

# Catchments and Coast Committee Tuggerah Lakes Meeting Record 26 February 2020



Location:	Central Coast Council Wyong Office Level 2 Committee Room 2 Hely Street, Wyong	
Date:	26 February 2020	
Time	Started at: 4.02pm	Closed at: 6.06pm
Chair	Councillor Jane Smith	
File Ref	F2018/00098	

## **Present:**

Councillor Louise Greenaway, Councillor Jane Smith, Michael Campbell, Doug Darlington, Robert Davies, Graham Hankin, Samantha Willis

## **External Representatives present:**

Angus Ferguson – Department of Planning, Industry and Environment, Neil Kelleher – Department of Planning, Industry and Environment, Richard Murphy – Department of Planning, Industry and Environment

## **Council Staff present:**

Scott Cox – Director Environment and Planning, Luke Sulkowski – Unit Manager Environmental Management, Ben Fullagar – Section Manager Coastal Protection, Larry Melican – Section Manager Natural Assets and Biodiversity, Peter Sheath – Section Manager Waterways, Matthew Barnett – Team Leader Catchment Operations, Parissa Ghanem – Team Leader Floodplain Management and Senior Planner, Vanessa McCann – Team Leader Estuary Management, Paul Donaldson – Senior Estuary Management Officer, Rochelle Lawson – Senior Ecologist, Joe O'Connor – Property Development Manager, Donna Payne – Advisory Group Support Officer

## **Item 1 Welcome, Acknowledgement of Country and Apologies**

---

Apologies Received: Councillor Jilly Pilon, Councillor Doug Vincent, Marlene Pennings

Councillor Jane Smith welcomed the Advisory Group and completed an Acknowledgement of Country and Connection to Land statement.

## **Item 2 Disclosures of Interest**

---

Doug Darlington declared a less than significant non-pecuniary interest as he had done so previously, as a resident of Long Jetty with regard to the Managing Pollution Impacts in Tuggerah Lakes presentation.

---

### **Item 3 Confirmation of Previous Meeting Record**

---

The Advisory Group confirmed the Meeting Record from 18 December 2019.

The Advisory Group discussed the Action Log with the below updates noted:

- Action 36: Remains pending
- Action 51: Remains pending
- Action 65: Remains pending
- Action 66: Remains pending
- Action 77: Remains pending

---

### **Item 4 Feedback from Previous Meeting**

---

No feedback was provided.

---

### **Item 5 Update on Flood and Stormwater Management (Standing Item)**

---

Parissa Ghanem – Team Leader, Floodplain Management discussed the Floodplain Risk Management Plan preparation process for each waterway, the areas covered were:

1. Collection of historical rainfall and flood data
2. Preparing a Flood Study that defines the nature and extend of the flood problem
3. Preparation of a Floodplain Risk Management Study
4. Preparation of a Floodplain Risk Management Plan (FRMP) that recommends preferred options
5. Implementation of FRMP with recommended measures

Adoption of a Floodplain Risk Management Plan is a prerequisite to seek grant funding for the implementation of the recommended flood mitigation works and other management plan actions.

Graham Hankin raised concerns surrounding evacuation of residents of the Wyong Nursing Home in a flood situation as it is a high-care nursing home that would require residents to be evacuated in beds. It was noted that the complex is private property and not within council control. It was suggested that Council correspond with the nursing home to bring into awareness the flood risk and to encourage a stringent evacuation plan.

**Action:** The committee requested that Council encourage Wyong Nursing home via written correspondence to develop an emergency response plan that takes into consideration the high risk of flooding in the area.

The Committee thanked staff for their work in preparing the Floodplain Risk Management Plan and time taken in a site visit and further consideration of options.

---

### **Item 6 Update from Environment, Energy and Science Team (DPIE) (Action 74)**

---

Neil Kelleher – Senior Natural Resource Officer, Department of Planning, Industry and Environment presented the findings on The Entrance Morphodynamic Modelling and Beach Management Investigations 2013/15.

The presentation included information on investigations and scenarios into the effectiveness of training walls, groynes, beach nourishment and dredging.

Angus Ferguson – Senior Environmental Scientist, Department of Planning, Industry and Environment gave a presentation on Managing Pollution Impacts in Tuggerah Lakes.

The presentation explained the management issues in the Tuggerah Lakes system, understanding the problems, management strategies for the future and measuring success. The information provided in the presentation was based on over 10 years of scientific research.

Graham Hankin stated he had collected a sample of 'black' water from Ourimbah Creek following the flooding. Angus Ferguson said that he would be interested in taking a closer look at the sample.

Graham Hankin spoke about the Munmorah Power Station and its closure six (6) years ago. He affirmed an interest in the changes to the Tuggerah Lakes system since the power plants closure and asked if this could be modelled. Neil Kelleher said that this will be considered in line with the CMP.

The committee congratulated the quality of the presentations given by the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment.

**Action:** Advisory Group Support Officer to send a copy of the presentations delivered by the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment to the committee members.

## **Item 7                      Protection of Porters Creek Wetland**

---

Rochelle Lawson – Senior Ecologist, Natural Assets and Biodiversity gave an update on the progress of the permanent protection of Porters Creek Wetland as a result of the resolution of Council meeting held on 25 November, 2019.

A pre-lodgement meeting was held on 20 January 2020 where the process for boundary adjustment of Lot 2 DP1234942 and Lot 3 DP1230740 was discussed.

It was noted that the presentation raised concerns and extensive consultation will be required to define the boundaries of the Warnervale Employment Zone (WEZ) and the conservation area. The Chair noted that there had been a number of meetings held with staff to define those boundaries and that this was captured in the resolution of Council.

Staff advised they had requested a letter from the Biodiversity Conservation Trust on a way to move forward, the response they received gave two options:

1. Proceed with conservation agreement without subdivision. The Biodiversity Conservation Trust can modify the agreement to accommodate Council's plan for WEZ.
2. Fold CA into subdivision and bio-certification processes and proceed with on-ground planning and management.

The committee noted that the maps displayed in the presentation were roughdrawn and did not reflect the true boundaries or show where the WEZ and conservation areas overlap.

The committee expressed frustration with the delays in progressing this action. It was noted that the resolution of Council required this action to be completed by the end of March 2020 and had allocated a budget to achieve this.

**Action:** Councillor Smith seek an urgent meeting with the CEO and Director to discuss how the resolution is going to be finalised by March 2020.

## **Item 8                    General Business and Close**

---

Graham Hankin raised the topic of Flood Adaption Planning for Chittaway Point and that he had requested for the item to be included on the agenda. Council staff have taken this request on notice to be included in a future meeting.

**Action:** Advisory Group Support Officer to include Flood Planning for Chittaway Point on the agenda in a future meeting.

The meeting closed at 6.06pm

**Next Meeting:**            **Wednesday 29 April 2020**  
                                     **2pm – 4pm**  
                                     **Central Coast Council Wyong Office**  
                                     **Level 2 Committee Room**