

## **CUMBERLAND COUNCIL ARTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Minutes of Meeting held on Thursday, 11 December 2018 at 6pm in Committee Rooms, Council Administration Building, Merrylands.

### **1. Open of Meeting**

Clr Paul Garrard opened the meeting with an Acknowledgment of Country and welcomed attendees to the Arts Advisory Committee meeting.

### **2. Record of Attendance, Introductions and Apologies**

#### **Attendance List:**

Clr Paul Garrard	Committee Member and Councillor (Chairperson)
Alissar Chidiac	Committee Member
Carl Sciberras	Committee Member
Hayley French	Committee Member
Inara Molinari	Committee Member
Indira Fernandes	Committee Member
Marina Robins	Committee Member
Michaela Simoni	Committee Member

#### **Council Staff in Attendance:**

Martha Jabour	Public Art Coordinator
Michael Brown	Manager, Culture and Activation

#### **Apologies:**

Clr Steve Christou	Committee Member and Councillor
Andrew Overton	Committee Member

Michael Brown noted two committee resignations of Lisa Rhodes and Cleonie Quayle.

### **3. Conflicts of Interest**

No conflicts of interest were declared.

### **4. Minutes of Previous Meeting**

Minutes of the last meeting held on Tuesday 14 August 2018, were adopted as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

### **5. Business Arising**

There was no business arising from the previous minutes.

## **ITEMS DISCUSSED BY COMMITTEE:**

### **6. Cumberland Cultural Plan**

Council staff provided an update to the Committee on the Cumberland Cultural Plan's purpose, emerging themes and emerging directions.

#### Strategy Purpose

To guide Council's planning of programs, services, operations and infrastructure in arts and culture.

#### Community Engagement

Community engagement has occurred through Place Score online and pedestrian intercept surveys, online cultural asset mapping, community workshops, staff workshops, stakeholder interviews, and consultation with Council Committees including the Arts Advisory Committee on Tuesday, 14 August 2018. Engagement and research has informed the emerging findings which in turn will inform the development of the Plan's Strategies, Directions and Actions.

### Place Development

An overview of place based asset mapping that has been undertaken in development of the plan, including a preview of a Neighbourhood Snapshot for Guildford was presented to the Committee. This place based research and findings will be further developed in a Place Development Plan for Cumberland.

### Next Steps and Public Exhibition

The next steps will be to develop the Draft Plan and to continue testing and refining existing content. The Committee was encouraged to provide further feedback upon Public Exhibition of the Draft Plan once reported to Council in early 2019.

### **Feedback from Committee:**

- The Cumberland Cultural Plan should be based upon the most recent available Census data and demographics to recognise the fast changing nature of Cumberland.
- The Committee interested in viewing background documents as well as Draft Plan.
- The Committee expressed the value of mapping of cultural, social and demographic qualities across Cumberland such as income, languages and culture.

### **7. *The Granville Centre***

An update was provided to the Committee on planned key internal artworks for The Granville Centre including presentation of example imagery and floor plan indications of position within the Centre.

An update was provided on the closure of Granville Youth Community and Recreation Centre and the transition process for current users:

- The Centre closure will occur at the end of December 2018
- Centre users have been supported to transition to alternative venues during the rebuild
- Youth programming continuity is being maintained in alternative venues.

### Artwork update - Ceiling Entry Artwork

Council will seek expressions of interest from Aboriginal artists to submit a selection of concept designs for a signature artwork that will be installed as a feature work in the ceiling of the entry of the new Granville Multipurpose Centre.

Explanation was provided of the change in approach from a sculptural structure to a work integrated with building fabric, installed as ceiling panels.

Outline of the expression of interest and artist engagement process was provided including endorsement of artist brief by Council's ATSIC Committee, and priority offered to Darug artists.

### Wall Based Artworks

Wall-based artwork will also be incorporated in the corridor of the new Granville Multipurpose Centre alongside the multipurpose hall, a busy area for presentation of artwork. A range of artwork

types could be included. Research is currently being undertaken on the types of work that could be presented to inform the development of an artist brief.

**Feedback from Committee:**

- There is a lack of reference to Aboriginal clan names and language groups used by Cumberland Council than had been previously included in Welcome to Country and Acknowledgment in the former Auburn and Parramatta areas.
- The Granville Centre should be designed with high environmental standards and sustainability values.

**8. Peacock Gallery and Auburn Arts Studio**

An overview was provided of the Peacock Gallery and Auburn Arts Studio current purpose and programs and the upcoming transition of gallery programs related to the construction of the Peacock Gallery Studios precinct and the opening of The Granville Centre and art gallery.

The committee was invited to provide input into the development of the Peacock Gallery precinct considering also the context of findings from recent Cultural Plan artist survey which identified principal art practice and key supports required.

**Feedback from Committee:**

- It is important for Council to understand the range of community cultural and religious groups culturally active in the area.
- It is important for Council to ensure facilities are available and accessible for ongoing cultural practice.
- The Peacock Gallery Studio could provide a shared resource drop-in space with materials for art making and a library collection of art books and magazines.
- If two studios are created there will be need for growth of this offering into the future. There is a need for exhibition spaces Western Sydney wide, and the existing Peacock Gallery could serve as a work in progress space.
- The Peacock Gallery Precinct could expand its public programs and utilise studio artists e.g. open studios, summer workshops, masterclasses for adults (refer to examples like TAFE NSW - Lidcombe and Casula Powerhouse).
- Council is developing a community space at the Chisholm Road Bowling Club site which may have suitable cross collaboration purposes and connections with the Peacock Gallery Precinct.
- Arts programs could be delivered in an outreaching and mobile model.
- Arts programs could find and develop an 'arts for health' approach - arts as a creative activity to escape distress and improve wellbeing and there is a need for arts for health around adolescent mental health.
- The connection of the Peacock Gallery Precinct to The Granville Centre is important. The Granville Centre provides an opportunity for a new cultural movement in Western Sydney to lift up the diversity of cultural practice and networks in Cumberland for a new model of arts practice distinctive in Western Sydney. It is important that there is capacity in the Centre's staffing to support these opportunities.
- The relationship and proximity to Parramatta as the second CBD is important. With Cumberland on the fringes of Parramatta, Cumberland will be akin to inner city areas of Sydney which are creatively productive and prolific.
- To understand what is here, Council should refer to the upcoming release of Create NSW's Mapping Arts and Culture in Western Sydney Study.

**9. Upcoming Arts Programs and Activities**

No updates.

## **10. General Business**

### Arts Groups Promotion by Council

There is a need to improve the ability of arts groups to link into Council promotions - for example with flyers in libraries which are currently not permitted for activities that are not free. Suggestions were provided for improving local and online promotions including noticeboards and improved online listings on Council's website.

### Meeting Dates for 2019

The following dates for Committee meetings in 2019 were proposed as:

- 5 March
- 4 June
- 3 September
- 3 December

### **Recommendations and Actions Arising:**

- 10.1 Council's Community Development Directorate to arrange a meeting with Inara Molinari to discuss promotional suggestions.
- 10.2 A reminder will be sent of the confirmed dates via the Committee Google Groups email.

## **11. Close of Meeting**

Meeting Closed at 7.30pm.

Next meeting: Tuesday, 5 March 2019 in Committee Rooms, Council Administration Building, Merrylands.