

**MINUTES OF THE BALLINA SHIRE COUNCIL
ABORIGINAL COMMUNITY COMMITTEE
HELD IN THE TUCKEROO ROOM IN COUNCIL'S
CUSTOMER SERVICE CENTRE
AT 5.00PM ON THURSDAY 9 OCTOBER 2014**

1. Attendance and Apologies

Members

Lois Cook – Elder
Carmel Kapeen – Richmond Community Options, Ballina
Troy Anderson – John Cook Foundation
Samantha Anderson (observer)
Sandra Bolt – JALI L.A.L.C

In Attendance

Mayor, Councillor David Wright
Councillor Keith Williams
Councillor Jeff Johnson
Steve Barnier, Ballina Shire Council
Paul Busmanis, Ballina Shire Council
Ian Fox, Ballina Shire Council consultant

Apologies

Marcus Ferguson, Community Member
Mark Moore, Bullinah Aboriginal Health Service
Councillor Sue Meehan

2. Appointment of Chairperson for the Meeting

The Committee has previously agreed to operate with a rotating Chairperson. On this occasion, Carmel Kapeen was nominated to chair the meeting and she duly accepted the role.

3. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest in relation to any items on the Agenda.

4. Confirmation of Minutes of Last Meeting

The Minutes of the Committee meeting held on 19 August 2014 were accepted, by consensus, as a correct record of that meeting.

5. Matters Arising from Last Meeting

There were no matters arising from the last meeting.

6. Deputations

There were no deputations to the meeting.

7. General Business

- a) Coastal Pathways Projects – Paul Busmanis and Ian Fox provided their regular feedback to the meeting concerning the status of these projects and, in particular, the ongoing engagement with the Registered Aboriginal Parties.

In respect of the Shared Pathway west of the Coast Road, Mr Busmanis reported that construction work is well advanced, including along the Coast Road and Skennars Head Road. Mr Fox indicated that the cultural heritage assessment has recently been completed for Stage 3 of this project (North Creek Road between Tara Downs and Amber Drive) and that stakeholders will now be invited to review this assessment.

In relation to the Coastal Recreation Pathway (CRP), Mr Fox indicated that the current focus of work is to assess the extent of Aboriginal cultural and heritage impact associated with the CRP from Angels Beach to Sharpes Beach, which includes Council's desire to re-route the proposed path further to the east in the vicinity of the Flat Rock Tent Park. Registered stakeholders, Ian Fox and Council's consultant Archaeologist (Ms Vanessa Hardy) are all contributing to the assessment. NSW Office of Environment and Heritage representative (Ms Rosalie Neave) has been advised of progress and of the re-route proposal.

Mr Fox also advised the Committee of his engagement, on behalf of Council, to coordinate the delivery of the Bundjalung Cultural Ways Interpretation Project. As previously reported to the Committee, this project is jointly funded by Council and the NSW Office of Environment and Heritage and is intended to deliver interpretive material conveying the Aboriginal cultural and heritage significance of the coastal corridor northward from East Ballina.

The scope of this project was outlined, as well as the limited delivery timeline imposed by the State funding body. The benefits of aligning the "cultural ways" project with the initial stages of the Coastal Recreation Path were acknowledged by the Committee.

- b) Cabbage Tree Island Road Infrastructure – The information contained in the report was received and noted.
- c) Proposed Locality Naming – Committee members discussed the information contained in the report and noted that elements of the landscape in the vicinity of Cumbalum Precinct B held significance for the local community.

Whilst a number of possible names for this locality were briefly mentioned, members felt that it would be beneficial to defer this item until the next meeting. This will enable more discussion within the community, and members will provide this feedback at the next meeting.

8. Business Without Notice

Troy Anderson -

(i) congratulated Council on the manner in which the Coastal Shared Path (West) project is being undertaken. He indicated that the consultation with stakeholders has been very good and his presence on the worksite has been appreciated and respected by Council's employees and contractors.

(ii) Asked if it will be possible to include the Pacific Highway Upgrade project as an item for discussion at the Committee's next meeting.

Staff will extend an invitation to the NSW Roads and Maritime Services for one of its project representatives to attend the next Committee meeting.

9. Council Documents on Exhibition

The Council documents which have recently been on public exhibition for community feedback were noted.

10. Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Committee is scheduled to be held at 5.00pm on Thursday 11 December 2014.

Agendas will be distributed to Committee members prior to that meeting. Any matters which members wish to have considered for inclusion in the next Agenda should be emailed or notified to Council by 28 November.

11. Meeting close

There being no further business, the meeting concluded at 6.10pm.