

## Minutes of the Aboriginal Advisory Committee Meeting held Friday 22 October 2021

### Venue:

Harvard Room, Tweed Heads Administration Office & Virtual

### Time:

9.45am

### Present:

Des Williams (Tweed Byron Local Aboriginal Land Council - TBLALC); Leweena Williams (Tweed Aboriginal Corporation for Sport; Dale Williams (Bugalwena); Victor Slockee (Canowindra); Cr Reece Byrnes (Tweed Shire Council).

### Ex-officio:

Stewart Brawley (Acting Director Sustainable Communities & Environment), Tim Appo, Gabby Arthur (Minutes) (Tweed Shire Council).

### Apologies:

Jackie McDonald and Marcia Browning (Tweed Wollumbin Aboriginal Education Consultative Group - TWAECG); Tina Pidcock (Tweed Aboriginal Co-operative Society); Mayor Chris Cherry; Cr Katie Milne, Tracey Stinson, Helen Carter (Tweed Shire Council).

### Guests:

Tim Mackney and Jodie Wright (Tweed Shire Council); Luke Homann, Deborah Swan, Crystal Donovan, Lance Randall, Peter Marler (Transport for NSW); Renee Trezise, Laura Oakley (Planning Industry & Environment) and April McCabe & Tharun Parthiban (Cred Consulting).

There being no quorum, the meeting commenced at 9.45am with notes being taken. Business was suspended and the meeting commenced with Item A2.

### **A2. RAP Working Group- Tim Mackney and Jodie Wright (TSC)**

Tim and Jodie provided an update on Council's RAP and its Working Group. Council's RAP was adopted in 2017 for 3 years and has now expired. The RAP Working Group has been rejuvenated and there are now 23 members.

Tim provided an overview of the Reconciliation Week activities which included a video, presentations by TBLALC's Warren Phillips about Aboriginal cultural heritage to staff and tours of the Tweed Regional Museum for community groups and staff showcasing the cultural exhibitions Land | Life | Cultural and Grow Make Eat.

The Working Group has been reviewing the previous RAP and assessing the outcomes and achievements. As a result, the next RAP will remain at an intermediate level for the next 3 years and will focus on actions and areas identified by the Working Group's sub-committees.

The Working Group wishes to engage with the AAC and attend its meetings to provide regular updates, seek feedback and review the RAP. To enable the AAC to meet all of the

members and receive updates, it agreed that the RAP Working Group members attend every second meeting.

**Action:** *CDO-Aboriginal to invite representatives of the RAP Working Group to attend the AAC meeting scheduled for 5 November 2021.*

Victor advised there has been Sorry Business in the community following the passing of Aunty Carol Dawney. One Minute's silence was observed for Aunty Carol Dawney.

Quorum achieved at 10.10am

### **A3. Tweed Transport Plan - Luke Homann, Deborah Swan, Lance Randall, Peter Marler (Transport for NSW) (TfNSW)**

Each of the Transport for NSW (TfNSW) representatives introduced themselves and Acknowledged Country. Victor greeted everyone with a Welcome to Country.

TfNSW shared its presentation. The relevant areas for the Tweed Transport Plan consultation are its *Customer Strategy & Technology* and *Regional and Outer Metropolitan* divisions. The AAC will be working with *Community & Place* (the voice of the community, engagement, liaison, funding, *Regional Planning* (planning for 1 to 10 years - short to medium terms transport eg. bus transport planning, M1 upgrade, key state roads) and *Customer Strategy & Technology* (strategic planning 10+ years and includes the Tweed Transport Plan).

The Tweed Transport Plan is looking 20 years into the future for the Tweed LGA and it will guide all other regional plans for infrastructure. It will also align with the Connecting with Country framework which is the roadmap of Planning for Country currently being prepared. Regional place-based transport plans are completed in joint consultation between TfNSW, State agencies, joint organisations, local government and other stakeholders looking 20 years ahead. The Plan is reviewed every 5 years. The timeline is for the draft Plan to be ready early in the New Year. A workshop will be held mid-November with the community to help guide decision-making and look at the initiatives. TfNSW requested that nominations be provided for Aboriginal community members to attend the workshop.

Des advised that TBLALC and Council have developed cultural mapping of the area which includes known and predictive sites. TBLALC will need to be included with Council to interpret how the cultural mapping works. In any future excavations, there will be possible discoveries as there are hidden sites all over Australia that the local Aboriginal people don't know about and which only come to the surface when excavation is undertaken. TfNSW confirmed it would like to work together. Des confirmed that the Aboriginal community needs to be engaged early so that if a road is planned, then it can be re-routed so that it doesn't go over Aboriginal sites. There is a major issue in the Tweed of lack of trust with TfNSW because of the destruction of Aboriginal sites and TfNSW not willing to listen to the Aboriginal community. TfNSW would like to hear from TBLALC about how to engage. Luke advised that Deb will work with the Aboriginal community along with the engagement team and will make sure the right people are engaged.

TfNSW's planning has evolved and is now more about the end result and community. The idea is to bring all moving parts together into one coordinated plan and to collaborate with

Council as a key stakeholder to understand the future transport needs of Council and the community.

An emerging theme in the Tweed Transport Plan is Planning for Country. TfNSW would like to understand how Planning for Country fits into the objectives. Concerns raised by the AAC regarding TfNSW's ability to safeguard sensitive cultural information provided into the future. TfNSW advised this detailed information may not need to be provided.

**Action:** CDO-Aboriginal to liaise with TfNSW and TBLALC about engagement on Tweed's Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Mapping.

**Action:** CDO-Aboriginal to liaise with AAC and provide nominations of Aboriginal community members to attend the TfNSW workshop in mid-November.

### Chairperson for meeting

**Nominated:** Victor Slockee

**Moved:** Leweena Williams

**Seconded:** Des 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.

### **A4. Draft Tweed Regional City Plan - Renee Trezise, Laura Oakley (Department of Planning Industry & Environment) (DPIE) and April McCabe & Tharun Parthiban (Cred Consulting)**

Each of the members from Department of Planning Industry & Environment (DPIE) and Cred Consulting introduced themselves to the AAC and Acknowledged Country.

The North Coast Regional Plan is the DPIE's 20 year vision for the region. The regional cities of Coffs Harbour, Port Macquarie, Lismore and Tweed have been chosen for development of Regional City Plans as they are the areas predicted to have the most growth over the next 20 years.

The draft Tweed Regional City Plan (TRCP) sets out a vision for the next 20 years and was developed in collaboration with Council and the community through an Enquiry-by-Design workshop held last year. There are 5 goals: Live | Move | Work | Meet | Play, 17 objectives and 10 areas for specific collaboration with Council and other stakeholders.

Renee read the TRCP's vision out to the AAC and requested feedback. She noted that Tweed's urban area is quite scattered. Considerations included where is the CBD of Tweed and what is the focus: eg. jobs, housing etc? The urban area includes Tweed Heads, Tweed Head South, Banora Point etc.

The objectives for the 5 goals:

- **Live**
  - Housing
  - A greener and more sustainable city - eg. increased tree canopy cover and sustainable building design, restore habitats, threatened species recovery

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- Resilience to climate change and its impacts
- **Move**
  - Support more people to walk, cycle and take public transport
  - Facilitate easier connections across the NSW/QLD border eg. light rail, road and aviation gateways

Des noted that, for the Aboriginal community, the border doesn't end at the Tweed border. DPIE advised it has good relationships with City of Gold Coast around land sharing and would like to investigate opportunities.

- **Work**
  - Position Tweed as a great place to invest and do business
  - Explore competitive advantages as well as cross border challenges
  - Maintain a supply of land for employment-gathering uses
  - Develop a shared vision for the city of centre with business and the community
- **Meet**
  - Activate the city centre through arts, cultural and events
  - Regional City design excellence
  - Support Aboriginal cultural awareness, inclusion and place
  - Explore partnerships and collaboration with Aboriginal and TSI communities
  - Promote the respect protection and management of Aboriginal cultural heritage
- **Play**
  - Grow tourism, events and visitor experiences in a culturally and environmentally sensitive way
  - Create places that encourage healthy activities through the city eg. Goorimahbah

The AAC asked how the TRCP might reflect the goals and aspirations and speak appropriately about Country and to culture. A package can be provided which breaks down some of the items in the TRCP to make it easier to discuss.

- The Elders group would be the first and foremost group to relay information in the planning process. There are also emerging Elders who are activating the Elders' plans through these kinds of Plans.
- AAC members represent the local Aboriginal organisations in the area and will deliver the TRCP to their organisations.
- A meeting prior to the exhibition stage to unpack and provide input eg. use of the word 'city' and the implications about protecting culture and how this may affect funding opportunities.
- The opportunity for everyone in the Goori community to be involved.

The TRCP is not yet on public exhibition. This is the first time DPIE and Cred Consulting will be engaging with the AAC and the expectation is to meet more times.

Resumption of business.

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## Minutes of Previous Meeting:

**Moved:** Des Williams

**Seconded:** Leweena Williams and Dale Williams

**RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the Aboriginal Advisory Committee meeting held Friday 18 June 2021 be accepted as a true and accurate record of the proceedings of that meeting.

## Minutes of Previous Meeting:

**Moved:** Des Williams

**Seconded:** Leweena Williams and Dale Williams

**RESOLVED** that the draft Minutes of the Aboriginal Advisory Committee meeting held Friday 3 September 2021 be accepted as a true and accurate record of the proceedings of that meeting.

## Business Arising:

### **BA1. Burials in the middle of Letitia Road, Fingal Head and Fingal Head Holiday Park Campground**

Des advised there are 3 burials in the middle of Letitia Road, and a grave in the middle of the Fingal Head Holiday Park campground. It is a concern that people are camping on the grave site. Des advised he would like the grave marked out and some sort of barrier placed around it so that people don't camp on top of it.

**Action:** *CDO-Aboriginal to arrange for Council officers to meet on site with Slabb family representatives, TBLALC and the Manager, Tweed Holiday Parks to discuss options to mark the grave and place a barrier around it to prevent camping on top of it.*

### **BA2. No Parking signage opposite the Aboriginal Cemetery, Letitia Road, Fingal Head**

To progress this matter, a recommendation is required from the AAC.

**Moved:** Leweena Williams

**Seconded:** Dale Williams

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

That the Aboriginal Advisory Committee requests Council officers to investigate the option of installing *No Parking* signage opposite and adjacent to the Aboriginal cemetery in Letitia Road, Fingal Head.

### **BA3. Norries Headland - Draft Master Plan**

Stewart advised that the Norries Headland draft Master Plan which sets out the structure of the park has been largely supported by the community. Council will consider adoption of the draft Master Plan at its next meeting. The next step is detailed design and feedback will be sought from TBLALC.

TBLALC is undertaking a cultural management study at Norries Headland and would like a meeting scheduled between TBLALC cultural officers and Stewart Brawley.

**Action:** *CDO-Aboriginal to arrange a meeting between TBLALC cultural officers and Manager Parks & Active Communities (Stewart Brawley) regarding the TBLALC's cultural management study at Norries Headland.*

## **BA4. Temporary closure of Letitia Road, Fingal Head**

The AAC sought an update on the temporary closure of Letitia Road and whether the advertisement has been finalised and published. An update to be sought from Council officers for next meeting.

**Action:** *CDO-Aboriginal to liaise with Cr Katie Milne and Director Engineering (David Oxenham) seeking an update on the temporary closure of Letitia Road, Fingal Head.*

## **BA5. Dunghir Park, Koala Beach - Signage**

The AAC sought an update on replacement of the Dunghir Park signage. Stewart advised that Jane Lofthouse, Coordinator Sustainability & Environment is working with Christine Slabb on a design concept for the signage throughout Koala Beach.

Discussion regarding the significance of the site in general. The tree in the middle of the site has no significance.

Stewart will draft wording for the new sign and provide it to TBLALC for review. This will ensure the sign is ready for installation following the completion of the signage design project.

**Action:** *CDO-Aboriginal to liaise with Manager Parks & Active Communities (Stewart Brawley) regarding draft wording for Dunghir Park signage and to present it to TBLALC for review.*

## **BA6. Induction of CDO-Aboriginal - AAC feedback**

Item not discussed.

## **BA7. TSC Communications and Writing Standards - Aboriginal content - AAC feedback**

AAC members to review TSC Communications and Writing Standards and item to be discussed at next meeting.

**Action:** *CDO-Aboriginal to liaise with AAC members re Council's Communications and Writing Standards and include item on next AAC Agenda.*

## **Agenda Items:**

### **A1. Welcome Tim Appo - CDO Aboriginal**

Tim was warmly welcomed to the role of CDO-Aboriginal.

### **A5. Aboriginal History Information on Council's Website**

Item discussed and deferred to the next meeting to enable AAC members to review the information provided and suggest changes.

**Action:** *CDO-Aboriginal to liaise with AAC members re Aboriginal History information on Council's website and include item on next AAC Agenda.*

## General Business:

### **GB1.Advice to AAC re Removal of artwork - Dreams in Deed, Faux Park**

Council will be removing the Dreams in Deed artwork situated in Faux Park as it is in disrepair with the tiles chipped and broken. The AAC members advised they would like to look at the artwork before providing feedback to the next meeting.

**Action:** *CDO-Aboriginal to liaise with AAC members to arrange an inspection of the Dreams in Deed artwork in Faux Park and seek feedback for the next AAC meeting.*

### **GB2.Request from Tweed Tourism Co re Welcome to Country**

Tweed Tourism Co has requested that the AAC provide a nomination for a Welcome to Country at an Institute of Trademark Attorneys event on 7-9 April 2022 at Mantra at Salt Beach. Due to the scope of the event, there may be the opportunity for a cultural dance element. The AAC nominated Victor Slockee and Dale Williams jointly for the Welcome to Country. Tim advised he will contact Banaam about the cultural dance element.

**Action:** *CDO-Aboriginal to advise Tweed Tourism Co (Brad Nardi) that Victor Slockee and Dale Williams were nominated for the Welcome to Country for the Institute of Trademark Attorneys event on 7-9 April 2022.*

**Action:** *CDO-Aboriginal to liaise with Banaam (Kyle Slabb) and Tweed Tourism Co (Brad Nardi) about the cultural dance element for the Institute of Trademark Attorneys event on 7-9 April 2022.*

## **Next Meeting:**

The next meeting of the Aboriginal Advisory Committee will be held Friday 5 November 2021.

The meeting closed at 11.57am.

## **EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP TEAM'S COMMENTS:**

## **EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP TEAM'S RECOMMENDATIONS:**

### **BA2. No Parking signage opposite the Aboriginal Cemetery, Letitia Road, Fingal Head.**

That the Aboriginal Advisory Committee requests Council officers to investigate the option of installing No Parking signage opposite and adjacent to the Aboriginal cemetery in Letitia Road, Fingal Head.

An onsite meeting will be coordinated with relevant officers and the AAC to consider options.