

MINUTES OF THE NORTH COASTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAM ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Meeting Date: Monday, 15 March 2021
Location: Council Chambers, City Administrative Centre, Bridge Road, Nowra
Time: 4.03pm

The following members were present:

Clr John Wells - Chairperson
Clr Patricia White
Clr Nina Digiglio
Clr Mark Kitchener

North

John Gould – (remotely)
Leonie Sinclair – (remotely)
Ms Denise Belling
Ms Alannah Mannix

Central

Christopher Grounds – (remotely)
Samuel Dunnett – (remotely)
Mr Tony Thompson
Mr Bob Pullinger
Ms Julie Court
Mr Graham Connolly

Others present:

Phil Hansen – Acting Manager, Environmental Services
Nigel Smith – Coastal Coordinator
Leslie Reid – Natural Resources Officer
Danny Wiecek – Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (remotely)
Cameron Whiting – Eurobodalla Shire Council (remotely)
Jillian Reynolds – DPIE Fisheries (remotely)
Michael Phelan – National Parks and Wildlife Service (remotely)
Jason Carson - South East Local Land Services (remotely)

Apologies / Leave of Absence

Apologies were received from Clr Levett, Plaxy Rowe and Claude Domio.

Confirmation of the Minutes

RESOLVED (John Gould / Leonie Sinclair)

That Minutes of the North Coastal Management Program Advisory Committee held on Monday 30 November 2020 be confirmed.

CARRIED

NC21.3 Additional Item - Amendment to Terms of Reference - Report to Council

Note:

Clr Wells has held discussions with staff and would like recognition of Seven Mile Beach, Warrain Beach and other Northern Beaches and open coast to be included and applied to the Northern area in the Purpose and Terms of Reference. Staff will prepare a report to this effect to be adopted by Council.

Graham Connolly gave a Welcome to Country and paid respects for Elders past and present.

Declarations of Interest

Nil

REPORTS**NC21.1 Update on the Coastal Management Programs (CMPs)****HPERM Ref:
D21/64343**

Nigel Smith, Coastal Coordinator, addressed the meeting in relation to the tables contained in the report.

Table 1:

Lake Conjola is the first Coastal Management Plan (CMP) underway.

Shoalhaven Open Coastline and Jervis Bay CMPs: awaiting successful grant from the NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPIE) before we can advertise the Request for Tender documents (RFTs). The Tender briefs have been written and reviewed by the Committee. Once the Grant is received, the Tender will be advertised for the minimum required 21 day period.

Sussex Inlet and Swan Lake / Berrara and St Georges Basin CMPs: also awaiting a grant from DPIE, hopefully within the same timeframe of the Jervis Bay and Open Coastline CMPs. The tender briefs are in a draft stage at the moment and staff are looking to have that finalised within the next month.

This is the same for the Shoalhaven River, where a Grant application has been submitted to DPIE, and awaiting the outcome. The brief has not started yet.

The Committee held a discussion in relation to the CMP:

- Once we have the CMPs in place from these Grants, we can apply for further funding through DPIE for implementing the actions.
- Concerns were raised for significant Aboriginal heritage and artifacts at site located at the end of Hay Avenue, Shoalhaven Heads. This was being brought to Council's attention to ensure that there is no damage in the future.
- The Northern CMP Advisory Committee seeks information on the boundaries of the Lower Shoalhaven River (estuaries) and urban runoff treatment and water quality testing.
- Will need clarification from DPIE regarding floodplain, acid sulphate soils, effluent discharge, agricultural practices. Following conversations regarding the availability and interest of Committee members to review the Draft Project Briefs, it was decided that the Shoalhaven Open Coast and Jervis Bay Draft Project Briefs will be made available again

for review and comment by the Committee.

- It was noted that when the Draft Project Briefs were released and requested for feedback in January, it was during the holidays and Committee members' availability was limited. There is still interest by Committee members to contribute.
- Feedback was requested to staff within 2 weeks (Monday 29 March 2021).
- It was noted by Graham Connolly that the Project Briefs, and the subsequent work that comes out of them, needs perspective from Indigenous stakeholders, and specifically on the ground works
- Graham also noted that the Draft Project Brief and the CMP needs to acknowledge the existence of artifacts and culture throughout the document, and consultation needs to occur on how we preserve the heritage with how the local Indigenous people wish this to be done. Consultants need to be sensitive to the local culture and heritage and to consult with the local Aboriginal people. This will be addition to the project briefs, new Section 2.2.
- The CMP will be done in Chapters; at the front of the CMP insert a document that addresses all the Aboriginal & Cultural Heritage.
- Clr White requested that prior to any Community Consultation Survey going out, some of the members test it first. There were issues in the past with surveys not working properly and not discovering his until towards the end of the surveys' closing.
- Clr White requested that the members be provided with talking points to go out and talk to the community, similar to an executive summary
- Christopher Grounds requested to align the terminology used in community engagement with Council's Policy.
- Bob Pullinger requested the addition of the "at risk" stakeholders as a community engagement group; i.e. community members/land owners identified as being at risk of coastal hazards.
- Clarification around the Urban & Rural Estuaries to be provided to members.
- Danny Wiecek (PIE) addressed a question regarding St. Georges Basin and Sussex Inlet CMP. He noted DPIE and Council See St Georges Basin and Sussex Inlet as one CMP.
 - Can undertake the one CMP for multiple estuaries
 - Swan Lake and Berrara are separate to Sussex Inlet, but they are all small systems so can be packaged together.
 - They were split because the residents and the community wanted the CMPs split in order to best capture specific management objectives.
- Need to make sure we have enough Grant funding to do the individual areas.

Recommendation (Item to be determined under delegated authority)

That the North Coastal Management Program Advisory Committee receive the report on the status of the Coastal Management Plans for information.

RESOLVED (Clr White / Denise Belling)

That the North Coastal Management Program Advisory Committee receive the report on the status of the Coastal Management Plans for information.

CARRIED

NC21.2 Project Brief Structure for Coastal Management Programs

HPERM Ref: D21/64526

The Committee held a discussion in relation to the report and the following comments were raised:

- Staff have been sending specification only as a lot of the information is generic information. Focus on the first 4 points of the report: Study Area, Scoping Study, Determine Risks / Vulnerabilities / Opportunities.
- Could be merit to include an executive summary and/or additional heading:

- 2. Study area, 2.1 Environmental Context & Values, 2.2. Cultural Heritage, 2.3. Challenges
- Clr White requested a visual project plan be provided to the Committee to help with visualising progress and showing the study area, and providing this to stakeholder groups.
- The Committee expressed the importance of all stakeholders having equal access to consultation.
- It was requested that Council staff engage with the Shoalhaven Tourism Advisory Group to help capture those that visit the area for feedback.
- Council staff will circulate the stakeholder list to Committee members. Clr White, Nigel Smith and Leslie Reid all reiterated if there are stakeholders, and/or any other community groups that members are aware of that have not been captured, please forward those details to Nigel Smith.
- Clr White request that the Executive Summary be provided to the Project Tender Brief documents .
- Graham Connolly voiced a concern regarding some Governance Laws between Land Councils and local Custodians of the land that may not be members of the Land Council.

Recommendation (Item to be determined under delegated authority)

That the North Coastal Management Program Advisory Committee receive the report for information.

RESOLVED (Clr White / John Gould)

That the North Coastal Management Program Advisory Committee receive the report for information.

CARRIED

GENERAL BUSINESS**NC21.4 Additional Item - Future Standing Item Report - Action List and Timeline**

Clr White suggested that staff prepare a standing report to every meeting an Action Report that includes a Timeline similar to when Shoalhaven Water were reporting on the REMS. The report to also include the budget.

RESOLVED (Clr White / Clr Wells)

That staff prepare a standing report to each meeting which includes an Action List, Timeline and Budget.

CARRIED

NC21.5 Additional Item - Mangrove - Shoalhaven River

Leslie Reid addressed the meeting in regard to a matter raised by Claude Domio who had submitted an apology. Leslie read the correspondence from Claude to the meeting:

Claude wanted to raise a question / comment regarding the Fisheries Licence Permit PN19/338 for Lot 7005 DP 1075719 adjacent to River Road Shoalhaven Heads (within inter-tidal land zoned for Public Recreation).

He wanted to raise a question on how we ensure this Licence continues after it expires next October 2022 as it is important to the community, and how will the licence be impacted once a

Coastal Management Program is adopted.

It was noted that the Coastal Management Plan will re-evaluate the need for a licence, and will provide a recommendation on how to continue to manage that site. If a licence is required, it will be identified through the Coastal Management Program and actioned appropriately.

NC21.6 Additional Item - REFS

RESOLVED (Clr Wells / Clr White)

That Council suggest to the CEO that where Environmental Factors are subject of review, that the Draft Review be circulated to Committee members prior to the REF being adopted.

CARRIED

There being no further business, the meeting concluded, the time being 5.50pm.

Clr John Wells
CHAIRPERSON