

## Aboriginal Advisory Committee

**Meeting Date:** Tuesday, 07 May, 2024  
**Location:** Jervis Bay Rooms, City Administrative Centre, Bridge Road, Nowra  
**Time:** 5.00pm

**Please note:** Council's Code of Meeting Practice permits the electronic recording and broadcast of the proceedings of meetings of the Council which are open to the public. Your attendance at this meeting is taken as consent to the possibility that your image and/or voice may be recorded and broadcast to the public.

### Agenda

1. Meeting Conduct Statement
2. Apologies
3. Acknowledgement of Country
4. A Minute Silence in Respect of Aboriginal Elders, Past and Present
5. Confirmation of Minutes
  - Aboriginal Advisory Committee - 6 February 2024 ..... 1
6. Declarations of Interest
7. Presentations
  - AA24.7 Nowra Riverfront - Aboriginal Interpretive Signage
  - AA24.8 Community Engagement Framework

*Council's Marketing and Community Engagement Team wish to present to the Aboriginal Advisory Committee on the development of the Community Engagement Framework.*
  - AA24.9 Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Planning - Possible Toolkit and Mapping

Staff from Council's Strategic Planning Department will present 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 briefing will discuss possible project aims, scope, stakeholder engagement and approaches used in other areas.
  - AA24.10 Local Government Regional NAIDOC Awards 2024 Update

*The purpose of this update is to provide an overview and advise on progress for the Local Government Regional NAIDOC Awards 2024 to the Aboriginal Advisory Committee.*

**8. General Business**

AA24.11 Update on Reconciliation Action Plan

*Community Connections Team staff will provide an update to the Aboriginal Advisory Committee on the progress of the Reconciliation Action Plan.*

**Membership**

Chairperson - Ms Natalie Lloyd  
All Councillors  
Chief Executive Officer or nominee  
Ms Janet Atkins  
Ms Sylvia Timbery  
Mr Shane Brown  
Mr Paul McLeod  
Mr Charlie Ashby  
Ms Nicole Moore  
Ms Caryn Carpenter  
Ms Sharlene Cruickshank  
Mr David Blakeney  
Ms Belinda Little  
Mr Uncle Sonny Henry - Nowra LALC  
Mr Alfred Wellington - Jerrinja LALC  
Ms Karen Tronier - Ulladulla LALC

Quorum – Five (5) local Aboriginal community members

**Purpose**

To provide appropriate and considered advice to Council on all relevant issues affecting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people within the Shoalhaven LGA, and to influence Council's support & intent in achieving their objectives for the current Statement of Commitment 2010 (SoC) and the Shoalhaven City Council Community Strategic Plan 2027 (SCCSP) and endorsement of the Uluru Statement of the Heart June 2020.

**Role of the Committee**

All members are encouraged to become actively involved in the business of the AAC and to be an advocate between community and Council. The role of the Committee is:-

- To advise Shoalhaven City Council on necessary issues relating to Aboriginal communities in the LGA.
- Promote and increase knowledge & understanding of Aboriginal society, history & culture in the LGA.
- Facilitate access and accessibility to services and facilities for Aboriginal people.
- Advise on the development and implementation of the Shoalhaven City Council Community Strategic Plan.
- Develop strong collaborative partnerships between Aboriginal communities and Shoalhaven City Council.
- Maintain strong links between Council and Aboriginal communities throughout the Shoalhaven to accomplish the relationships and outcomes required for genuine reconciliation.
- Foster and safeguard a spirit of mutual trust and respect which allows the AAC and Shoalhaven City Council to work together in their commitment towards intelligent, well informed decision making processes that are sensitive to all Aboriginal issues.
- Recognise, support & uphold past and present local cultural heritage and its place in future Council directions.
- Remain a meaningful 'place' for the communication of messages and information from Aboriginal community voices that identify local needs for services, facilities and activities.
- Support and promote significant celebrations and events within the Shoalhaven Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community.
- Provide specialist advice to other Committees of Council.

Ordinary Meeting 21 December 2009 – Item 43 – MIN19.1808

### **STATEMENT OF COMMITMENT**

This Statement commits Shoalhaven City Council to continue building mutually respectful relationships with the Aboriginal Communities of the Shoalhaven.

Shoalhaven City Council values its culturally diverse communities and lifestyles and is deeply committed to working in partnership with Aboriginal people of the Shoalhaven. This Partnership will be based on mutual respect and equality to further employment, social, cultural and economic community development.

Shoalhaven City Council recognizes and acknowledges the history and treatment of Aboriginal people in Australia and supports the Council for Aboriginal Reconciliation's vision and values.

Shoalhaven City Council recognises Aboriginal people's valuable contribution made in strengthening and enriching our communities and the heritage of all Australians.

Shoalhaven City Council Acknowledges and Recognises:

- Aboriginal people as the first people of Australia
- Past practices and policies that impacted on Aboriginal people's lives, cultures and society
- The customs and traditions of Aboriginal people and their spiritual relationship with the land
- The rights of Aboriginal people to live according to their own beliefs, values and customs, and
- The significant contribution made by Aboriginal people in the past, present and future.

Shoalhaven City Council commits itself to:

- Ensuring local Aboriginal involvement in events and celebrations of significance which respect the dignity and protocols of the local Aboriginal communities
- The ongoing development of strategies to improve and increase the level of participation of local Aboriginal people in the local Government decision making processes
- Undertake holistic community planning to address wellbeing, employment and social economic or cultural disadvantage experienced by local Aboriginal people in the Shoalhaven
- Ensuring all council staff and Councillors are exposed to ongoing education and cultural training and development programs to increase knowledge, understanding and appreciation of Aboriginal Cultural heritage and the needs of the Aboriginal communities
- Celebrate and support significant Aboriginal ceremonies and events, e.g. NAIDOC week, Sorry Day, Reconciliation Week and Survival Day
- To continue to fly the Aboriginal flag in places such as City Administrative Centre, Council Chambers, Reception room and in other prominent Council locations.

## MINUTES OF THE ABORIGINAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

**Meeting Date:** Tuesday, 6 February 2024  
**Location:** Jervis Bay Rooms, City Administrative Centre, Bridge Road, Nowra  
**Time:** 5.25pm

The following members were present:

Ms Natalie Lloyd - Chairperson  
Clr Amanda Findley (Left at 7.05pm)  
Clr Matthew Norris  
Clr John Kotlash  
Clr Patricia White  
Clr Gillian Boyd (Remotely)  
Clr Tonia Gray (Joined Remotely at 6.36pm)  
Ms Janet Atkins  
Mr Shane Brown (Remotely) (Left at 7.10pm)  
Ms Sharlene Cruickshank  
Mr David Blakeney  
Ms Karen Tronier - Ulladulla LALC – (Joined Remotely at 5.42pm)  
Mr Michael Paine – Acting Director City Lifestyles

Others present:

Mr Kevin Norwood – Manager Swim, Sport and Fitness  
Ms Carly McWalters – Lead – Community Capacity Building  
Ms Catherine Waerner - Project Officer - Open Space & Recreation Planning  
Mr Micaiah Tipton - Manager Design Services (Left at 6.29pm)  
Mr Jonathan Stavert – Building Designer  
Ms Brooke Aldous – Governance Coordinator  
Mr Gavin Brooke – Service NSW (Remotely) (Left at 6.36pm)

### Apologies / Leave of Absence

Apologies were received from Mr Alfred Wellington, Ms Nicole Moore, Ms Sylvia Timbery and Mr Charlie Ashby.

The meeting was opened with an Acknowledgement of Country and a Minute of Silence.

### Confirmation of the Minutes

**RESOLVED** (Shane Brown / By consent)

That the Minutes of the Aboriginal Advisory Committee held on Tuesday 21 November 2023 be confirmed.

CARRIED

### Declaration of Interests

Nil

## PRESENTATIONS

### AA24.1 Manager Design Services - Proposed Road Closure - Part Comberton Grange Road, Comberton

HPERM Ref:  
D24/19915

Mr Micaiah Tipton – Manager Design Services presented to the Aboriginal Advisory Committee as requested by the Committee at the last meeting being 21 November 2023 on the proposed road closure – Part Comberton Grange Rd, Comberton and sought feedback from the Committee. The presentation will be attached to the Minutes.

The Committee provided the following feedback to Mr Micaiah Tipton:

All present members were reluctant to agree to this road closure request until the following information has been provided back to the Committee and/or has been considered:

- Identify what work is occurring in this area
- Confirmation of when the applicant will be submitting the DA
- Negotiate access to private property with the property owner
- List of proposed lodgement of DA's
- Copy of the approved Master Plan and approved Conditions

### AA24.6 Additional Item - Proposed Road Closure - Part Comberton Grange Road Comberton - Further Information Required and Report Back

**Recommendation** (Natalie Lloyd / Sharlene Cruickshank)

That the Aboriginal Advisory Committee request Council:

1. Staff to send information on the proposed road closure to the Committee and request the Committee to provide their feedback within 6 weeks on this matter via email or telephone for Council's consideration.
2. Contact the Registered Aboriginal Parties in the Extent report to seek comment.
3. Provide further information to the Committee on any updates on the DA provided by the Department.

CARRIED.

### AA24.2 Gavin Brook - Service NSW Business Bureau - Aboriginal Small Businesses in Shoalhaven

HPERM Ref: D24/822

Mr Gavin Brook presented to the Committee to gain a broader understanding of Aboriginal small business in the Shoalhaven, fundamentally to identify opportunities Service NSW Business Bureau can assist. The presentation will be attached to the Minutes.

**AA24.3 Boongaree Reconciliation Garden Berry****HPERM Ref:  
D24/29133**

Mr Shane Brown left the meeting, the time being 7.10pm therefore, quorum was lost. Discussions continued on this presentation, however, no recommendations were raised.

Ms Catherine Waerner Mr Jonathan Stavert - Open Space & Recreation Planning Team presented to the Aboriginal Advisory Committee (AAC) about Bongaree Reconciliation Garden, Berry. The presentation and Draft 3D Model will be attached to the Minutes.

Note: As quorum was lost, the remaining reports will be deferred to the next Aboriginal Advisory Committee meeting scheduled for Tuesday, 30 April 2024.

**REPORTS****AA24.4 Standing Apology Request - Ms Nicole Moore****HPERM Ref:  
D23/504146**

Note: This item was deferred to the next meeting.

**Recommendation (Item to be determined under delegated authority)**

That the Aboriginal Advisory Committee determine an appropriate way forward to deal with the standing apology request received from a community member of the Committee.

**AA24.5 Aboriginal Advisory Committee - Action Table Report  
February 2024****HPERM Ref:  
D24/24423**

Note: This item was deferred to the next meeting.

**Recommendation (Item to be determined under delegated authority)**

That the Aboriginal Advisory Committee receive this report for information.

At 7.26pm the Chairperson advised that quorum had been lost at 7.10pm therefore, the meeting had lapsed.

Ms Natalie Lloyd  
CHAIRPERSON