

**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 11 DECEMBER 2014**

**1. Attendance and Apologies**

Members

Carmel Kapeen – Richmond Community Options, Ballina  
Troy Anderson – John Cook Foundation  
Samantha Anderson  
Susan Anderson – John Cook Foundation  
Sandra Bolt – JALI L.A.L.C  
Marcus Ferguson – Community member

In Attendance

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

Apologies

Nita Roberts, Bunjum Aboriginal Cooperative

**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**

Marcus Ferguson noted a non-pecuniary interest in relation to any matters relating to the Jali Local Aboriginal Land Council. Marcus is an active member of that organisation.

**4. Confirmation of Minutes of Last Meeting**

The Minutes of the Committee meeting held on 9 October 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* – Mr Busmanis and Mr Fox updated the Committee concerning progress on these projects, including engagement with the Registered Aboriginal Parties.

In relation to the Shared Pathway West, stages 1 and 2 are now complete, being North Angels Beach to the western end of Skennars Head Road. Stage 3, being North Creek Road (north of Skennars Head Road to Amber Drive) is planned for construction in 2015. The Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment for stage 3 has been recently completed.

In relation to the Coastal Recreation Pathway, the Aboriginal Archaeological Impact Assessment Report and the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment are presently being finalised for the southern section and will soon be distributed to the Registered Aboriginal Parties. Additional ecological assessment is required to respond to the elected Council's decision to investigate a deviation of the approved route to the east, in the vicinity of the Flat Rock Tent Park.

Mr Fox noted that the majority of the Registered Aboriginal Parties have now agreed on the material to be incorporated into the interpretive signage to be placed along the Shared Pathway West in the vicinity of Flat Rock Road. It is hoped that this material may assist discussion to advance the Aboriginal Cultural Ways project which is intended to complement and promote the Coastal Recreation Pathway.

- b) *Proposed Locality Naming, Cumbalum* – The Committee further considered this item following preliminary discussion at the meeting held on 9 October. A consensus for a recommended name for the locality was not achieved and members requested that this item be brought back to the next meeting.
- c) *Australia Day 2015, Welcome to Country* – The Committee recommended that Uncle Lewis Cook be invited to provide a Welcome. If he is unable to do so, Uncle Doug Anderson is to be invited.
- d) *Display of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander flags in Ballina Shire Council's Australia Day Event* – The Committee agreed to the display of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander flags, together with the Australian flag during the lead up to and on the occasion of Australia Day at the Lennox Head Cultural and Community Centre.
- e) *East Ballina Reserve Vegetation Management Plan Update* – Mr Brideson provided an update concerning the preparation of the Management Plan.

- f) *Ballina Coastal Reserve Crown Lands Weed Control Grant Update* – Mr Brideson presented an update on a grant funded program to remove noxious and environmental weeds from within the coastal corridor in East Ballina.
- g) *Chickiba Wetlands Restoration Update* – The information contained in the report was received and noted. Mr Brideson described in some detail the programs being planned to rehabilitate the Chickiba Wetland in East Ballina. The work proposed involves hydrological restoration, drain clearing, weed management and pest eradication.
- h) *Aboriginal Reconciliation Action Plan for Ballina Shire Council* – As the Committee member who requested inclusion of this item on the agenda was not able to attend the meeting, the item was deferred to the next scheduled meeting.
- i) *Naming of the Rooms at the Ballina Surf Club* – As the Committee member who requested inclusion of this item on the agenda was not able to attend the meeting, the item was deferred to the next scheduled meeting.

## **8. Business Without Notice**

Troy Anderson -

- (i) asked if any progress has been made in having a representative from the NSW Roads and Maritime Services attend a meeting of the Committee to discuss the proposed Woolgoolga to Ballina Pacific Highway upgrade project.

Mr Barnier advised that a response to Council's previous written invitation to the RMS has not been received, but the matter is being followed up.

## **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 12 February 2015.

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 30 January 2015.

## **11. Meeting close**

There being no further business, the meeting concluded at 6.45pm.