

Ordinary Meeting

Meeting Date: Tuesday, 27 June, 2017
Location: Council Chambers, City Administrative Building, Bridge Road, Nowra
Time: 5:00pm

Membership (Quorum - 7)
All Councillors

Addendum Agenda

Mayoral Minute

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MM17.13 Mayoral Minute - Queens Birthday Honours

HPERM Ref: D17/199051

Recommendation

That Council receive the report for information and write a letter of congratulations to the recipients.

Details

The 2017 Queen's Birthday Honours were bestowed upon six of our local identities this year. Congratulations to Former Commanding Officer of 816 Squadron, Commander Marc Pavillard CSC, Chief Petty Officer Phillip Hirschausen CSM, Chief Inspector Kevin McNeil APM, Peter Butler OAM RFD, Rod Austin OAM and John Downton OAM.

CONSPICUOUS SERVICE CROSS (CSC)

- **Former Commanding Officer, Commander Marc Pavillard CSC** for outstanding devotion to duty and performance in the field of naval aviation command.

CONSPICUOUS SERVICE MEDAL (CSM)

- **Chief Petty Officer Phillip Hirschausen CSM** for meritorious achievement in the performance of duty in the field of Navy avionics support.

AUSTRALIAN POLICE MEDAL (APM)

- **Detective Chief Inspector Kevin McNeil** for dedicated and exemplary police service to the people of NSW for over 35 years.

MEMBER (AM) IN THE GENERAL DIVISION OF THE ORDER OF AUSTRALIA

- **Peter Butler OAM RFD** for significant service to the community through a range of charitable organisations, and to the provision and promotion of pro bono legal services.

MEDAL (OAM) OF THE ORDER OF AUSTRALIA IN THE GENERAL DIVISION

- **Rodney Austin OAM** for service to surf lifesaving.
- **John Downton OAM** for service to the visual arts as a maritime artist, and to the community.

MM17.14 Mayoral Minute - Refugee Week

HPERM Ref: D17/203556

Attachments: 1. Attachment to Mayoral Minute - Refugee Week - 18-24 June 2017 [↓](#)

Recommendation

That Council sign the pledge to become a Refugee Welcome Zone.

Details

To mark this years refugee week 18-24 June 2017 I ask that Shoalhaven City sign the pledge to become a Refugee Welcome Zone.

A Refugee welcome zone is a place that welcomes people with friendship and compassion in their time of need. Refugee welcome Zones have been created all across Australia and reflect our humanitarian intake of refugees as valued members of our society. Australia has a strong record of welcoming refugees and we need to ensure that those who are safely on our shores are included in our society.

MM17.14



Refugee Council
of Australia

REFUGEE WELCOME ZONES

An initiative of the Refugee Council of Australia

Who is the Refugee Council of Australia?

The Refugee Council of Australia (RCOA) is the national peak body for refugees and the organisations and individuals who support them. RCOA promotes the adoption of flexible, humane and constructive policies towards refugees and asylum seekers through conducting policy analysis, research, advocacy and public education on refugee issues.

What is a Refugee Welcome Zone?

A Refugee Welcome Zone is a Local Government Area which has made a commitment in spirit to welcoming refugees into the community, upholding the human rights of refugees, demonstrating compassion for refugees and enhancing cultural and religious diversity in the community.

This public commitment is also an acknowledgment of the tremendous contributions refugees have made to Australian society in the fields of medicine, science, engineering, sport, education and the arts. By making this Declaration it is hoped that local government will be encouraged in their continuing efforts to support the men, women and children who make the difficult journey to Australia to seek our protection.

The Refugee Welcome Zone initiative began in June 2002 as part of Refugee Week celebrations. At the time, 15 local Councils in Victoria, New South Wales and South Australia were declared Refugee Welcome Zones. Today, with more than 120 Local Government Areas having declaring themselves Refugee Welcome Zones, the initiative has proven to be a great success in connecting local governments with the issues facing refugees and asylum seekers.

What is the process for becoming a Refugee Welcome Zone?

The process for becoming a Refugee Welcome Zone is very straightforward. It simply involves the Council signing the Refugee Welcome Zone Declaration, which is "a commitment in Spirit to welcoming refugees into our community, upholding the human rights of refugees, demonstrating compassion for refugees and enhancing cultural and religious diversity in our community". An example of the Declaration is included at the end of this document.

To mark the occasion of becoming a Refugee Welcome Zone, many Councils choose to hold public signing ceremonies. These provide an opportunity to highlight the initiative and acknowledge the work of local groups and individuals that support refugees and asylum seekers. If possible, a representative from the Refugee Council of Australia will attend the ceremony to present a Certificate of Appreciation.

Why become a Refugee Welcome Zone?

Local Government has historically played an important role in assisting refugee settlement and promoting community harmony. Since Federation in 1901, Australia has become home to over 800,000 refugees and we have a proud history of settling refugees from all over the world who have gone on to make an

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enormous contribution to our economic, social and cultural life. Becoming a Refugee Welcome Zone is a way to continue this proud tradition of supporting the settlement of refugees.

Signing the Declaration can also promote harmony, social cohesion and respect for human rights in your local community. It is a great way to demonstrate support for refugees and take a strong stand against racism and discrimination. It can help to raise awareness about the issues affecting refugees, foster a culture of mutual respect and promote an appreciation of cultural diversity.

Becoming a Refugee Welcome Zone can also encourage the development of a more coordinated approach to supporting refugee settlement. It can motivate Local Government and local organisations and support groups to work together more effectively so as to improve settlement outcomes for refugees.

What are the obligations and responsibilities of Refugee Welcome Zones?

The Refugee Welcome Zone Declaration does not confer any formal obligations and Refugee Welcome Zones are not required to uphold any statutory responsibilities or financial commitments. The signing of the Declaration is simply a way of demonstrating broad support for the principles it contains. Any actions or activities undertaken by Refugee Welcome Zones to implement the Declaration are voluntary.

However, while signatories to the Refugee Welcome Zone Declaration are not required to undertake any specific activities, any initiatives which help to create a welcoming atmosphere and assist the settlement of refugees and their communities are welcomed and encouraged.

How can Refugee Welcome Zones support refugees?

There are many simple things that your Local Government Area can do to welcome refugees to your community:

- Develop a Local Government policy relating to refugees and asylum seekers or review existing policies.
- Offer funding for community-based projects which support the settlement of refugees.
- Hold community picnics and gatherings to encourage families from different backgrounds and community organisations to meet.
- Build partnerships and work collaboratively with local community groups and service providers to enhance support for refugees settling in your area.
- Organise an event during Refugee Week, such as a street fair or festival.
- Host a community meeting with newly arrived refugees and guest speakers from refugee support organisations to find out how your Council can best support refugees in your community.
- Hold a multicultural film festival.
- Coordinate with local libraries in the area to develop an English tutoring program for newly arrived refugees.
- Liaise with the Red Cross to run information sessions for newly arrived refugees who have been separated from family members and relatives.
- Hold a public forum to enable guest speakers from refugee backgrounds to share their stories.

How has your organisation, community or council welcomed refugees?

Send in your past and upcoming events and initiatives to media@refugeecouncil.org.au

We'd like to hear about program or event, big or small!

Current Refugee Welcome Zones

There are currently 124 Refugee Welcome Zones in Australia.

Australian Capital Territory: ACT government

New South Wales: Albury City Council, Armidale Dumaresq Council, Ashfield Council, Auburn City Council, Ballina Shire Council, Bankstown City Council, Bathurst Regional Council, Bega Valley Shire Council, Blacktown City Council, Blue Mountains City Council, Burwood Council, Byron Shire Council, Campbelltown City Council, City of Canterbury, Coffs Harbour City Council, Cowra Council, Dubbo City Council, Fairfield City Council, Gosford City Council, Goulburn Mulwaree Council, Griffith City Council, Hawkesbury City Council, Hornsby Shire Council, Kiama Municipal Council, Kogarah City Council, Ku-ring-gai Council, City of Lake Macquarie, Leeton Shire Council, Leichhardt Council, Lismore City Council, Liverpool City Council, Manly Council, Marrickville Council, Moree Plains Shire Council, Mosman Council, North Sydney Council, Palerang Council, Parkes Shire Council, Penrith City Council, Port Macquarie-Hastings Council, Randwick City Council, Rockdale City Council, City of Ryde, Shellharbour City Council, Sutherland Shire Council, City of Sydney, Wagga Wagga City Council, Warringah Council, Waverley Council, Willoughby City Council, Wollongong City Council

Northern Territory: City of Palmerston

Victoria: Ararat Rural City Council, City of Ballarat, Banyule City Council, Bass Coast Shire Council, Brimbank City Council, Shire of Campaspe, Cardinia Shire Council, City of Casey, City of Darebin, City of Greater Bendigo, Colac Otway Shire, City of Greater Dandenong, Greater City of Greater Geelong, Hepburn Shire Council, Hindmarsh Shire Council, Hobsons Bay City Council, Horsham Rural City Council, Hume City Council, La Trobe City Council, Manningham City Council, Maribyrnong City Council, Maroondah City Council, City of Melbourne, Mildura Rural City Council, Moira Shire Council, City of Monash, City of Moonee Valley, Moreland City Council, Mornington Peninsula Shire, Mount Alexander Shire Council, City of Port Phillip, Borough of Queenscliffe, Greater Shepparton City Council, Surf Coast Shire, Swan Hill Rural City Council, City of Whittlesea, Wyndham City, City of Yarra, Yarra Ranges Council

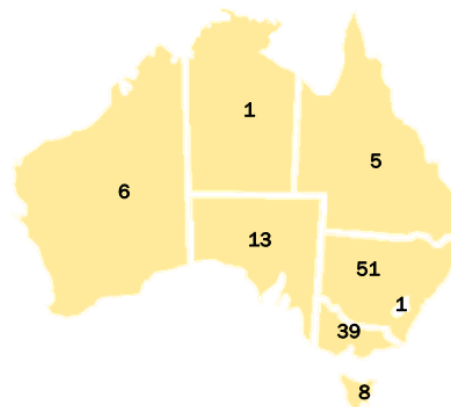
South Australia: Adelaide City Council, Adelaide Hills Council, Campbelltown City Council, Town of Gawler, City of Marion, City of Mitcham, City of Mount Gambier, Rural City of Murray Bridge, City of Norwood, Payneham and St Peters, City of Onkaparinga, City of Port Adelaide Enfield, City of Prospect, City of West Torrens

Queensland: Brisbane City Council, Diamantina Shire Council, Flinders Shire Council, Toowoomba Regional Council, Townsville City Council

Tasmania: Break O'Day Council, Clarence City Council, Derwent Valley Council, Hobart City Council, Kingborough Council, La Trobe Council, Launceston City Council, West Tamar Council

Western Australia: City of Fremantle, Shire of Katanning, Shire of Augusta-Margaret River, City of Subiaco, Town of Victoria Park, City of Vincent.

Map of Refugee Welcome Zones in Australia



The Refugee Welcome Zone Declaration

(Council crest/logo)

The _____ Council,

Declares the Council of _____ a

Refugee Welcome Zone

This Declaration is a Commitment in Spirit to

Welcoming refugees into our community,

Upholding the **Human Rights** of refugees,

Demonstrating **Compassion** for refugees and

Enhancing cultural and religious **Diversity** in our community.

[name and title of signatory]

Date: _____

This Declaration is proudly supported and endorsed by the



Refugee Council
of Australia

The Refugee Council of Australia is a national umbrella organisation representing over 1,000 organisational and individual members. The aim of the Refugee Council is to promote the adoption of flexible, humane and constructive policies toward refugees and asylum seekers by the Australian and other Governments and their communities.

To obtain an editable copy of the Declaration for signing by your Council, please contact us on
(02) 9211 9333 or media@refugeecouncil.org.au

MM17.15 Mayoral Minute - Passing of Lieutenant Commander Henry 'Nobby' Hall MBE OAM

HPERM Ref: D17/203587

Recommendation

That Council receive the report for information.

Details

LCDR Henry 'Nobby' Hall MBE OAM passed away surrounded by family on Sunday afternoon, aged 95 and a half.

Nobby was known to many a Shoalhaven resident and was ever present at commemorative services across the City. As a highly decorated Naval Officer, he was always willing to speak to younger generations about his service.

Nobby served 43 years in the Navy, 20 of which were at sea, rising from the rank of ordinary seaman to Lieutenant Commander. Nobby is believed to be, if not the last, of the final survivors from the original Canberra, which was heavily damaged and sunk during the Battle of Savo Island in August 1942.

Nobby was awarded an OAM for his service to veterans and their families through the Nowra-Greenwell Point RSL sub-branch and was also a Member of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire (MBE).

A lovely distinguished gentleman for whom many will have a tale to tell, Nobby will be missed by all.

Council pass on their condolences to Nobby's family.

MM17.15

CL17.188 Nowra Sailing Club Update

HPERM Ref: D17/202010

Group: Assets & Works Group

Purpose / Summary

To provide Council background on the Nowra Sailing Club and the disappointing loss of the building due to fire.

Recommendation

That Council receive a further report on options when insurance advice is received

Options

1. Council accept the recommendation as presented.

Implications: Council is provided with a further update on the Nowra Sailing Club

2. Council reject the recommendation.

Implications: No further report will be provided

Background

Council is aware that a fire caused extensive damage to the Sailing Club building on the evening of Wednesday last week. The site has been made “safe” and council is waiting on formal written advice from its Insurer.

Council is currently working on the following projects in relation to the Shoalhaven River precinct and these are highlighted below;

1. Masterplan for the broader Nowra Riverfront Leisure and Entertainment Precinct. The Precinct includes the Crown Land in which the fire damaged former Nowra Sailing Club building is situated.
2. Paringa Park – Non motorised water sports hub
3. Future use of the Nowra sailing club building

Nowra Riverfront Masterplan

Urban design consultants Studio GL Pty Ltd are currently assisting Council with this project. Councillors were briefed on the project and its next steps in December 2016. Most recently targeted consultation has been undertaken with relevant Government Agencies and also landowners within the precinct.

The primary objective of the Shoalhaven River front masterplan is to recognise the opportunities that exist within the Riverfront precinct, identify planning and design principles

and recommend a strategic direction for the precinct and the areas within it. It is intended that this Plan will act as a catalyst for future investment and development within the precinct and could lead to the adjustment of planning controls in the area to assist.

Opportunities for the Riverfront precinct to also be put forward as potential location for a future regional ‘city deal’ are also being considered and investigated to help ensure that the long held desire to ‘activate’ the precinct can be realised.

As part of this exercise, the physical connection and relationship with the River generated by the Nowra Sailing Club building has been identified as an opportunity to take advantage of. Whilst it was acknowledged that the building had structural issues, the Plan always intended on building on and fostering the opportunity provided by the existing Nowra Sailing Club building. Thus, the opportunity for a replacement building or structure to provide a focus and opportunity in this location is likely to be something the masterplan will identify.

The Nowra Sailing Club building and surrounds also have local historical significance.

Paringa Park – Non motorised water sports hub

Council has prepared a masterplan for Paringa Park. [Paringa Park community consultation](#) occurred in February 2017. The proposal considers locating the Nowra Water Dragons, Nowra Sea Scouts, Nowra Sailing Club and Shoalhaven Rowing club into one hub near the current Shoalhaven Rowing site that was established by members.

Future use of the Nowra sailing club building

Council acquired the Nowra Sailing Club Building in the 1960’s. The building was used by

- [Nowra Sailing Club](#) from 1964 till 2015. The Sailing club has a relatively small membership.
- [Shoalhaven Rowing Club](#) from 1977 to 2000. The Shoalhaven Rowing club, which also has a rich history relocated in 2000 to a purpose, built boatshed further to the west on the Shoalhaven River.

Previous history of the Nowra Sailing Club building is that it is more than likely the third building erected around the location of the Nowra wharf, from 1930 to 1935. It was the transportation centre of the town until cars, trucks and rail provided an alternative transportation option for freight. In 1948 till 1964, the building was occupied by the Nowra Fisherman’s Co-operative, who then relocated to the north side of the river. Nowra sailing club then occupied the building as a boat store until November 2015.

The Shoalhaven LEP2014 currently identifies the “inter-war weatherboard building and timber wharf” in this location as a local Heritage Item. As such, any demolition or future use will need to consider the requirements of this current heritage listing.

Council were presented with reports in;

- May 2016 on the Future use of the Nowra Sailing Club Building
- November 2015 on the Future use of the Nowra sailing Club Building
- November 2012 Nowra water sports club precinct (otherwise known as the Nowra Sailing Club)

These reports identified users of the Shoalhaven River near the bridge including the Nowra Water Dragons, Nowra Sailing Club & Shoalhaven Rowing Club and their needs and the needs of other river users and infrastructure requirements.

It is incredibly disappointing that the Nowra Sailing Club building fire on 21 June 2017, caused extensive structural damage.

Community Engagement

The future of the riverfront precinct and the Nowra sailing club are of high interest to the community. It is incredibly disappointing to many in the community that the sailing club has been lost due to this fire and the Shoalhaven Historical Society have provided feedback to council on the buildings significant history and ideas from the community to recognise this in the future.

Consultation has recently been undertaken with affected landowners in regard to the broader Nowra Riverfront Masterplan work. In early July, we are also arranging a meeting with Councils heritage adviser, Shoalhaven Historical Society and the insurer.

Financial Implications

Council has notified under its Property insurance and an Assessor has been appointed. The potential settlement options are currently being discussed with the insurer.