

Catchments and Coast Committee Brisbane Water and Gosford Lagoons Meeting Record 19 September 2019



Location:	Central Coast Council Gosford Office Level 1 Committee Room 49 Mann Street, Gosford	
Date:	19 September 2019	
Time	Started at: 2.02pm	Closed at: 4.08pm
Chair	Mayor Jane Smith	
File Ref	F2018/00097	

Present

Mayor Jane Smith, Andrew Jones, Michael Kilp, Jenny McCulla, Adrian Williams, Samantha Willis, Michael Alsop (non-voting)

External Representatives present:

Colin Johnson – Department of Planning, Industry and Environment, Neil Kelleher – Department of Planning, Industry and Environment, Jaimie Potts – Department of Planning, Industry and Environment, Peter Scanes – Department of Planning, Industry and Environment

Council Staff present:

Lisa Fox – Senior Advisor Policy and Projects, Luke Sulkowski – Unit Manager Natural and Environmental Assets (arrived at 2:31pm), Ben Fullagar – Section Manager Coastal Protection, Peter Sheath – Section Manager Waterways, Parissa Ghanem – Team Leader Floodplain Management and Senior Planner, Vanessa McCann – Team Leader Estuary Management, Warren Brown – Waterways and Coastal Management Officer, Melanie James – Waterways Officer, Tina Nay – Advisory Group Support Officer

Item 1 Welcome, Acknowledgement of Country and Apologies

Apologies received: Councillor Troy Marquart, Councillor Richard Mehrtens, Ian Caruthers, Scott Cox – Director Environment and Planning

Mayor Jane Smith completed an Acknowledgment of Country statement.

Mayor Jane Smith also acknowledged the connection that we all have to this land and place, and the shared responsibility that we have to care for and protect this land for future generations.

Item 2 Disclosure of Interest

No disclosures were received.

Item 3 Confirmation of Previous Meeting Record

The Advisory Group confirmed the Meeting Records from 21 March and 20 June 2019.

It was noted that the 20 June 2019 meeting did not have a quorum, however Committee members would like to receive a copy of the notes taken during the informal meeting.

Action: Notes of 20 June 2019 informal meeting to be attached to the next meeting agenda for the Committee members' information.

The Advisory Group reviewed the Action Log.

Item 4 Lower Hawkesbury Estuaries Scoping Study (Standing Item)

Ben Fullagar (Section Manager Coastal Protection) provided a presentation on the transition from Coastal Zone Management Plans to Coastal Management Programs. The presentation included a high-level timeline for the development stages of Coastal Management Programs including consultation opportunities. Council is currently working on the following Stage 1 Scoping Studies:

- Lower Hawkesbury Estuary (with Hornsby Shire Council and other Councils)
- Open Coast and Coastal Lagoons
- Tuggerah Lakes Estuary

Action: Update on the development of Coastal Management Programs including the Scoping Studies for Lower Hawkesbury Estuary, Open Coast and Coastal Lagoons and Tuggerah Lakes Estuary to be a standing item on all future agendas.

Item 5 Dredging Update

Ben Fullagar (Section Manager Coastal Protection) provided a presentation update on the NSW Crown Lands dredging and sand nourishment operations. The presentation included an overview of the dredging locations completed inside half tide rocks and the sand nourishment on Ocean Beach. It was reported that further dredging was planned near Little Box Head and Lobster Beach with sand to be placed on the nearby outer shoal.

A member of the Committee asked how many cubic metres of sand has currently been dredged in total. The exact amount was not known as the project is currently being managed by the State Government.

Action: A report on the total amount in cubic metres to be provided at the next meeting.

Item 6 Update on Recent Water Quality Results for Avoca Lagoon

Peter Scanes (Department of Planning, Industry and Environment) gave a presentation on the water quality of Terrigal.

Water samples have been taken at intervals to determine the source of pollution in Terrigal. Further testing will be conducted up until June 2020.

Item 7 Lagoon Openings

Mayor Jane Smith reported that she had received enquiries from members of the community on the recent coastal lagoon openings and asked staff to provide an update on procedures and any reviews underway.

Ben Fullagar (Section Manager Coastal Protection) provided an update on recent lagoon openings. This included a report that a number of dead birds were found on Copacabana Beach following the opening of Cockrone Lagoon in August. At this stage it is unknown whether the loss of the birds was related to the opening of the lagoon or whether it was from other causes.

An update was also provided on:

- Further research proposed into the relationship between Avoca Lagoon hydrology and the fringing Bareena wetland hydrology, known habitat of Green and Gold Bell Frogs,
- Monitoring of Green and Gold Bell Frogs near Avoca Lagoon including potential breeding activity and possible citizen science opportunities,
- The development of the 'MHLFIT' tool with Manly Hydraulics Laboratory including updated Flood Studies for the lagoon catchments.

Action: Information on the draft Avoca Lagoon opening protocol for the monitoring of the Green and Gold Bell Frog breeding to be circulated to Committee members for their information.

Action: Council consultant to be invited to a future meeting to present information on the opening of lagoons.

Item 8 Reflect on Progress in line with Terms of Reference and Action Plan

The Advisory Group considered the Committee Vision document developed after the 21 March 2019 meeting, additional dot points were added during the meeting.

Action: Draft Committee Vision to be circulated to Committee members for review.

The Committee identified the following items for future agendas:

- Coastal Management Programs – standing item
- Lagoon Openings – standing item
- Update on activities and projects Council are currently undertaking – standing item

Item 9 Update on Flood and Stormwater Management (Standing Item)

Parissa Ghanem (Team Leader Floodplain Management and Senior Planner) gave an update on the Flood and Gross Pollutant Trap Projects currently underway and recently completed.

Gross Pollutant Traps:

Constructed: New GPT at Ocean Beach Surf Life Saving Club Car Park

Planned: 2019/20: Design of GPT on north western shore of Wamberal Lagoon (between Blue Bell Drive and Tall Timbers Road), to be constructed in 2020/21.

Flood Studies:

- Coastal Lagoons Overland Flood Study includes Wamberal, Terrigal, Avoca and Cockrone Lagoons - anticipated completion **November 2019**.
- Brisbane Water Overland Flow Study catchments includes Green Point, West Gosford, Point Clare, Tascott and Koolewong - anticipated completion **February 2020**.
- Review of Woy Woy Peninsula Flood Study including Kahibah Creek - anticipated completion **March 2020**.
- Groundwater Modelling on the Woy Woy Peninsula - anticipated completion **October 2019**.
- Integrated Water Management Case Study – Everglades Catchment Woy Woy- anticipated completion **March 2020**
- **Seeking Grant Funding** for Lower Hawkesbury Estuary Flood Study 2019-20

Floodplain Risk Management Studies and Plans:

- Woy Woy Peninsula Flood Floodplain Risk Management Study and Plan including Kahibah Creek – anticipated completion **August 2021**.
- Davistown Empire Bay Floodplain Risk Management Study and Plan – anticipated completion **February 2021**.
- Narara Creek Floodplain Risk Management Study and Plan – anticipated completion **June 2020**.
- Ourimbah Creek Floodplain Risk Management Study and Plan – public exhibition completed.

Item 10 General Business and Close

No general business was discussed.

The meeting closed at 4:08pm

Next Meeting: Wednesday 19 December 2019
2pm – 4pm
Central Coast Council Gosford Office
Level 1 Committee Room