

---

**CUMBERLAND COUNCIL ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE (ATSICC)**

Minutes of Meeting held on Tuesday, 5 February 2019 at 6pm in Committee Rooms, Council Administration Building, Merrylands.

**1. Open of Meeting**

Wayne Trindall opened the meeting with an Acknowledgement of Country.

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

**Attendance List:**

Clr Greg Cummings	Councillor and Committee Member (Mayor)
Clr Glenn Elmore	Councillor and Committee Member (Deputy Mayor)
Christopher Haberecht	Committee Member
Emma Chapman	Committee Member
Julie Nixon	Committee Member
Leanne Unie Day	Committee Member
Wayne Trindall	Committee Member

**Council Staff in Attendance:**

Adam Ford	Landscape Architect
Beatrice Sesay	Capacity Building Officer
Martha Jabour	Public Art Coordinator
Merryn Howell	Acting Group Manager Community and Culture

**Apologies:**

Corina Norman	Committee Member
Jeanice Corso	Committee Member
Lynn Leerson	Committee Member
Marg Gong	Committee Member
Raelene Billedo	Committee Member (Deputy Chairperson)
Uncle David Williams	Committee Member (Chairperson)
Uncle Rex Sorby	Committee Member

Jeanice Corso's resignation from the Committee was tabled.

**3. Conflicts of Interest**

There were no conflicts of interest declared.

**ITEMS CONSIDERED AND DISCUSSED BY THE COMMITTEE:**

**4. Minutes of Previous Meeting**

Minutes of the last meeting held on 30 October 2018, were accepted as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

**5. Business Arising**

## Grant Applications

Council has prepared two grant applications to be submitted to the NSW Office of Environment and Heritage. Feedback was sought from the Committee in support of the two grant applications:

- Warali Wali trail project: *Stories of Prospect Creek* (Aboriginal Heritage Category)
- Prospect Hill Integrated Interpretation Plan (Community Heritage Category)

Draft letters of support were tabled at the meeting to supplement the applications for grant funding. The following summaries of the letters were detailed:

*Warali Wali, Stories of Prospect Creek* - Warali Wali trail is a series of four interpretive Aboriginal artworks connected along the Prospect Creek shared cycleway, telling stories of the local Aboriginal people, the Darug. This project aims to reinvigorate the Warali Wali trail to increase community visitation to the site, improve quality of visitor experience at the site, increase the level of community engagement with the site and the cultural knowledge associated with the site and surrounds. The project includes further documenting the Aboriginal cultural knowledge of the Prospect Creek area to inform:

- Creation of one new public artwork, and enhancement of two existing public artworks (Yandel Ora and Mananga) at Warali Wali trail including interpretive signage.
- Development of printed and online education and marketing materials to expand the reach of the engagement of community in the Warali Wali trail's Aboriginal cultural heritage.
- Integration with community events, programs and activities delivered by Cumberland Council and Aboriginal community partner organisations, further expanding visitation and the cultural knowledge associated with the site.

The project aims to protect, preserve and further develop the significant Aboriginal cultural heritage of the Warali Wali trail on Prospect Creek and build upon its relationship to Prospect Hill, a State heritage registered item. Consistent with the proposed Prospect Hill Integrated Interpretation Plan, the project will facilitate local Aboriginal Heritage tours and the sharing of stories for a greater awareness of Aboriginal culture by the local Aboriginal and Australian community.

Support letters were received from the following organisations: Darug Tribal Corporation, Western Sydney Reconciliation, Mount Druitt Reconciliation, Fairfield City Council and Aunty Fran Bodkin (copyright permission gained).

*Prospect Hill Integrated Interpretation Plan* - the proposed interpretation project is consistent with the objectives and action priorities within the draft Plan of Management for Prospect Hill which is currently being finalised following public exhibition before its consideration by Council.

The project will prepare a comprehensive document that will provide a variety of means to best interpret the cultural heritage values of the site and create informative connections to the area for community, visitors and future generations. The plan will

also extend beyond Prospect Hill, interconnecting with adjoining open space and riparian corridors, to form a coordinated suit of interpretation opportunities.

Prospect Hill has been the focus of several Aboriginal Heritage Tours in recent years which are led by Aboriginal elders. The site is also the focus of local schools which now include Aboriginal culture as a core part of the primary and high school curriculum. This project will enhance these activities and cultivate a greater understanding of Australia's unique heritage.

Members were unanimous in their support for the grant submissions. Support letters provided by community organisations were endorsed by the Committee.

#### Draft Reconciliation Action Plan 2019 - 2021

The Draft Cumberland Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) has been conditionally endorsed by Reconciliation Australia and was reported to Council on 19 December 2018. The Draft RAP is on public exhibition until 16 February 2019. Copies of the Draft RAP have been distributed to all Committee members, schools, community groups and members of the public who participated in the consultations.

#### **Actions or Recommendations Arising:**

- 4.1 Committee endorsed the five letters of support for submission with the two grant applications to the NSW Office of Environment and Heritage.
- 4.2 Committee members indicated they would like the Interpretive Plan to incorporate earlier findings and designs from Plan of Management and Heritage Studies. Eg. Seatings and interpretive signage.
- 4.3 The Reconciliation Action Plan to be launched at the Cumberland Reconciliation Day event on the 3 May 2019.

#### Aboriginal Cultural Protocols

The Protocols document is currently being designed and further advice has been sought from Committee Members on the wording of some of the content. Council also sought feedback from a Darug representative, Stacy Jane Etal, on the draft Aboriginal Protocols document. The document will be updated and will be ready for launch at the NAIDOC Week celebrations in July.

### **6. 2019 Aboriginal Significant Days Celebrations and Programs**

#### Cumberland Reconciliation Day and RAP Launch

The event program will be the same format as the previous year's event and will be targeted at local primary and high school students. The event aims to raise awareness about the significance of Prospect Hill and the events that took place there.

The event will be used to launch the Cumberland Reconciliation Action Plan 2019-2021.

Due to works being undertaken at the top of the Hill, the activities will be held at the base/lower level section adjacent to Durawi Street and Warin Avenue and the hill

accessed from the northern aspect of the open space area. The existing gate at the hill top will be kept closed in order to prevent public access to the works area.

### Reconciliation Week

A program of activities will be developed for Reconciliation Week including Aboriginal Cultural Awareness training and a Darug Language and Culture Class to be held across Cumberland between 27 May and 2 June 2019.

### NAIDOC Week in Cumberland and NAIDOC Week Grant

A NAIDOC Week Tent will be established at the Fun 4 Kids event and manned by members of the ATSIC Committee, providing education programs similar to the 2018 event. Suggestions for inclusion at the event included:

- Aboriginal storytelling
- Aboriginal Arts and Craft and Boomerang painting
- Traditional Indigenous games
- Screening of Jargins 3 to 5 minute episodes (ABC show targeting small kids)
- Nocturnal House Tours
- Promotion of the Central Gardens Animal Trail
- Native plant give aways
- Poppy the Possum and Bush School activities

The event will be held on 12 July at Central Gardens, Merrylands. The Committee endorsed the name *Warali Wali Fun 4 Kids* event.

Other NAIDOC Week activities across Cumberland to include:

- Darug Language and Culture Class
- Aboriginal Cultural Awareness training
- Arts and Crafts and Storytelling workshops will be held at local libraries and Council run Childcare Centres.

Input was sought on ideas for Council to submit a NADIOC Week Grant to enhance the NAIDOC Week program.

### Darug Language and Cultures Workshop

The workshops have been well received in the community and will continue in 2019. Several workshops to be organised for Reconciliation and NAIDOC Weeks.

### Cumberland School Aboriginal Cultures and Histories Education Program

In 2018, Council delivered 23 sessions to pre-schools, 12 primary schools and 3 high schools in the LGA.

Childcare centres and primary schools have shown a high level of interest in the program due to the focus of the current school curriculum. Council offers a subsidised rate of \$300 per annum for Darug Elders and Educators to deliver one workshop in

schools and childcare centres across Cumberland. A maximum of a 1 hour workshop is delivered to pre-schoolers and 5 hours delivered for primary schools.

High schools are accessing the subsidy in the form of an Aboriginal talk/guest speaker, a cultural performance or smoking ceremony and Welcome to Country.

**Feedback from Committee:**

- Committee suggested that Aboriginal parents should also be allowed to participate in the sessions.
- Need to enhance the promotion of the program to high school students.
- Council to review the Expression of Interest (EOI) form for high schools so they can adapt the program and incorporate the story of Pemulwuy and Prospect Hills into the high school curriculum (Modern History elective).

Cumberland Heritage Tours

Interest continues to grow from schools and the general public for the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Tours.

**Feedback from Committee:**

- There is a need to review and expand the program to ensure the program aims are achieved which is to raise awareness about local Aboriginal history.
- The Warali Wali trail needs to be incorporated in the tours.

Draft Cumberland Cultural Plan 2019 – 2029

Council is finalising the Draft Cumberland Cultural Plan 2019 - 2029. One of the significant themes which has emerged is around recognising and celebrating Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories. Feedback was sought on the draft actions.

The Granville Centre - Aboriginal & Historic Archaeological Works

The Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH) issued approval on 21 December 2018 and works will commenced on 29 January 2019. Two representatives from the Committee can attend the site visit. Uncle Dave and Council's Aboriginal Education and Programs Officer will be the point of contact for the ATSICC.

**Actions or Recommendations Arising:**

- 5.1 Committee to send back some ideas on the submission for NAIDOC week grant application.
- 5.2 A Working Group will be established to provide input into the planning for the 3 May Reconciliation event in 2019.

**6. Meeting Dates for 2019**

The remaining quarterly Committee meeting dates for 2019 are:

- Tuesday, 7 May 2019
- Tuesday, 6 August 2019
- Tuesday, 19 November 2019

## **7. General Business**

### Stockland School Holiday Program

During the January 2019 school holidays, Stockland Mall ran an Aboriginal arts and craft workshop for children which was well received. Committee requested that a letter of commendation be sent to Stocklands for organising the free program.

### Aboriginal Education and Programs Officer

Council's new Aboriginal Education and Programs Officer will commence in the role in mid-February.

### Prospect Creek West Artwork - Yandel'ora

A site visit took place on 7 December 2018 and was attended by Julie Nixon, Lyn Leerson and Council staff. The aim of the visit was to determine what renewal works needs to be done with the Yandel'ora. Copyright has been granted in regards to the Warali Warali and dreaming stories of Prospect Creek that rest with Aunty Fran Bodkin.

The existing funding allocation of \$20,000 from the Infrastructure and Renewal program was confirmed to be the maximum available. The next steps for the project are to investigate appropriate producers and to prepare a brief for a contract and engagement.

### Draft Prospect Hill Plan of Management

The Draft Prospect Hill Plan of Management will be reported to Council on 20 March 2019. The report recommends the adoption of the Prospect Hill Plan of Management, incorporating the Prospect Hill Landscape Masterplan.

### **Actions or Recommendations Arising:**

- 7.1 Committee requested that a letter of commendation be sent to Stocklands for organising the Aboriginal art and craft program.
- 7.2 Committee members requested an update on Pemulwuy Signage at the next meeting.
- 7.3 A copy of the Uluru Statement to be tabled for discussion at the next Committee meeting.

## **8. Close of Meeting**

Meeting closed at 8:30pm.

Next meeting: Tuesday, 7 May 2019 in Committee Rooms, Council Administration Building, Merrylands.