



Central Coast Council

Catchments to Coast Committee Meeting

Held Remotely – Online and at the Committee Room,
2 Hely Street, Wyong

13 September 2023

MINUTES

Attendance

Members

Doug Darlington

Mike Campbell

David Mylan

Ian Carruthers

Marlene Pennings

Samantha Willis

Graham Hankin

Michael Kilp

Adrian Williams

Andrew Jones

External Agencies

Angela Halcrow, NSW Department of Planning and Environment

Paul Donaldson, NSW Department of Planning and Environment

Chris Drummond, NSW Department of Planning and Environment

External Agencies (Non-Members)

Dave Hopper, Transport for NSW - MIDO

Troy Gaston, University of Newcastle

Staff

Dr Alice Howe, Director Environment and Planning

Luke Sulkowski, Unit Manager Environmental Management

Matthew Corradin, Unit Manager Environmental Compliance Services
(left at 2:40pm)

James Lawson, Section Manager Environmental Infrastructure

Peter Sheath, Section Manager Bushfire and Flood Risk Management

Ben Fullagar, Section Manager Catchments to Coast

Parissa Ghanem, Team Leader Floodplain Management

Angela Russell, Civic Support Officer

Status

Present (in person)

Present (online)

Apology

Present (online)

Absent

Present (online)

Present (in person)

Present (online)

Apology

Apology

Present (online)

Apology

Apology

Apology

Present (online)

Status

Absent

Present (online)

Present (in person)

Present (online)

Present (in person)

Present (online)

Present (online)

Present (in person)

PROCEDURAL ITEMS

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

The Chairperson, Luke Sulkowski, declared the meeting open at 2:00pm.

The Chair read an Acknowledgement of Country statement.

Apologies received and members absent without apology were noted.

The Chairperson called for any disclosures of interest. No disclosures were received.

The Chair advised that agenda items 2.2, 2.1 and 2.5 be addressed first with the remainder of the items to follow in sequential order.

1.2 Previous business: Confirmation of minutes, review action log

The committee 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 June 2023](#)

The outstanding action item log was reviewed and updated.

REPORTS

2.1 Ettalong Dredging Update from Transport for NSW - MIDO

Dave Hopper, of the Transport for NSW Marine Infrastructure Delivery Office, offered apologies on this item. It will be deferred for a more detailed update at the next committee meeting.

Ben Fullagar spoke to some commentary provided to him by Dave Hopper that the Ettalong Dredging Program is to be completed this month with a post dredging meeting to be completed. A survey will be completed and provided.

In response to a question asked, it was advised that the ship collects the sand and drops on the shoal where there is a discharge area.

There is a website you can look at which provides updates:

<https://www.transport.nsw.gov.au/projects/current-projects/ettalong-channel-dredging>

2.2 Hydrocarbons in Tuggerah Lakes – at Long Jetty stormwater outlet

Doug Darlington presented some slides and briefly spoke to his presentation; it related to evidence of a hydrocarbon smell and surface shimmer, possibly diesel, at the outlet of a stormwater pipe at Long Jetty, which has existed for over 10 years. At the conclusion, an update from Matthew Corradin was requested.

Matthew Corradin addressed the Committee advising an update on the recent investigation completed by Council. There has been several investigations over years and the source of the leak has still not been identified. There is a Contaminated Land Declaration from a service station close by that Council is investigating.

It has been confirmed to be a long chain hydrocarbon, which suggests that it may be either diesel or motor oil. Council will investigate if the hydrocarbon is weathered to determine its age and attempt to determine a signature.

Ian Carruthers suggested that if it is found to be diesel then it may well be a leaking underground tank, but if motor oil then possibly ongoing illegal discharges. Alternatively it may be a historic leak that is still present underground on top of the water table that slowly makes its way into the stormwater system through subsoil pipes into stormwater pits.

Work is still being completed to pinpoint the source. The Environmental Management Unit will be approached to assist with a scientific analysis.

New Action Item – The LJ19 Taskforce, which includes representatives from Council EMU and ECS as well as Long Jetty WaterWatch Group, propose to meet in October to review the report findings. The taskforce will also invite a DPE representative – Chris Drummond. An update will be provided to the Committee in December.

2.3 Update on Flood & Stormwater Management (Standard Item)

Peter Sheath spoke to the presentation.

Angela Halcrow advised that the FAQ for the new Flood Risk Management Manual had been included in the meeting papers. Angela spoke on the Somersby and Kariong Study and reported that it is progressing well. The Narara Creek FRMP will come back to the Committee for review before any recommendation to place it on public exhibition.

Extensive conversations were had in relation to the planning horizon durations to help inform the preparation of the draft Flood and Tidal Inundation Policy.

In response to a question asked, it was advised that following the approval of the Local Government Recovery Grant (LGRG) funding for an updated Porters Creek Flood Study, the team will start putting a brief together for that project to commence. Resourcing for the delivery of the remainder of the LGRG projects will be considered.

There were questions regarding the Tuggerah Lakes Flood Study in relation calibrating the hydraulic model satisfactorily. Council staff and DPE are working this through with the consultant. A question was raised regarding whether a breaching mechanism is included

within the Tuggerah Lakes hydraulic model. Angela Halcrow confirmed that there was; once the model has been calibrated correctly to match actual floods that have occurred, then the consultant will work on simulating design floods.

Recommendation

The Committee note the report.

2.4 Update on Coastal & Catchment Operations (Standard Item)

James Lawson spoke to the presentation.

The yearly Little Tern project has commenced to help provide safe habitat for their breeding season over summer on The Entrance sand spit. Work is underway to reinstall fences and signage, as well as an adjustment to the site footprint. The breeding season commences in October.

A question was raised regarding the missing lifeguard tower at The Entrance. James Lawson advised that it is being managed by others within Council. The Chair advised that the tower is on a concrete sled and that Council have dragged that sled further to the south where they believe the tower would still have the visibility of the channel.

Ben Fullagar and Luke Sulkowski met with David Mehan MP and Dr Alice Howe along with other senior agency representatives to follow up on an e-mail that was sent to David Mehan MP by a community representative of the Committee. The e-mail voiced concerns on the impacts of the channel as a result of the construction of the rock groyne just south of the channel. Transport for NSW, MIDO is carrying out a survey, which will help address the issue.

Recommendation

That the information be noted.

2.5 Update on Coastal Management (Standard Item)

Ben Fullagar spoke to the report.

Troy Gaston thanked the Council for presenting at the Integrated Coastal Ecosystems Workshop at the University of Newcastle.

In response to a question asked, Ben Fullagar advised that the technical materials and fact sheets on the hazard study report will be refined to make it more suitable for community engagement.

Ian Carruthers and the Chair congratulated Council on the Eureka Award Finalists status for the Terrigal and Coastal Lagoons Audit.

Recommendation

That the Committee note the report

2.6 General Business

Graham Hankin questioned whether there is an update on The Entrance Management Strategy. Ben Fullagar advised that this is being considered as part of the Coastal Management Program for Tuggerah Lakes. There is a draft Tuggerah Lakes Entrance Coastal Process, Socio-Economic Assessment and Options Paper, which is being currently reviewed by Council and then will go to DPE for their review. An update will be provided at the next Committee meeting.

Michael Kilp advised that he and another member of the Committee were given a tour around the Porters Creek catchment and witnessed that there was a industrial site that appeared to be a concrete recycling plant (20 Jack Grant Ave, Warnervale) that appeared to have inadequate erosion & sedimentation controls.

The Chair advised 4000 seedlings were planted in various areas on the Central Coast for National Tree Day. Also, on 14 September 2023, there will be a large amount of Bitou bush removed out at Shelly Beach by staff from Council's Environmental Management Unit and Environmental Compliance Services Unit, along with some volunteers.

The Chair also advised that in the Warnervale area there is a large parcel of land Council has had transferred to it about a year ago as part of an arrangement Wyong Council made with a developer in 2007; the parcel of land extends from Minnesota Road westwards towards the Main Northern Railway. It has been cleared, channelised and used as farm land. Council has funding available from the Warnervale Contributions Plan and staff are looking at how to best rehabilitate the site. It has been identified as community land but there is a view which is being put into the Plan of Management for the Wetlands to restore the floodplain as a natural wetland/flood plain area. The Chair will share a plan of that lot with the Committee.

New Action Item – Raise a service request for our Environmental Compliance Services team to review the recent earthworks carried out at 20 Jack Grant Ave, Warnervale to ensure that the works are compliant with appropriate sedimentation and erosion controls.

New Action Item – Raise a service request for our Environmental Compliance Services team in regards to the knocking down of paperbark areas on the skirted corners around Jack Grant Drive.

New Action Item — Michael Kilp to provide photos to the Chair of a gate knocked open and truck allegedly carrying out possible illegal dumping onto a higher catchment area in Porters Creek. Chair to subsequently raise a service request for our Environmental Compliance

Services team to investigate the dumping; ECS also to investigate if contractors on the AV Jennings Rosella Rise subdivision (south of Warnervale Road, and west of Virginia Road)

ensure contractors are applying relevant sedimentation and erosion controls.

The Meeting concluded at 3:58pm.

Minutes of the Catchments to Coast Committee Meeting of Council 13 September 2023 contd

Action Number	Meeting Date	Action	Responsible Party	Action Update	Status
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	<p>Response from Unit Manager Economic Development and Property emailed to members 14 February 2022</p> <p>10/05/2022: PS – a verbal update will be provided at the next committee meeting. Any further updates can be directed to the EPD section (via the AG)</p> <p>29/3 – No further update on this item.</p> <p>10/08: Update to be provided during the Action Log item at the next meeting.</p> <p>13/9 – Request the attendance of Unit Manager ED&P to present to the Committee.</p>	Pending
14	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	<p>DCP review is still deferred. Update to be provided at 2 March 2022 meeting</p> <p>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</p> <p>29/3 – Included on agenda today (Peter Sheath)</p>	Ongoing

				<p>Query re: re-occurring item or whether it can be completed off the action log. Advice that a further update is anticipated at the next Committee meeting.</p> <p>Report included in today's agenda. 10/05: PS – nothing further to report, quick verbal update</p> <p>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.</p> <p>13/9 – item to be addressed at today's meeting.</p>	
17	02/03/2022	Info from MIDO regarding scope of dredging works to be shared with members	Section Manager Catchments to Coast	<p>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)</p> <p>10/08: BF to follow up circulation of information via the AG.</p> <p>14/12/22: Update provided at Item 7.</p>	Completed

				<p>29/3 – Update as included on agenda at today’s meeting.</p> <p>13/9 – Included in today’s agenda. The Chair recommends to the Committee to complete action and note that Ben has provided an update today. A new action item will request a single action for MIDO updates. Refer to New Action Item 36.</p>	
21	02/03/2022	Update on draft Flood Policy to be provided at next meeting	Section Manager Flood Planning and Strategy	<p>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 regarding the work undertaken / progress of the Policy. Item included in today’s agenda.</p> <p>10/05: PS – defer item/update to the following meeting – verbal update to be given</p> <p>10/08: Update to be provided during the Action Log item at the next meeting.</p> <p>13/9 – action item addressed at today’s meeting. The Chair requested the action item stay open.</p>	Ongoing
26	29/3/2023	Options in relation to CMP engagement with Community members. Discussion of preferences, time and	Ben Fullagar - Section Manager Catchments to Coast	<p>To be clarified by SM Catchments and Coast at next meeting</p> <p>13/9 – The Chair advises the action to be completed and a general update is to be</p>	Completed

Minutes of the Catchments to Coast Committee Meeting of Council 13 September 2023 contd

		availability, online, focus group workshops, community drop in sessions – or ‘all of the above’?		provided at each meeting going forward.	
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	Item to be addressed at today's meeting 13/9 – Ben advised the action item is expected to be updated at the end of October.	Completed
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	13/9 - Action item completed, this is part of the Governance process of Council and Civic Support staff will continue to provide presentations with the minutes of meetings.	Completed
34	14/6/2023	Queries regarding ferry running aground during low tide at Ettalong and request for information regarding other vessels using the channel and request for executive summary of the MIDO	Ben Fullagar - Section Manager Catchments to Coast	13/9 – The action is to be completed and a new action to be created. Refer to action item 36.	Completed

Minutes of the Catchments to Coast Committee Meeting of Council 13 September 2023 contd

		meeting being held on Thursday 15 June. Action: Summary of MIDO meeting to be provided to Committee members.			
35	14/6/2023	Dredging works - Transport for NSW (TfNSW) has information on their website regarding tender for Swansea Channel works. Establishment of a similar type page for Ettalong Channel works is to be explored. Action: Council staff to request MIDO consideration of this.	Ben Fullagar - Section Manager Catchments to Coast	13/9 - The action is to be completed and a new action to be created. Refer to action item 36.	Completed
36	14/09/2023	MIDO Update – Dredging Works, Ferry running aground during low tide at Ettalong	Dave Hopper		Ongoing
37	14/09/2023	Raise a service request for our Environmental Compliance Services	Luke Sulkowski Unit Manager Environmental		

		team to review the recent earthworks carried out at 20 Jack Grant Ave, Warnervale to ensure that the works are compliant with appropriate sedimentation and erosion controls.	Management		
38	14/09/2023	Raise a service request for our Environmental Compliance Services team in regards to the knocking down of paperbark areas on the skirted corners around Jack Grant Drive.	Luke Sulkowski Unit Manager Environmental Management		
39	14/09/2023	Michael Kilp to provide photos to the Chair of a gate knocked open and truck allegedly carrying out possible illegal dumping onto a higher catchment area in Porters Creek. Chair to subsequently raise a service request for our Environmental Compliance	Luke Sulkowski Unit Manager Environmental Management		

		Services team to investigate the dumping; ECS also to investigate if contractors on the AV Jennings Rosella Rise subdivision (south of Warnervale Road, and west of Virginia Road) ensure contractors are applying relevant sedimentation and erosion controls.			
40	13/09/2023	The LJ19 Taskforce, which includes representatives from Council EMU and ECS as well as Long Jetty WaterWatch Group, propose to meet in October to review the report findings. The taskforce will also invite a DPE representative – Chris Drummond. An update will be provided to the Committee in December.	Ben Fullagar - Section Manager Catchments to Coast		