



Central Coast Council

## Heritage and Culture Advisory Committee

Held

Held at 2 Hely Street, Wyong and Remotely - Online

19 October 2023

# MINUTES

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## Attendance

### Members

	<b>Status</b>
Paul Dignam	Present
Ross Howard	Present
Gary Jackson	Present
Peter Rea	Present
Johanna Reygersberg	Present
Kay Williams	Present
Bradley Twynham	Present

### Staff

	<b>Status</b>
Shannon Turkington, Unit Manager Strategic Planning	Present
Deanne Frankel, Section Manager Strategic Planning Projects	Present
Rebecca Cardy, Heritage Officer	Present
Rachel Callachor, Meeting Support Officer	Present

## PROCEDURAL ITEMS

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

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The Acting Chairperson, Deanne Frankel, declared the meeting open at 4:00pm.

The Chair read an Acknowledgement of Country statement.

Apologies received: Richard Waterhouse, Peta James.

### 1.2 Ground rules

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Deanne Frankel spoke to Ground rules, which were detailed and run through with Committee members.

These rules will be circulated to the Committee members.

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These rules will be circulated to the Committee members.  
Clarification and comments regarding the scope of this document

### **1.3 Limit on number of Items**

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Clarification that two items per Committee member, to be submitted in priority order, for general business discussion.

Each first priority item will be placed on the agenda, and if time permits the second round of items will be included. Any items listed on the agenda but not able to be discussed will be deferred to the next meeting of the Committee.

Anticipated timeframe required for discussion against each item to also be provided by members to aid in determining the agenda.

### **GENERAL BUSINESS REPORTS**

Discussion between the committee members with agreement to prioritise the top three items on the agenda for discussion firstly, followed by the remainder of items, time permitting. The items are recorded in the order they were discussed, with item numbers reflecting the agenda sequence.

### **2.2 Gosford Library Demolition**

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*Item 1 for discussion*

Introduced by Ross Howard.

Concerns regarding the proposed demolition of the library building.

Clarification was provided regarding the process and community consultation, and that the existing Library will not be demolished until 2025.

Query regarding whether or not the committee could raise the heritage significance and/or an interim heritage order.

#### **Recommendation**

- 1 Committee requests the topic be listed as an Item for detailed discussion at a Committee meeting in early 2024.**
- 2 Request for Scobie proposal report to be distributed in advance as part of the discussion (if able to be shared).**

### **2.3 Reporting Potential Aboriginal Midden**

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*Item 3 for discussion*

Introduced by Gary Jackson.

Background provided, while the Cenotaph has been restored a midden was discovered at the top of the steps to the Memorial Park. This was registered with AHIMS by a community member.

It is noted that there have been previous midden's in the area accompanied by registering with AHIMS.

In response, advice from Heritage Officer, that an archaeological assessment was undertaken by an independent archaeologist. The report concluded that the shell scatter was not a midden.

Despite this conclusion, as of the meeting date, the information from Heritage NSW is that the site has not be deregistered.

This is a matter for ongoing investigation as there are some concern regarding the process undertaken.

#### **Recommendation**

***Action: Request from the Committee for access to the archaeologist report for distribution to the Committee.***

***Action: Distribution of other information which would clarify this process, including whether there were any representatives from the First Nations community present for site assessments.***

***Action: Heritage Officer to update Committee at next meeting.***

### **2.4 Sister Sumner's Memorial**

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*Item 2 for discussion*

Introduced by Johanna Reygersberg.

Background information provided, including that this topic was raised initially by the local CWA group, with some involvement from the local Rotary group.

Renovation of the stone has support, but next steps and direction need to be clarified.

Discussion amongst the group and the RSL and CWA have had previously involvement.

The memorial requires careful restoration and interpretation within the park. This includes conservation of the stone where appropriate, retention of the tree, and interpretation that

creatively tells the story of Sister Sumner.

Discussions in relation to the need for an overall plan and any options regarding heritage grants and opportunities. Noted this has been discussed with Unit Manager Community and Culture, approximately 12 months ago.

### **Recommendation**

- 1 Documented current status information, brought to the Committee meeting by Gary Jackson, to be distributed to the Committee members for their reference.**
- 2 Action: Status update from Community & Culture and Community & Recreation Services Units Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) regarding the items in the park – for e.g CWA, RSL sub-branch and Council.**
- 3 Action: Status update regarding vegetation management plan.**
- 4 Request 'Heritage small grant scheme to be reinstated by Central Coast Council. Unanimous support from the Committee.**

## **2.1 Gosford Cenotaph**

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*Item 4 for discussion*

Introduced by Gary Jackson.

Background information provided, including that over 18 months to 2 years the monument has been restored, which was completed on Tuesday 17 October 2023.

The Cenotaph is listed in Schedule 9 State Environmental Planning Policy (Precincts – Regional) 2021. The item is not listed on the State Heritage Register but it is listed with the NSW National Trust.

A recent state heritage nomination was not successful and neither was a Ministerial Review of the decision.

Noted a further discussion point regarding whether the Cenotaph should be listed as individual heritage listing, or as part of the park listing.

### **Recommendation**

**Action: Gary Jackson to present history of the Cenotaph at the next meeting of the Committee (December 2023).**

## **2.5 Mill Creek Bridge**

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*Item 5 for discussion.*

Introduced by Kay Williams

Information provided regarding the history of the bridge, the current status and changes to the bridge and road construction (New road, existing road).

Query regarding the destruction mangroves when construction of the road took place.

Main issue is the maintenance of the bridge. The woodwork is deteriorating due to lack of maintenance.

Discussion of potential midden and grinding grooves in the vicinity of the bridge.

Discussion of inadequacy of existing interpretative signage at the bridge. The bridge and mill site require more descriptive and tourist friendly interpretation.

Heritage Officer advised that a level 3 assessment of the bridge is to be undertaken by an engineer within in the next 3 months. A Plan of Management has previously been prepared, and this should be investigated further regarding its current status.

**Recommendation**

- 1 Action: Discussion and presentation re: the above referenced assessment with outcome of the investigation to be scheduled for January 2024 Committee meeting, including presentation if possible.**
- 2 Action: Clarification regarding Plan of Management in place for Mill Creek Bridge.**

**2.6 Fairview Homestead**

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To be deferred to next meeting.

**2.7 Caring for Council's Heritage Assets**

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To be deferred to next meeting.

**2.8 Heritage Tourism**

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To be deferred to next meeting.

**The Meeting** concluded at 5.02pm.