



Central Coast Council
Catchments to Coast Advisory Committee
Meeting

Held in the Committee Room and Remotely - Online

29 March 2023

MINUTES

Attendance

Members

Doug Darlington	Apology
Laurie Lewington	Absent
Mike Campbell	Present
David Mylan	Absent
Ian Carruthers	Present
Marlene Pennings	Absent
Samantha Willis	Present
Graham Hankin	Present
Michael Kip	Apology

External agencies

Angela Halcrow	Present
Paul Donaldson	Apology
Andrew Jones	Apology
Chris Drummond (left 3.41pm)	Present
Tony Gaston (left 3.42pm)	Present
Heiko Loehr	Present

Staff

Luke Sulkowski, Unit Manager Environmental Management	Present
James Lawson, Section Manager Environmental Infrastructure	Present
Peter Sheath, Section Manager Bushfire and Flood Risk Management	Present
Ben Fullagar, Section Manager Catchments to Coast	Present
Toan Dam Senior Coastal Planning Officer Catchments to Coast	Present
Rachel Callachor, Meeting Support Officer	Present
Parissa Ghanem, Team Leader Floodplain Management	Apology
Phil Foster, Flooding and Drainage Engineer	Apology
Nick Tarasenko, Coastal Management Officer Catchments to Coast	Apology

The Chairperson, Luke Sulkowski, declared the meeting open at 2.00pm

Procedural Items

1.1 Introduction: Welcome, Acknowledgement of Country, Apologies, Disclosure of Interest

The Chairperson read an Acknowledgement of Country statement.

The Chairperson advised that Michael Alsop has resigned from this Committee.

Michael was appointed Knowledge Expert to the Catchments to Coast Committee in 2017.

The Chair acknowledged Michael's ongoing commitment and service to the Committee.

Apologies received and members absent without apology were noted. The chairperson called for any disclosures of interest. No disclosures were received

The Chair provided an explanation regarding the change in the agenda format of the meeting papers, with the inclusion of written reports distributed prior to the meeting. It was noted that meeting timing was not on the agenda - likely to include this again going forward. Member of the Committee provided feedback in support for the change in the papers, stating that having this information in advance gave a good run into the meeting.

1.2 Previous business: Confirmation of minutes, review action log

The group confirmed the minutes from the previous meeting as noted below, which were distributed to members via email and uploaded to Council's website:

[Catchments to Coast Advisory Committee Minutes – 14 December 2022](#)

Query regarding the recommendation in relation to flooding gauges that went to Council. This will be discussed in General Business and queries addressed by Peter Sheath.

The action log was reviewed with updates recorded (see page 9) .

Reports

2.1 Update on Coastal Management 2.13pm

Presentation by Ben Fullagar, Section Manager Catchments to Coast and Heiko Loehr from Bluecoast Consultants.

Provided update on the current status of the project and detailed information regarding Coastal inundation simulator.

Query from Committee member – How are hazards classified? For example, 'Probability' factors.

Response – Hazard exposure is identified – for example assets – and the different likelihoods. Undertake a risk assessment and capacity for the asset to adapt to the hazard, or how much damage can be sustained, both from a safety and financial view.

Using details in Council's asset database.

Can then look at the holistic risk.

Query from Committee member regarding sea level rise projections. Former-Gosford City Council had a sea level rise projections policy. Query regarding the projections used. Will the reports articulate the origin of the sea level rise information, highlighted this is of importance for transparency for Community.

Additional query regarding timeframes: 2050 and 2100

There was previously a 50 year horizon in the hazard mapping.

Q re: intermediate period – 30 yrs and 100 yrs.

Response: Sea level rise: Drawing on the IPCC report data. Publicly available tool from NASA - using information and imagery from Newcastle and Sydney as the closest mapping points. IPCC is taking a probability approach, which covers likelihood. The calculations are also being undertaken for all years: Immediate – 2040 – 2050 – 2120. 50 year timeframe.

This will inform planning controls and will work with Strategic Planning section of Council in the future.

Coastal Management Program (CMP) Update – provided by Ben Fullagar

Updates provided on the following CMPs:

- Open Coast CMP
- Coastal Lagoons CMP
- Tuggerah Lakes CMP
- Lake Macquarie – Central Coast Council resolved to support and endorse the proposal put forward by LMCC and the involvement by CCC. A report will go to LMCC in May for further progression.
- Hawkesbury Nepean CMP

Open Coast CMP – Timeline and overview of the work detailed in the Draft Operational Plan and the community engagement proposed via Your Voice Our Coast, as well as drop-in sessions. Work will continue throughout 2023/2024 to achieve certification.

The Committee requested more engagement, including capacity to be engaged via workshops during Stage 3 of CMP process.

Staff mentioned recent success of focus groups on the Tuggerah Lakes Entrance Management and that a similar model is proposed, and will commence shortly, for focus groups in regards to the development of a wrack management strategy.

Overview of Tuggerah Lakes Coastal Process and Socio Economic Assessment – completed work, work underway and the next steps.

Community focus group has 3 working group sessions.

1. Management issues and priorities
2. Draft list into long list
3. Short list for working group

Good knowledge sharing by a group of passionate people. A good model for going forward.
14 pop-up sessions over past 4 weeks. Grant based funding.

Council was a Winner of Keep Australia Beautiful Award – Sustainable Communities – Tuggerah Lakes.

Update regarding monitoring of The Entrance Channel, MHLFIT tool.

In accordance with the adopted MHLFIT Tool, the channel has just changed status to “Heavily restricted”, which does not mean any immediate works are required, but would justify berm management in the event of a forecast 1.3m AHD lake height (unlike other coastal lagoons on the Central Coast, and elsewhere in NSW intervention at The Entrance for Tuggerah Lakes occurs based on forecast rather than actual levels, and prior to full closure).

Council is monitoring in accordance with the procedure, but is also currently planning berm management/ dredging works for access and amenity which are likely to commence in May 2023. A surveyor has just been awarded a contract to undertake a hydrographic survey of the channel area to better guide works.

Council has an extension to the end of the financial year for the NSW Government Better Boating Program funding for the dredging program. The grant authority has indicated to Council staff that further extensions into 2023/24 could be considered if required.

Wamberal Seawall update

Council staff have been working with Wamberal Protection Association (WPA) – residents group progressing seawall development application, with Council to enter agreement with WPA as a partnering landowner on Wamberal Beach. Council staff supporting delivery of this project in partnership with the WPA will not participate in development assessment, with strict protocols being established to ensure Council’s role as a proponent and assessor remains separated.

Final Wamberal Advisory Taskforce meeting held 1 March 2023.
Engagement will still continue outside of the taskforce.

Ettalong Dredging update

Maritime Infrastructure Delivery Office (MIDO) last held consultation meeting in 2022.
Potential sites for dredging identified and discussions are on-going.

Progress of Terrigal and Coastal Lagoon Sewer System Audit and Repairs

Update provided

Question from Committee member re CMP’s – suggestion that this section of Council’s website updated as it shows 2021 as completion date. Agreed.

Response: YourVoice OurCoast (YVOC) Website to be updated with current timeframes and information for CMP's.

Query: Is there a way that the Committee / Advisory group members can share views and comments overall, and interact with each other for the CMP process?

Response: Options to be explored regarding other opportunities for communication and collaboration for the group outside of the meeting format.

Query: Regarding endangered soft corals and the potential affect that dredging at Ettalong has on this.

Response: Agreed that this is an issue – documentation produced by MIDO will need to address these issues and Council staff can share any information made available and distributed to the committee representatives.

Query: Is there an opportunity to distribute presentations to Committee Representatives further in advance of the meeting?

Response: Options will be considered to distribute the presentations prior to the meeting to give the Committee members an opportunity to review the information being presented.

Query: Land and Environment Court has overturned a Local Planning Panel (LPP) decision to refuse a swimming pool consent along the coastal building line. How does Council plan to respond?

Response: DCP will be updated for consistency across the Central Coast and to remove any ambiguity. This is a work in progress as there will be a changed DCP, which will then to be exhibited for 28 days. Proposed timeframe is March 2024.

Recommendation

That the Committee note the report.

Actions included and updated in *Action log*.

2.2 Update on Flood & Stormwater Management 3:10pm

Presentation by Peter Sheath, Section Manager Bushfire and Flood Risk Management

Topics covered:

- Online mapping – flood related data on Council's online mapping page has now been shifted to a single location.
this includes layers such as: 1 in 100 year flood events
H1 – H6 – Hazard mapping – overview of the levels
- Flood precinct
- Flood emergency response
- DCP and LEP updates and outcomes of public exhibition
Special flood consideration clause and changes which came into effect in January

2023. An outcome of the flood enquiry last year. Restriction on development that is not sensitive or hazardous on land. Is going to be in LEP so the DCP has to cater for that.

- *'Understanding and Managing Flood Risk' – Flood risk management guide FB01.* Overview of key constraints that flood places of land. Will look to use this information to inform DCP. Overview of DCP Draft Flood Planning Constraint Categories. Seeking to capture constraints for land use planning for DA and Complying Development applications.
- Draft *Consideration of Climate Change Flood Risk Policy* – update regarding policy development. Includes vulnerability, tolerability and aspects such as flood insurance. Documents will be able to be provided once fully drafted. Overview of sea level rise and rainfall intensity components.
- Update of status of grant funded projects
- Update on Long Jetty Boardwalk – Educational signage

Query – Noted the flood plain management project is a large project. Request for a copy of the *'Understanding and Managing Flood Risk' – Flood risk management guide FB01.*

Response – Document to be distributed to Committee members.

Query – Draft Climate Change Flood Risk Policy - Will this go on community consultation? Further enquiry whether the same sea level rise data is being used across this policy work? How does this align with Council's climate change policy.

Response – Confirmation that the policy will be exhibited and that policy work will align with a whole of Council approach.

Query – Will this risk hazard assessments be applied when rezoning land?

Response – Yes, it this will be used, in conjunction with Ministerial Directions documents.

Query – What are the options available to Council in LEC matters/cases?

Response – It is intended that the DCP provide scope under the planning controls.

Angela Halcrow provided further comment regarding LEP changes – These are risk based decisions, not only flood plain / levels. Change to LEP would be state wide and is an mechanism to inform the DCP.

Recommendation

The Committee note the report.

Actions included and updated in *Action log.*

2.3 Update on Coastal & Catchment Operations 3.55pm

Presentation by James Lawson, Section Manager Environmental Infrastructure

Topics covered:

- Wrack collection undertaken by Council's contractor and reporting on monthly collection levels
- Little Tern breeding program at Karagi Point. Fencing, signage and monitoring along with fox control program.
- Loggerhead sea turtle nest at Shelly Beach – overview of work undertaken and cross agency involvement. Background regarding the environment for the nesting and Thanks given to all volunteers and various Council staff involved, including the Beach team and E&P.

Query – Maintenance of Canton Beach - Query in relation to the area of beach which is being maintained, area of up to 300m – consideration of a smaller areas?

Response – Smaller areas not considered at present. Work and ongoing maintenance of beach itself scheduled to occur before Easter. Council is awaiting further advice from the state government in regards to a grant application for rectification of the retaining wall with a grant application lodged mid 2022. New signage is also proposed for this area to advise the status of the retaining wall and raise awareness of uneven ground presented by the current infrastructure.

Recommendation

That the Committee note the report.

Actions included and updated in *Action log*.

2.4 General Business 4:00pm

Query – River gauge levels re Yarramalong. Assessment over past ~20 years, which was used to form the levels agreed upon. The gauges do not list the trigger points indicated in the amended Interim Entrance Channel Management Procedure.

Response – Streamflow gauges installed/monitored by WaterNSW – these provide a 'rating curve' and estimation is provided regarding the flow of the river, predominately used for water supply. It is accurate for the flow measurement only within a certain range, but the river height is measured and monitored in a different way and can be measured beyond this range. For the purposes of lake level heights, and Entrance Channel management, the river height data is all that is required, so these gauges are sufficient.

Update from the Chair regarding the proposed Central Coast Conservation Fund Policy and internal restriction for acquisition of Davistown Wetlands, presentation was provided by Larry Melican at Committee meeting last year.

Chair called for any final feedback from any representatives, noting it was presented to the COSS committee this week. It is proposed that a further report on this matter will go to Council in May 2023.

Query – Status of the fencing for Little Terns – noting it is still installed.

Response – The fence may be removed in the event of east coast low, or dredging programs

to be undertaken. Risk based assessment based on either of these occurrences, in conjunction with whether leaving the fencing up on a permanent basis gives less of an opportunity

It was noted there was a numbering discrepancy in the action log, whereby numbering has missed item 25. Confirming there was not an action at number 25, this was an error in the numbering sequence. Will renumber previous 26 as 25 and continuing numbering in sequence.

Actions included and updated in *Action log*.

The Meeting concluded at 4:13pm.

Next Meeting: 14 June 2023 at 2:00pm

Action Number	Meeting Date	Action	Responsible Party	Action Update	Status
36 (Tuggerah Lakes)	27/02/2019	A presentation on the Stormwater Management Plan currently under review for the Porters Creek Wetland catchment to be provided at a future meeting	Section Manager Flood Planning and Strategy	2/6/21: Update on Porters Creek Wetland to be standing item on agenda until further notice 8/12/21: No further updates currently from last meeting. Proceeding with trying to get costing prepared for options. Regarding recent motion to remove buffer zones, there were restricted activities in buffer zone, and these have now been removed so activities (mowing) can take place, but must still occur within SEPP. 2/3/22: No further update – cost estimate of works underway 10/05: PS – No further update – cost estimate of works is still underway Investigation regarding funding nexus, Dev. Contributions Plan, revegetation strategy 17/11/22 Council has recently completed the Porters Creek Wetland & Catchment Stormwater Modelling, Revegetation Plan and Monitoring Plan (Cardno 2022). The plan shows that the proposed revegetation will provide little reduction in stormwater flows entering the wetland from developments. Therefore Council is currently investigating other potential	Completed

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Action Number	Meeting Date	Action	Responsible Party	Action Update	Status
				stormwater management opportunities for the wetland. Until such time as a new stormwater management strategy is developed & adopted, all new development will be assessed in accordance with Council's LEP, DCP and Civil Works Specifications. 14/12/22: Update provided at Item 8.	
42 (Brisbane Waters)	24/11/2020	Update on Wamberal Seawall Advisory Taskforce to be standing item on future agendas, with Project Manager to attend meetings.	Section Manager Catchments to Coast	2/6/21: Update on Wamberal Seawall Advisory Taskforce to be standing item on agenda until further notice 1/6/22: It was noted that another meeting of the Advisory Taskforce was to be arranged in the coming weeks. 10/08: standing agenda item. 14/12/22: Update provided at Item 7.	Ongoing 29/3/23 – Update to be provided as a part of report/discussion at today's meeting. To be removed from action log going forward as the Taskforce is to be wound up.
8	22/09/2021	Updates about Airport Masterplan and related matters to be communicated to members as part of ongoing consultation.	Unit Manager Economic Development and Property	Response from Unit Manager Economic Development and Property emailed to members 14 February 2022 10/05/2022: PS – a verbal update will be provided at the next committee meeting. Any further	Pending – presentation will be requested. 29/3 – No further

Minutes of the Catchments to Coast Advisory Committee Meeting 29 March 2023 contd

Action Number	Meeting Date	Action	Responsible Party	Action Update	Status
				updates can be directed to the EPD section (via the AG) 10/08: Update to be provided during the Action Log item at the next meeting.	update on this item.
13	8/12/2021	Staff to get advice from Water and Sewer about works in Avoca Lagoon and report back to members when appropriate.	Section Manager Catchments to Coast	Update to be provided at 2 March 2022 meeting 10/05/2022: BF – a verbal update will be provided at the next committee meeting. Any further updates can be directed to the W&S section (via the AG) 1.9km of sewer re-lined in the Avoca area. 14/12/22: Update provided at Item 7.	Ongoing 29/3/23 – Included on meeting agenda today. (Presentation by Ben Fullagar)
14	08/12/2021	Staff to bring updates on relevant policies and DCP review to group when available.	Section Manager Flood Planning and Strategy	DCP review is still deferred. Update to be provided at 2 March 2022 meeting 2/3/22 – Peter Sheath advised Planning team can't provide update on DCP currently, but Flood Planning team are focusing on updating Flood Policy 10/05: PS – nothing further to report, quick verbal update 1/06: No finalised policies or DCP chapter. Drafted flood policy update – reviewed and additional information. New Sea Level Rise policy. LGA wide chapter in Development Control Plan to be developed. Public exhibition will occur for any policies.	Ongoing 29/3 – Included on agenda today (Peter Sheath) Query re: re-occurring item or whether it can be completed off the action log. Advice that a further update is anticipated at the

Minutes of the Catchments to Coast Advisory Committee Meeting 29 March 2023 contd

Action Number	Meeting Date	Action	Responsible Party	Action Update	Status
					next Committee meeting.
17	02/03/2022	Info from MIDO regarding scope of dredging works to be shared with members	Section Manager Catchments to Coast	10/05: BF – will reach out to MIDO to get an update (website with contact details). AW to follow up the process for circulating information to members prior to the meeting (and then for the meeting itself) 10/08: BF to follow up circulation of information via the AG. 14/12/22: Update provided at Item 7.	Ongoing 29/3 – Update as included on agenda at today’s meeting.
21	02/03/2022	Update on draft Flood Policy to be provided at next meeting	Section Manager Flood Planning and Strategy	10/05: PS – defer item/update to the following meeting – verbal update to be given 10/08: Update to be provided during the Action Log item at the next meeting.	Update to be provided with DCP update. 29/3 – Peter Sheath to provide update - item on agenda at today’s meeting and further update to be provided at the next Committee meeting

Minutes of the Catchments to Coast Advisory Committee Meeting 29 March 2023 contd

Action Number	Meeting Date	Action	Responsible Party	Action Update	Status
					regarding the work undertaken / progress of the Policy.
24	7/09/2022	Michael Campbell – Request for Jess Preston to attend December Meeting, Ben Fullagar to make contact with Jess Preston.	Ben Fullagar – Section Manager Catchments to Coast	Information on Tuggerah Lakes Riverine and Catchment Health Monitoring Program report was provided by Vanessa McCann, Team Leader Estuary Management to address questions from Michael Campbell.	Completed
25	14/12/2022	Copy of Tuggerah Lakes Riverine and Catchment Health Monitoring Report for Central Coast Council to be distributed to Advisory Group members.	Ben Fullagar – Section Manager Catchments to Coast		29/3 – Confirmation that this has been distributed. Completed.
26	29/3/2023	Options in relation to CMP engagement with Community members. Discussion of preferences, time and availability, online, focus group workshops, community drop in sessions – or 'all of the above'?	Ben Fullagar - Section Manager Catchments to Coast	To be clarified by SM Catchments and Coast at next meeting	
27	29/3/2023	Distribute Link to committee members for Community Focus Groups for the Wrack Management Strategy when it opens.	Ben Fullagar - Section Manager		

Minutes of the Catchments to Coast Advisory Committee Meeting 29 March 2023 contd

Action Number	Meeting Date	Action	Responsible Party	Action Update	Status
			Catchments to Coast		
28	29/3/2023	YourVoice OurCoast (YVOC) website to be updated with current timeframes and information regarding CMP's.	Ben Fullagar - Section Manager Catchments to Coast		
29	29/3/2023	Options to be explored regarding other opportunities for communication and collaboration for the group outside of the meeting format in relation to CMP process.	Luke Sulkowski Unit Manager Environmental Management		
30	29/3/2023	Options to be explored in relation to distribution of the presentations prior to the meeting to give the Committee members an opportunity to review the information being presented.	Luke Sulkowski Unit Manager Environmental Management		
31	29/3/2023	A copy of the ' <i>Understanding and Managing Flood Risk</i> ' – <i>Flood risk management guide FB01</i> to be distributed to Committee members.	Peter Sheath Section Manager Bushfire and Flood Risk Management		

Minutes of the Catchments to Coast Advisory Committee Meeting 29 March 2023 contd

Action Number	Meeting Date	Action	Responsible Party	Action Update	Status
32	29/3/2023	Further update and report regarding maintenance work at Canton Beach to be provide at next Committee meeting.	James Lawson Section Manager Environmental Infrastructure		
33	29/3/2023	Final request for Committee members to provide any feedback on the proposed Central Coast Conservation Fund Policy and internal restriction for acquisition of Davistown Wetlands.	Committee Membership		