

## MINUTES OF THE ABORIGINAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

**Meeting Date:** Tuesday, 7 May 2024  
**Location:** Jervis Bay Rooms, City Administrative Centre, Bridge Road, Nowra  
**Time:** 5.08pm

The following members were present:

Ms Natalie Lloyd – Chairperson  
Clr Matthew Norris  
Clr Gillian Boyd  
Clr Patricia White – Left at 7.16pm  
Clr John Kotlash (Remotely) – Left at 6.07pm  
Clr Tonia Gray  
Mr Shane Brown  
Mr Paul McLeod – Joined at 5.47pm  
Ms Caryn Carpenter (Remotely) – Left at 6.06pm  
Ms Sharlene Cruickshank – Joined at 5.12pm  
Ms Belinda Little  
Mr David Blakeney (Remotely)  
Mr Uncle Sonny Henry - Nowra LALC  
Mr Michael Paine - Manager - Community Connections

Others present:

Ms Carly McWalters - Lead - Community Capacity Building  
Mr Allen Bloxsome - Community Capacity Builder  
Mr Gordon Clark - Section Manager - Strategic Planning – Left at 7.16pm  
Mr Ryan Jameson - Coordinator - Local Planning Team - Left at 7.16pm  
Ms Melissa Halloran - Strategic Planner - Left at 7.16pm  
Ms Caitlin Lewis – Manager - Media & Communications - Joined at 5.14pm and left at 6.28pm  
Ms Alix Gillet – Coordinator - Marketing & Community Engagement – Left at 6.28pm  
Mr Dan Farrugia – TfNSW (Remotely) – Left at 6.08pm  
Ms Cheyenne Noble tovehi – TfNSW (Remotely) - Left at 6.08pm

### Apologies / Leave of Absence

Apologies were received from Ms Janet Atkins, Ms Karen Tronier, Ms Nicole Moore, Ms Amanda Findley and Ms Sylvia Timbery.

The meeting was opened with a Welcome to Country provided by Uncle Sonny Simms, the Committee then observed a Minute of Silence in respect of Aboriginal Elders, Past and Present.

## Confirmation of the Minutes

### RESOLVED (Natalie Lloyd / Sharlene Cruickshank)

That the Minutes of the Aboriginal Advisory Committee held on Tuesday 06 February 2024 be confirmed.

CARRIED

## Declaration of Interests

Nil

## PRESENTATIONS

### AA24.7 Nowra Bridge Project - Aboriginal Interpretive Signage

HPERM Ref:  
D24/145063

Mr Dan Farrugia – TfNSW presented to the Aboriginal Advisory Committee on the Nowra Bridge Project – Aboriginal Interpretive Signage. The following topics were discussed:

- Background
- The Shoalhaven River
- Living by the Shoalhaven River
- Nundle and the Shoalhaven River
- Example of installation at Mount Pleasant
- Potential location
- Questions

The Committee engaged in discussion on the potential location of the Aboriginal Interpretive Panels and provided their feedback.

Ms Natalie Lloyd formally noted her concerns with TfNSW regarding one of the images of the Jerrinja Tribal Group being displayed in a Nowra LALC area/location.

The AAC suggested an additional panel be developed by TfNSW regarding the Aboriginal People of the Nowra / Bomaderry area.

The presentation is attached to the Minutes.

### AA24.8 Community Engagement Framework

HPERM Ref:  
D24/60221

Ms Alix Gillet - Coordinator - Marketing & Community Engagement presented to the Committee on the development of the Community Engagement Framework.

The following topics were discussed:

- What and How
- When / Community Consultation
- The Importance of Committees
- Engagement Examples

An activity was undertaken with the Committee via an online survey. The Committee was asked the following questions:

1. What is the best way to reach you and other people in the Aboriginal community?

2. How should we be receiving feedback from the Aboriginal community?

The presentation is attached to the Minutes.

**AA24.9 Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Planning - Possible Toolkit and Mapping**

**HPERM Ref:  
D24/166128**

Mr Gordon Clark - Section Manager - Strategic Planning, Mr Ryan Jameson – Coordinator – Local Planning Team and Ms Melissa Halloran – Strategic Planner presented to the Committee on a possible/proposed project to introduce new planning tools to help improve the assessment and consideration of Aboriginal cultural heritage in new projects and developments in Shoalhaven.

The following topics were discussed:

- Proposed Project Overview and Possible Objectives
- Current Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Requirements / Practices
- Benefits of the Proposed Project
- Initial Council Staff Response
- Examples of How Other Councils are Approaching
- Opportunities to Improve Council Practices
- Challenges and Considerations
- Suggested Next Steps

The presentation is attached to the Minutes.

**AA24.10 Local Government Regional NAIDOC Awards 2024 Update**

**HPERM Ref:  
D24/134992**

The Community Connections Team provided an update on the progress for the Local Government Regional NAIDOC Awards 2024 to the Aboriginal Advisory Committee.

The following topics were discussed:

- Background
- Theme: Blak, Loud And Proud
- Celebrating Culture & Being Respectful
- Award Categories
- Nominations
- Funding Sources
- Sponsorship and Sponsors
- Promotion and Engagement
- Event Details
- Ticket Sales

The presentation is attached to the Minutes.

## **GENERAL BUSINESS**

**AA24.11 Update on Reconciliation Action Plan**

**HPERM Ref:  
D24/137888**

The Community Connections Team will provide an update to the Aboriginal Advisory Committee via email following the meeting on the progress of the Reconciliation Action Plan.

It was noted that Ms Natalie Lloyd is unable to be a representative on the Reconciliation Action Plan. Natalie and staff encouraged any representatives to volunteer.

**AA24.12 Additional Item - Provide a Report Back - Status Update on Comberton Grange Rd Comberton - Road Closure**

Ms Natalie Lloyd raised concerns regarding the status on the Comberton Grange Rd, Comberton road closure. Natalie advised the Committee were adamant they did not want this road closure to proceed and an update was to be provided back to the Committee once staff had followed up with the Development Application.

It was noted the Committee were yet to receive a status update on the matter.

**RESOLVED** (By consent)

That the Aboriginal Advisory Committee receive a report back on the status of the Comberton Grange Rd, Comberton road closure.

CARRIED

**AA24.13 Additional Item - Sorry Day 24 May 2024 - Nowra LALC**

Mr David Blakeney provided an update on the Sorry Day event to the Committee. Sorry Day is on 24 May 2024 and a bridge walk is commencing after 9.00am. The meeting location will be at the Nowra Administration Building. Brochures have been distributed to organisations and information has been posted to social media platforms.

There being no further business, the meeting concluded, the time being 7.40pm.

Ms Natalie Lloyd  
CHAIRPERSON