



ABORIGINAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

13 December 2023



COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN 2018-2028

ONE – CENTRAL COAST IS THE COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN (CSP) FOR THE CENTRAL COAST LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA

ONE – CENTRAL COAST DEFINES THE COMMUNITY'S VISION AND IS OUR ROADMAP FOR THE FUTURE

ONE – CENTRAL COAST BRINGS TOGETHER EXTENSIVE COMMUNITY FEEDBACK TO SET KEY DIRECTIONS AND PRIORITIES

One - Central Coast will shape and inform Council's business activities, future plans, services and expenditure. Where actions are the responsibility of other organisations, sectors and groups to deliver, Council will work with key partners to advocate on behalf of our community.

Ultimately, every one of us who live on the Central Coast has an opportunity and responsibility to create a sustainable future from which we can all benefit. Working together we can make a difference.

RESPONSIBLE

WE'RE A RESPONSIBLE COUNCIL AND COMMUNITY, COMMITTED TO BUILDING STRONG RELATIONSHIPS AND DELIVERING A GREAT CUSTOMER EXPERIENCE IN ALL OUR INTERACTIONS.

We value transparent and meaningful communication and use community feedback to drive strategic decision making and expenditure, particularly around the delivery of essential infrastructure projects that increase the safety, liveability and sustainability of our region. We're taking a strategic approach to ensure our planning and development processes are sustainable and accessible and are designed to preserve the unique character of the coast.

 **Good governance and great partnerships**

G2 Engage and communicate openly and honestly with the community to build a relationship based on trust, transparency, respect and use community participation and feedback to inform decision making

There are 5 themes, 12 focus areas and 48 objectives

COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN 2018-2028 FRAMEWORK

All council reports contained within the Business Paper are now aligned to the Community Strategic Plan. Each report will contain a cross reference to a Theme, Focus Area and Objective within the framework of the Plan.

The infographic details the following structure:

- THEME: BELONGING**
 - Focus Area: OUR COMMUNITY (C1-C4)
 - Focus Area: COMMUNITY CONNECTION AND LOCAL IDENTITY (S1-S4)
- THEME: SMART**
 - Focus Area: A GROWING AND COMPETITIVE REGION (C1-C4)
 - Focus Area: A PLACE OF OPPORTUNITY FOR PEOPLE (S1-S4)
- THEME: GREEN**
 - Focus Area: ENVIRONMENTAL WELL-BEING FOR THE FUTURE (C1-C4)
 - Focus Area: INCREASED RAIN WATER RESILIENCE (S1-S4)
- THEME: RESPONSIBLE**
 - Focus Area: GOOD GOVERNANCE AND GREAT PARTNERSHIPS (C1-C4)
 - Focus Area: BELONGING THROUGH INFRASTRUCTURE (S1-S4)
 - Focus Area: SAFE, ACTIVE AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT (C1-C4)
- THEME: LIVEABLE**
 - Focus Area: RELIABLE PUBLIC TRANSPORT AND CONNECTIONS (C1-C4)
 - Focus Area: SAFE AND HEALTHY LIVES (S1-S4)
 - Focus Area: HEALTHY LIFESTYLES (C1-C4)



Meeting Notice

**The Aboriginal Advisory Committee
of Central Coast Council
will be held in the Committee Room,
2 Hely Street, Wyong and Remotely – Online,
on Wednesday 13 December 2023 at 3.00pm,
for the transaction of the business listed below:**

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Jake MacDonald
Chairperson

**1.1 INTRODUCTION: WELCOME, ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY,
APOLOGIES, DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST**

Chairperson

1.2 PREVIOUS BUSINESS: CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES, REVIEW ACTION LOG

- | | | |
|---|---|-----------|
| 1  | MINUTES - Aboriginal Advisory Committee - 3 October 2023 | D15880116 |
|  | | |
| 2  | MINUTES - Extraordinary Aboriginal Advisory Committee - 20 October 2023 | D15912998 |
|  | | |



Central Coast Council
Aboriginal Advisory Committee
Held in Council's Committee Room
2 Hely Street, Wyong

03 October 2023

MINUTES

Attendance

Members	Status
Stephen Ella (Remotely from 1:28pm)	Present
Shahni Wellington	Present
Jake MacDonald	Present
Vickie Parry	Present
Phillip Bligh	Present
Barry Duncan	Present
Monica McKenzie	Present
Colleen Fuller	Apology

Staff	Status
Rik Hart	Present
Glenn Cannard	Present
Melanie Smith	Present
Ange Russell	Present

The Chairperson, Rik Hart, declared the meeting open at 1:03pm

PROCEDURAL ITEMS

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

Barry Duncan read an Acknowledgement of Country statement.

Minutes of the Aboriginal Advisory Committee of Council 03 October 2023 contd

1.2 Previous business: Confirmation of Minutes, Review Action Log

No previous minutes to be confirmed.

REPORTS

2.1 Terms of Reference and Committee Overview

Resolved

That the Committee amend the Terms of Reference as follows:

Under Section 3 – Membership, voting and quorum, the Chairperson section should read as follows:

Chairperson

The Chairperson is a member of the Committee ~~the Mayor or Councillor.~~

The Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson will be elected annually by the Committee in December by nomination and a decision will be made on a show of hands. In the event of a tie, all names of nominees will be drawn by lot.

The tenure of the Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson will be two (2) year period.

The Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson shall preside at all meetings.

The Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson may resign from their position without resigning from the Committee. In such case, the Committee shall hold an election among its members to fill the vacant position.

The Deputy Chairperson fills in as Chairperson if the Deputy Chairperson is unable to attend the meeting.

The Chairperson is to have precedence at the meeting and shall determine the order of proceedings, generally as set out in the agenda.

~~It is not necessary that the Chairperson be a member of the Advisory Group.~~

Rik Hart stands down as Chairperson and adjourns the meeting at 1.13pm for the Committee to discuss their nominations.

The Committee reconvened at 1:23pm.

The Committee advised that they would like to appoint an Interim Chairperson and Interim Deputy Chairperson until the next quarterly committee meeting.

Minutes of the Aboriginal Advisory Committee of Council 03 October 2023 contd

Jake MacDonald is nominated by Vickie Parry as Interim Chairperson. The Committee calls for votes and it was unanimous that Jake be appointed.

Monica McKenzie is nominated as Interim Deputy Chairperson and it was unanimous that Monica be appointed.

Glenn Cannard reads through the Terms of Reference and the Committee acknowledges.

2.2 Committee Member Introductions

The Committee members introduces themselves and spoke about their mob, professional career and background.

2.3 CCC Project/Information Update and Discussion

Glenn Cannard speaks to the report.

An overview of proposed First Nations themed exhibitions, activities and public programming for the next twelve months at Gosford Regional Gallery was presented. Committee members raised no concerns with any content proposed.

Proposed community signage at Norah Head Surfing Reserve was presented. Phillip Bligh opens a discussion around the wording of the signage being spelt incorrectly. Barry Duncan advises that "Darkingung" recognises the people of the land and "Darkinjung" recognises the country.

The Chair requests the results of the proposed signage at Norah Head Surfing Reserve come back to the Committee after their further consideration.

Proposed community signage at Gwandalan was presented. The Chair requests that the wording be amended to reflect shared Country along with other grammatical changes. The wording needs to come back to the Committee for review.

Action Item: Committee members to bring the results of the proposed signage at Norah Head Surfing Reserve back to the Committee in the December meeting.

Action Item: Glenn Cannard to amend the wording and bring back to the Committee regarding the Gwandalan Lions Club signage. It is be amended to reflect shared Country along with amending past tense to present tense.

Minutes of the Aboriginal Advisory Committee of Council 03 October 2023 contd

2.4 Committee Priorities – Workshop and Discussion

Six Cities Commission

Barry Duncan raises concerns regarding Aboriginal consultation on the Central Coast relating to the Six Cities Commission. The discussions are taking place with Sydney and Newcastle but leaving out the Central Coast even though it is classed as a mega city. If discussions can be had with the Central Coast, there is a good opportunity for Aboriginal procurement.

Rik Hart advises a discussion should be had with The Hon David Harris MP as the Minister for Aboriginal Affairs and Treaty.

Phillip Bligh acknowledges that there are big tourism and infrastructure opportunities on the Central Coast and that the Committee would like consultation throughout the process.

Aboriginal Employment Strategy

The Committee questions Council's Aboriginal Employment Strategies.

Mel Smith advises from a Council perspective that the Council are working on a policy.

The Chair requests data around aboriginal employment within Central Coast Council as a standing report item along with Council's retention of these employees and what Council is doing to retain that staff.

Action Item: Melanie Smith to bring back to the Committee presentations around Council's Aboriginal employment strategy and approach to community information and engagement.

Community Strategic Plan

Rik Hart's suggestion is to work on a submission for the CSP.

This plan is out on public exhibition and closes on 16 October 2023. Submissions can be made here:

- The Community Strategic Plan (CSP)
<https://www.centralcoast.nsw.gov.au/sites/default/files/2023-04/full-report.pdf>
- The survey that is linked to the review of the existing CSP
<https://www.yourvoiceourcoast.com/CSPandLSPS>

The Committee decided to take a vote for the Committee to meet for an Extraordinary Aboriginal Advisory meeting so that the Community Strategic Plan can be discussed and a submission be submitted. This meeting will take place on Friday, 20 October 2023 – 2:30pm to 4:30pm

Action Item: Civic Support to arrange an Extraordinary Aboriginal Advisory Committee on

Minutes of the Aboriginal Advisory Committee of Council 03 October 2023 contd

Friday, 20 October 2023 – 2:30pm to 4:30pm.

Closing the Gap

The Committee discussed Aboriginal Housing and Local Government targets and what Council will be doing about achieving those targets.

2.5 General Business

Discussions took place regarding the return of councillors and what Council has going forward to engage members of the Aboriginal community to run.

Vickie Parry requests Council's view on The Voice Referendum and Rik Hart advised that there is no view from Council's but Council has assisted to facilitate any events/walks.

Phillip Bligh questions Cultural Authority, Preservation and Recognition. Phillip advises that it would be beneficial to make the public aware of the contributions that the Aboriginal Community is making to the Central Coast.

Glenn Cannard advises that in the First Nations accord Council's position is clear on how Council is assisting in this.

Phillip Bligh would like to discuss the Cultural Calendar but the Chair advised that this will be moved for the next meeting in December as we have run out of time.

Next meeting date is to be set for **13 December 2023, 3:30pm to 5:00pm.**

The Meeting concluded at 3:11pm.



Central Coast Council

Extraordinary
Aboriginal Advisory Committee
Held Remotely - Online

20 October 2023

MINUTES

Attendance

Members

Colleen Fuller (from 3:14pm)	Present
Stephen Ella	Present
Shahni Wellington	Present
Phillip Bligh	Present
Barry Duncan (from 2:58pm)	Present
Monica McKenzie (from 2:41pm)	Present
Jake MacDonald	Present
Vickie Parry	Present

Status

Staff

Melanie Smith	Apology
Rik Hart	Apology
Alice Howe	Present
Glenn Cannard	Present
Brett Sherar	Present
Sharon McLaren	Present
Madeleine Bell	Present
Ange Russell	Present

Status

The Chairperson, Jake MacDonald, declared the meeting open at 2:34pm

The Chair read an Acknowledgement of Country statement.

Minutes of the Aboriginal Advisory Committee of Council 20 October 2023 contd**PROCEDURAL ITEMS****1.1 Introduction: Welcome, Acknowledgement of Country, Apologies, Disclosure of Interest**

The Chair welcomes the Committee members and guests.

An Acknowledgement of Country is read.

Apologies are noted.

REPORTS**2.1 Revised Community Strategic Plan 2018-2028**

Sharon McLaren presents to the Committee the Community Strategic Plan (CSP) Development timeline.

In response to a question from a Committee member, it's confirmed that there is a current CSP in place and this new CSP will replace that to come into effect July 2025.

Sharon advises that there are two collaborating workshops scheduled with 25 people in each. Sessions outside of that are more focus groups. Sharon states that the Aboriginal Advisory Group would be relied on heavily around who in the community is important to involve. The Chair recommends speaking to Barang as they are a branch of important platforms for the Aboriginal Community on the Central Coast.

The presentation ends and The Chair asks that the CSP be brought up for the Committee to give their suggestions.

Recommendation: The Acknowledgement of Country would preferably be a standalone statement on the second page of the document and it be strengthened.

Recommendation: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Statement

Whilst the statement Acknowledging people/country is made, there is no statement acknowledging the Central Coast Council's commitment to Aboriginal people, culture, country. The role the council wants to play should be clear. The only way in which Aboriginal people/country/culture is mentioned in the strategic document is 'acknowledging' Aboriginal people. The commitment needs to be stronger and more explicit throughout the priority areas.

Recommendation: Smart Objective

The Central Coast Council has a role to play in public education, better understanding of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander, people, history, and culture. The council has a responsibility in facilitating public education opportunities. Ngarrama as an example hosted by Newcastle City Council.

Minutes of the Aboriginal Advisory Committee of Council 20 October 2023 contd

How does this relate to United Nations Sustainable Development goals;
 Target-4.7- By 2030, ensure that all learners acquire the knowledge and skills needed to promote sustainable development, including, among others, through education for sustainable development and sustainable lifestyles, human rights, gender equality, promotion of a culture of peace and non-violence, global citizenship, and appreciation of cultural diversity and of culture's contribution to sustainable development
 Indicator- 4.7.1 Extent to which (i) global citizenship education

Recommendation: Responsible Objective - Good Governance and Great Partnerships

Consult with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people on issues that directly affect their lives. Ensure that the Central Coast Council actively engages Aboriginal people and organizations in the decision-making process. Central Coast Council must transparently report on how/when consultation occurs with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. How does this relate to United Nations Sustainable Development goals;

Target- 11.4- Strengthen efforts to protect and safeguard the world's cultural and natural heritage

Indicator- 11.4.1- Total per capita expenditure on the preservation, protection, and conservation of all cultural and natural heritage, by source of funding (public, private), type of heritage (cultural, natural) and level of government (national, regional, and local/municipal)

Action Log Item: Review Council's Acknowledgement of Country.

Recommendation: The hand graphic used for the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Statement could be mapped throughout the document where Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander involvement is mentioned.

Recommendation: The value of caring should be included in the Community Vision. The Committee agrees that there should also be some assistance from the community if there are workshops held.

Recommendation: Belonging Theme: The statement that continues to "acknowledge the Aboriginal people that shapes this corner of the world."

Belonging - Objective B1 under Creativity, Connection and Local Identity. How can we re-word this to ensure the services to be provided to the community events are recognised by Council to support and not just celebrate it. "Support reconciliation" needs to be developed further to explain what that actually looks like.

Social equality and community wellbeing needs to be more specific about that measuring point. The idea of reconciliation isn't necessarily an objective that points towards what is measured by social equality and wellbeing.

Recommendation: The Committee advises that Council needs to make sure there is a connection between the CSP and forward works programs. Right now, this is something that needs to be worked on.

Minutes of the Aboriginal Advisory Committee of Council 20 October 2023 contd

Recommendation: Smart Theme – The Committee recommends that Central Coast Council needs to have input into helping the broader community understand the shared history and culture of the Aboriginal people. A Newcastle event like, Ngarrama which is about Aboriginal people getting a platform to tell their stories to the public.

A Committee member comments that Central Coast Council is one of the fastest growing Aboriginal communities and that it was a place of opportunity and that needs to be recognised within the Community Strategic Plan.

Recommendation: Green Theme – The Environmental priority doesn't include Aboriginal people. There needs to be acknowledgement around traditional owners and sustainable developments needing to involve aboriginal people.

Recommendation: Responsible Theme – Commitment to consult Aboriginal people.

Recommendation: Liveable Theme – Commitment to consult Aboriginal people.

Recommendation: Community Indicators – No mention of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Statement which could be included here and throughout the document.

Recommendation: Principles of One Central Coast – "We are more alike than different, we are one." This statement needs to be looked at to more acknowledge that we are different but we are still one.

Alice Howe acknowledged that this was more so to do with after the merger of Gosford City Council and Wyong Shire Council being one Council – Central Coast Council.

Recommendation: Community Engagement and Involvement – Acknowledging the representation of Aboriginal people could be unpacked here.

The Meeting concluded at 3:32pm.

2.1 CENTRAL COAST HEALTH & WELLBEING LIVING LAB INTRODUCTION

NSW Health

Attachments

Nil.

2.2 ABORIGINAL EMPLOYMENT STRATEGY PRESENTATION

Attachments

Nil.

2.3 SIGNAGE – GWANDALAN AND NORAH HEAD

Attachments

Nil.

2.4 WORKSHOP CCC ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

Attachments

Nil.

2.5 TIMEFRAMES FOR APPROVALS

Attachments

Nil.

2.6 GENERAL BUSINESS

Attachments

Nil.