

**MINUTES OF THE BALLINA SHIRE COUNCIL
ABORIGINAL COMMUNITY COMMITTEE
HELD IN THE COMMITTEE ROOM IN COUNCIL'S
CUSTOMER SERVICE CENTRE
AT 5.00PM ON THURSDAY 11 FEBRUARY 2016**

1. Attendance and Apologies

Members

Lois Cook, Elder
Sandra Bolt, Jali LALC
Marcus Ferguson, Community Member

Councillors in Attendance

Mayor, Councillor David Wright
Councillor Keith Williams

Others in Attendance

Paul Busmanis, Engineering Works Manager, BSC
Ian Fox, Council Heritage Consultant
Joe Sabine, Council Ranger, BSC
Steve Barnier, Group Manager Strategic and Community Facilities, BSC

Apologies

Councillor Susan Meehan
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, Lois Cook was nominated to chair the meeting and she duly accepted the role.

3. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

4. Confirmation of Minutes of Last Meeting

The Minutes of the Committee Meeting held on 10 December 2015, being the most recent meeting of the Committee, 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) *Rous Water Draft Reconciliation Action Plan*

Mr Guy Bezrouchko and Ms Rajee Henderson were invited to address the Committee as representatives of Rous Water. They outlined the actions taken to date to prepare a draft reconciliation action plan for Rous Water and their current steps to consult community in relation to the draft plan.

Members of the Committee expressed their appreciation for the presentation, but did not suggest any alterations or additions to the draft document. They did however stress the importance of ensuring that Jali Local Aboriginal Land Council is contacted regarding the draft plan, and provided with an opportunity to comment.

b) *Bundjalung Community Companion Animals Project*

Council's Ranger, Joe Sabine provided the Committee with an update on recent actions taken in relation to the management of certain domestic animals being kept by community members.

Committee members provided information which will assist the Rangers in their further investigation of the matter.

c) *Coastal Recreational Pathway Project*

Mr Busmanis and Mr Fox provided an update in relation to this project.

At the last ACC meeting it was reported the tender had closed for construction of part of the CRP Section 1, Angels Beach to Sharpes Beach (excluding Flat Rock section). This has now been reported to the December 2015 Council meeting and B&S Landscaping and Earthworks has been awarded the first part of the project. The work by B&S will comprise:

- boardwalk section along Angels Beach from the overpass to south of Flat Rock Tent Park.
- path section from Flat Rock carpark to Sharpes Beach carpark including small footbridge across Sharpes Creek.

Currently preconstruction documentation is being submitted and reviewed and it anticipated that work will commence at the end of the month. Inductions for B&S staff and new Council staff will be organised. The contractor will also liaise with RAPs regarding site monitoring.

With completion of contract works it is proposed for Council to complete the path connection from the Angels Beach underpass to the overpass including the Cultural Ways 'entry' and carpark.

The Part 5 applications for dealing with the additional work associated with the Cultural Ways project and the deviation around Flat Rock Tent Park is in progress.

d) *Angel Beach Drive Improvements*

Mr Busmanis and Mr Fox provided an update in relation to maintenance and upgrading work along Angels Beach Drive, East Ballina.

The project involves raising the levels of the existing road curves at Prospect Bridge and at the sewage pumping station adjacent Chickiba Lake, applying a new asphalt overlay on the road and constructing a new roundabout at the Angels Beach Drive and Links Avenue intersection.

At the last ACC meeting the draft Cultural Heritage Assessment (CHA) report was discussed by the committee members. It is pleasing to report that suggestions made about improving cultural heritage recognition of the Links Ave midden site have been incorporated into the draft CHA. Jali LALC, being the project's Registered Aboriginal Party, has subsequently endorsed the CHA and the CHA has been submitted to Council's Development and Environmental Health Group and OEH for approval.

It is proposed that work on the road curves at Prospect Bridge and at Chickiba Lake will start as soon as approvals are received, and the new roundabout would require an AHIP due to its location near the known midden site. The roundabout construction would start following the receipt of the AHIP. It was noted that creek bank rehabilitation would occur near the new roundabout, and it is proposed for carbon dating to be done for information gathering as part of the project work.

Council thanked Jali LALC for sites work and assistance with the finalisation of the CHA, and the committee for project feedback.

e) *Cabbage Tree Island Bridge Repairs*

Paul Busmanis advised the Committee that a fee proposal has been presented to Council by a firm which has the capacity to undertake a condition assessment of the bridge.

Liaison with Jali will be undertaken prior to work commencing to try and ensure inconvenience to Cabbage Tree Island residents and service providers is minimised.

It was again noted that Council is arranging for this work to be undertaken at the request of the NSW State Government.

f) *Application for Liquor Licence*

Steve Barnier briefly advised the Committee about Council's proposal to apply for a liquor licence which would operate at the Lennox Head Cultural and Community Centre. If approved, the licence would operate only in association with organised events within the centre.

The Committee did not raise any objection to the lodgement of the application.

8. Business Without Notice

- a) *NAIDOC Week planning* – The Chair, Lois Cook advised of her desire to arrange for the main focus of NAIDOC Week 2016 to occur in Wardell as an alternative to the annual Ballina activities.

The concept presented was that the Wardell Recreation Ground would provide a venue for activities, with the funding support to NAIDOC Week provided by Council each year being redirected to the Wardell event. No details were provided as to how these funds would be utilised.

Ms Cook indicated that her proposal had received the approval of the Wardell Sporting and Recreation Club. It was pointed out that NSW Crown Lands is yet to appoint a new Trust for the management of the Wardell Recreation Ground. Consequently, arrangements for the use of the grounds must be made with that Department.

Members of the Committee indicated the importance of preparing a structured proposal for the NAIDOC Week activities which could be properly considered by the community and Council.

- b) *Resignation from the Committee* – Members were informed that Councillor Susan Meehan has recently submitted her resignation from this Committee due to increased work commitments.

9. Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Committee is scheduled to be held at 5.00pm on Thursday 14 April 2016.

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 Friday 1 April 2016.

10. Meeting close

There being no further business, the meeting concluded at 6.35pm.