

Minutes of the Aboriginal Advisory Committee Meeting held Friday 3 December 2021

Venue:

Mike Rayner Room, Tweed Heads Administration Office & Virtual

Time:

9.45am

Present:

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

Ex-officio:

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

Apologies:

Tracey Stinson, Stewart Brawley (Tweed Shire Council).

Guests:

Jaydee Weir (Work Experience Student, TBLALC); Sarah Wallace, Meredith Cusack and Susi Muddiman (Tweed Regional Gallery & Margaret Olley Art Centre); Tim Hill (Everick Heritage).

Chairperson for meeting

Nominated: Tina Pidcock

Moved: Victor Slockee

Seconded: Jackie McDonald

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

At Tina's request, Victor Slockee opened the meeting with a welcome to all present and paid respect to Elders past, present and emerging.

Minutes of Previous Meeting:

Moved: Jackie McDonald

Seconded: Dale Williams

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Aboriginal Advisory Committee meeting held Friday 5 November 2021 be accepted as a true and accurate record of the proceedings of that meeting subject to the following change:

Item BA4 Norries Headland. Jackie has made a submission to Council regarding the naming and has given her permission to Council to provide the information to the relevant community groups and Council staff.

Business Arising:

BA1. Resignation of Tracey Stinson, Director Sustainable Communities & Environment

Helen advised that Tracey has resigned from her position with Council. Stewart Brawley will be Acting Director Sustainable Communities & Environment until the position is filled. The AAC wished Tracey all the best for the future.

BA2. Aboriginal History Information on Council's Website

AAC members to review the Aboriginal history wording and email suggested changes to Tim.

Action: AAC members to review the Aboriginal history wording and email suggested changes to CDO-Aboriginal.

BA3. Parking adjacent to Fingal Head Caravan Park and Camping Ground Area

Council officers have advised that some large trees adjacent to the park are being cut down and suggested using the logs as barriers between the park boundary and Letitia Road. The AAC advised the logs need to be placed horizontally at least 1-2m inside the existing fence-line.

Action: CDO-Aboriginal to liaise with Manager Roads & Stormwater (Danny Rose) and Manager Holiday Parks & Cultural Facilities (Andrew Illingworth) regarding the placement of horizontal logs as a road barrier between the camping ground and Letitia Road placed at least 1-2m inside the existing fence-line.

Sectioning has been placed around the grave site situated within the Fingal Head Camping Ground however it is in the form of a flat surface which has created seating. The seating needs to be removed and another method of sectioning needs to be used.

Action: CDO-Aboriginal to liaise with Fingal Head Caravan Park & Camping Ground Manager to request that the sectioning around the gravesite be changed to another material so that it does not form a seating or gathering space.

BA4. Australia Day - Welcome to Country

Discussion regarding the date of Australia Day being moved and the action taken by Council supporting the change. The AAC advised it is opposed to a Welcome to Country on Australia Day however Council could do an Acknowledgement of Country. The AAC strongly advocated for Council to continue to seek the date of Australia Day to be changed from 26 January to another date.

BA5. Norries Headland Masterplan

Following concerns raised during the consultation process for the Norries Headland Masterplan project that Bogangar is being incorrectly referred to as Cabarita Beach, the AAC suggested that Council investigates the official naming of Bogangar/Cabarita Beach separate to the adoption of the Norries Headland Masterplan project. The AAC requested that Council report back following its investigation.

Moved: Jackie McDonald

Seconded: Tina Pidcock

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Aboriginal Advisory Committee recommends that Council investigates the official naming of Bogangar/Cabarita Beach and reports back to the Aboriginal Advisory Committee.

BA6. Neville Bonner Memorial

Jackie advised that the contact details for the Bonner family have been passed onto Tim. There have been some community discussion about including a memorial plaque at Goorimahbah.

Agenda Items:

A1. RAP Working Group - Introduction of Sarah Wallace

Sarah introduced herself to the AAC and advised that she is the Exhibitions Curator at Tweed Regional Gallery & Margaret Olley Art Centre. Sarah provided an update on the RAP Working Group and the goals they are setting for the next RAP.

A2. Kings Forest Development - Use of Aboriginal Names for Streets (Tim Hill, Everick Heritage)

Leda Holdings is beginning the process of naming streets inside the Kings Forest development. The Kings Forest Cultural Heritage Management Plan includes the use of traditional names wherever practical and appropriate, and mechanisms to consult with the Aboriginal community regarding the appropriateness and spelling of any traditional names.

Leda Holdings has selected names from the NSW State Forests List for Kings Forest and layered them on the Road Naming Plan for Precinct 5 provided to the AAC and tabled at the meeting. The AAC questioned the appropriateness of using Bundjalung language for the road names given the level of destruction of Aboriginal cultural heritage in the Kings Forest development. The AAC discussed its preference to use the names of local forest flora and fauna species or the names of local forests from the list. The AAC noted Everick's advice that Leda is *...looking for between five to ten names to potentially include into the Precinct 5 names...* and advised it would like to provide all names for the precinct.

Moved: Jackie McDonald

Seconded: Tina Pidcock

RECOMMENDATION:

That in relation to the street names proposed by Leda for Precinct 5 of Kings Forest Estate, the Aboriginal Advisory Committee recommends that Council:

1. does not endorse the street names proposed by Leda;
2. allows the Aboriginal Advisory Committee time to discuss and suggest alternate road names.

Tim Hill requested that an email be provided to Everick Heritage detailing the outcome of discussions so he can report back to Leda. Tim Hill enquired if there was a role for Leda to be included in the discussions between the AAC and Council's Technical Officer-Property.

Action: *CDO-Aboriginal to arrange for Technical Officer - Property (Emily Rockliff) to meet with the AAC to develop a list of suitable road names for Precinct 5, Kings Forest Estate.*

Action: CDO-Aboriginal to send an email to Everick Heritage detailing the outcome of discussions on the road naming of Kings Forest Precinct 5.

A3. Change of name for Border Art Prize (Meredith Cusack and Susi Muddiman, TRG&MOAC)

Meredith and Susi introduced themselves and provided some background information regarding the Border Art Prize. The art prize was first established in 1998 as the Tweed Valley Art Prize and changed its name to the Border Art Prize in 2001.

As the Gallery sits on Bundjalung Country and looks out to Wollumbin, the Gallery is looking to acknowledge this and presented to the AAC the idea of changing the name of the Border Art Prize to the Wollumbin Art Award. As part of the art prize name change, the Gallery is also considering adding a First Nations/Indigenous award, emerging artist award and awards for young people.

The AAC enthusiastically supported the name change from Border Art Prize to Wollumbin Art Award and suggested the Indigenous award be called the Bundjalung Award.

The Gallery advised that the Bundjalung Award would be open to any Aboriginal person living in the shires of Tweed, Lismore, Ballina, Byron and Gold Coast. The art prize runs from July to September and advertising for the 2022 prize will start in March.

The Gallery is still in the process of working on the details of the art prize and awards and is very grateful for the AAC's input.

A4. Access and Inclusion Plan - Survey (Giselle Benitez Hetherington, TSC)

Giselle introduced herself and advised that today is *International Day of People with Disability*. Three short films sharing the experiences and stories of the Equal Access Advisory Committee members have been released to celebrate the 2021 International Day of People with a Disability. The 3 films: *2021 International Day of People With Disability*, *Accessible Tweed* and *Inclusive Tweed* are available on Council's website at the following link: <https://www.tweed.nsw.gov.au/community/community-support/people-communities/people-with-disability> or on YouTube at the following links: https://youtu.be/GNr9s6q_AE0, <https://youtu.be/lh2i9t7hXPc>, https://youtu.be/9NZPLEyW_f0

Today is also the first stage of Council's community engagement on the Access and Inclusion Plan. Giselle provided an overview of the project and advised that Council is keen to ensure all people in the community have an opportunity to be included. Paper copies of posters and 'easy read' surveys were provided to the AAC and further details of how to get involved are also available on Council's website: <https://www.yoursaytweed.com.au/diap>.

The AAC provided details of some Aboriginal community members with disability who may like to participate. The AAC urged Council to use images in all promotions that are inclusive and more diverse.

Cr Milne advised that Council is developing a Growth Management and Housing Strategy and recently sought expressions of interest from the community to join a project reference group. Cr Milne encouraged the Aboriginal community to get involved in this project.

Action: *CDO-Aboriginal to email to the AAC the link to the 3 short films sharing the experiences and stories of the Equal Access Advisory Committee members released to celebrate the 2021 International Day of People with Disability.*

Action: *CDO-Aboriginal to email to the AAC the link to the Access and Inclusion Have Your Say page.*

A5. Outstanding Matters Report

Tim advised that he has completed some of the items and is continuing to work with the AAC members on the Outstanding Matters Report.

A6. AAC Terms of Reference

The Council elections are being held on 4 December 2021. Once the new Council is elected and the governance review of Committees of Council is complete, the Terms of Reference for each of the Committees of Council will be reviewed. The AAC were provided with a hard copy of the AAC Terms of Reference which were adopted in 2013. The AAC were requested to review the Terms of Reference for discussion at the first meeting in 2022.

Action: *The Aboriginal Advisory Committee Terms of Reference adopted in 2013 to be reviewed by the AAC members for discussion at a future meeting.*

General Business:

GB1.TBLALC to Manage Fingal Headland

TBLALC has been appointed to manage the culturally significant land at Fingal Head. This is the first time a Land Council has been appointed a Crown Land Manager in NSW. Leweena acknowledged the accomplishment which was led by the local Elders and thanked everyone involved including Council and in particular Cr Milne and Stewart Brawley. An official event will be held on Friday 10 December 2021 at Fingal Headland.

Incoming Correspondence:

Nil.

Next Meeting:

The next meeting of the Aboriginal Advisory Committee will be held Friday 4 February 2022 (tbc).

The meeting closed at 11.50am.

EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP TEAM'S COMMENTS:

Nil.

EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP TEAM'S RECOMMENDATIONS:

BA5. Norries Headland Masterplan

That Council investigates the official naming of Bogangar / Cabarita Beach and reports back to the Aboriginal Advisory Committee.