previously regarding the plan which has been prepared over the past four years. A random telephone survey of 400 residents in the Shire was conducted along with paper and online surveys with 840 responses received. Recreational fishing came out as the item that absolutely has to be protected. Tom focused on the ecological assessment and recreational use study during his presentation. The floodplain in the catchment is highly modified with impacts on the natural drainage and natural purification of the water before it enters the river. The high level of human use forms a huge threat to flora and fauna.

Leweena asked whether there is any intention to run education or programs for kids regarding fishing line, plastic etc. Tom advised education and engagement is critical across all age groups. Whilst there isn't a specific action in the plan, Tom would like to conduct a survey to see whether there are any areas in the estuary that are collection points. Council could then partner with TBLALC to collaboratively work together to clean up those areas.

Tracey advised there is a movie called 'Plastic Oceans' which could be tied into this plan as well as resource recovery.

Upstream of Murwillumbah there are opportunities to work with large property owners to address river bank improvements. The work is expensive and it requires land owners to be committed to work with Council. It is a slow process and once the work is completed there is also ongoing maintenance work that has to be continued.

The overall condition rating table indicates very poor condition in the Rous River and Upper estuary areas. If there is cane to the river bank there would be an economic impact for farmers as they may lose land on the edge of the river through erosion.

Without significant investment from State and Federal governments there will be a significant challenge in affording the extent of work required. The size of the population across the border that visit the Tweed has a significant impact on the natural environment.

Boating and water entry infrastructure needs to be maintained. Building additional ramps and jetties is not ideal and Council is focussed on maintenance. Riverside parks are well used near boat ramps but there is a limited amount of land that is publicly accessible along the river.

One of the things that may be a high profile issue is the concept of character zones eg. Stotts Island and upstream of Murwillumbah. There are some locations that are more suited to passive recreation such as kayaks eg. not for tow boats, wake boards, jet skis etc. If Council adopts this in the plan it can be recommended to the State Government. Council does not have jurisdiction to enforce the character zones.

Jackie asked whether regulated zones are policed eg. near Cobaki bridge. Tom advised this is a State Government responsibility.

The Tweed River Estuary Management Plan will be on public exhibition in September and October 2019. Following Council's adoption of the plan it will be referred on to the State Government.

Leewena commented that this is an important plan as the use of the river impacts the health of the environment and individual interests may need to be compromised. Leewena commented that if any of the Aboriginal organisations can lend support to funding or other submissions, they would be pleased to support.

A3. 'For Country, for Nation' Exhibition – Sarah McGhee (Tweed Regional Gallery & Margaret Olley Art Centre)

Sarah advised that the 'For Country, for Nation' exhibition is an Australian War Memorial touring exhibition. The exhibition opens at the Tweed Regional Gallery & Margaret Olley Art Centre (the Gallery) on 29 November 2019. The Gallery is following the lead of the Australian War Memorial Museum in presenting this exhibition. The exhibition recognises the valuable and selfless military service of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, and their contribution to the Anzac legend. It is a story that is little known, but one that deserves to be told.

The exhibition comprises over 200 objects, artworks and photographs from the Australian War Memorial's collection. A significant aspect of 'For Country, for Nation' was the commissioning of Indigenous artists to tell their stories and family and community connections to the defence of Australia. Two large-scale multimedia experiences at human scale create a compelling visual connection between visual storytelling and visitors. In addition, the exhibition includes a touch screen that provides a digital platform to highlight stories that are not presented in physical form; allowing for new stories and content to be added periodically as they come to light during the tour.

Jackie advised there would be local stories that could be added to the touch screen. Sarah was requested to liaise with the Australian War Memorial and obtain information about the touch screen exhibition ie. is it about collecting local stories and the sharing stories for the people visiting?

The Gallery would like to extend an invitation to the AAC member organisations and Aboriginal community including family members of Aboriginal members who have served to attend the official opening on 29 November 2019 at 6pm. The Gallery would appreciate it if the AAC could recommend an Aboriginal person to formally open the exhibition.

The AAC requested that there be a section in the exhibition for local content. If the family members give permission, it would be important and respectful to include the names of local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community members who served in the exhibition. Leewena acknowledged the exhibition and asked if it would be possible to include local content separate to the exhibition which tells the stories of local people as there appears to be a forgotten story that hasn't been told. Leewena advised that the local content would value-add to the exhibition.

Action: *Sarah McGhee (Exhibition Curator) to liaise with Australian War Memorial regarding the touch screen exhibition and whether local stories can be collected and added to the screens, and to advise CDO-Aboriginal.*

Action: *CDO-Aboriginal to provide email and address details of AAC and Torres Strait Islander organisations to Sarah McGhee (Exhibition Curator) so that invitations can be forwarded.*

Sarah McGhee left at 12.09pm

Minutes of Meeting Held Friday 3 May 2019:

Moved: Des Williams

Seconded: Dale Williams

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Aboriginal Advisory Committee meeting held Friday 3 May 2019 be accepted as a true and accurate record of the proceedings of that meeting. The minutes were endorsed by Council at its meeting held on 20 June 2019.

Minutes of Previous Meeting:

Moved: Des Williams

Seconded: Dale Williams

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Aboriginal Advisory Committee meeting held Friday 5 July 2019 be accepted as a true and accurate record of the proceedings of that meeting.

Business Arising:

Business Arising from meeting held on 5 July 2019 at Agenda Item IC3

BA1. NAIDOC Awards 2019 Person of the Year Nomination

Jackie advised that when receiving her award, Aunty Joyce Summers acknowledged all the people who worked with her in the community rather than taking the accolades herself. The AAC acknowledged that it is good for community to recognise each other.

Business Arising from meeting held on 5 July 2019 at Agenda Item GB1

BA2. Membership of Tweed Aboriginal Co-Operative Society Ltd

Victor asked whether a letter has been sent to the Tweed Aboriginal Co-Operative Society Ltd regarding its membership and advised he will follow up with Nicole Rotumah.

Business Arising from meeting held on 5 July 2019 at Agenda Item GB2

GB3. Sustainability Awards (discussed at meeting on 5 July 2019)

Council is running its first Sustainability Awards to celebrate and build the capacity of the Tweed community to take action for great environmental outcomes. An information sheet in relation to the Awards was tabled and discussed at the meeting on 5 July 2019. Nominations close on 2 September 2019 and award winners will be announced at an awards showcase event on Friday 15 November 2019.

The awards showcase event is an opportunity for Council to reflect and respect local indigenous perspectives about caring for country, as much as possible and as much as is culturally appropriate. The AAC members were encouraged to make nominations.

Action: *CDO-Aboriginal to advise Sustainability Officer (Debbie Firestone) that the AAC will make a nomination at its meeting on 6 September 2019.*

Action: *Gabby to email to the AAC the information sheet from the website and website hyperlink on 2 August 2019 today so that nominations can be considered at the next AAC meeting.*

Incoming Correspondence:
Nil.

Outgoing Correspondence:
Nil

General Business:

GB1. Sign at Razorback

Jackie advised that the Joongurrabah 'Place of Pelican' signage at Razorback has been removed and Council has advised that it is not aware of where the sign has gone. It appears that the sign has been grinded off at ground level and the sharp tube edges have been smoothed off. There has been significant vandalism at Razorback and the Police believe the removal of the sign may be part of the recent vandalism. Senior Sergeant Cullen has requested that Council make a formal complaint.

Action: *CDO-Aboriginal to liaise with Manager Parks & Active Communities (Stewart Brawley) to ensure a formal complaint has been made to Police regarding the vandalism of the Joongurrabah 'Place of Pelican' signage at Razorback.*

GB2. Support for retention of dry stone walls at new Tweed Hospital site

Jackie advised that the South Sea Islander Community Association has requested the support of First Nations people for retention of the dry stone walls at the new Tweed Hospital site and to incorporate them into landscaping. The dry stone walls are scheduled to be removed next week. To speed up the process of obtaining the support, the AAC suggested that Jackie request the South Sea Islander Community Association to send the request via email to the individual local Aboriginal organisations. Jackie advised that the South Sea Islander Community Association does not oppose the new hospital site.

GB3. Local Government Aboriginal Network Conference (LGAN)

Robyn advised that Local Government Aboriginal Network Conference (LGAN) will be held from 14 to 16 October 2019 in Sydney. Council will sponsor the attendance of an AAC member along with a member of the RAP Working Group. Victor Slockee was nominated and advised he will check with family and advise of his availability. If Victor is unable to attend, Des Williams was nominated as the alternate delegate.

Moved: Leweena Williams

Seconded: Dale Williams

RECOMMENDATION: That subject to availability, the Aboriginal Advisory Committee nominates Victor Slockee to attend the 2019 Local Government Aboriginal Network Conference. If Victor Slockee is unable to attend the conference, the AAC nominated Des Williams as the alternate delegate.

Next Meeting:

The next meeting of the Aboriginal Advisory Committee will be held Friday 6 September 2019.

The meeting closed at 1.25pm.

EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP TEAM'S COMMENTS:

Nil.

EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP TEAM'S RECOMMENDATIONS:

GB3.Local Government Aboriginal Network Conference (LGAN)

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COUNCIL IMPLICATIONS:

a. Policy:

Code of Meeting Practice.

Terms of Reference - Aboriginal Advisory Committee adopted 19 September 2013 (ECM 3146605).

b. Budget/Long Term Financial Plan:

Not applicable.

c. Legal:

Not Applicable.

d. Communication/Engagement:

Inform - We will keep you informed.

UNDER SEPARATE COVER/FURTHER INFORMATION:

Nil.
