

# Catchments and Coast Committee Tuggerah Lakes Meeting Record 19 December 2018



Location:	Central Coast Council Wyong Office Level 2 Committee Room 2 Hely Street, Wyong	
Date:	19 December 2018	
Time	Started at: 2.02pm	Closed at: 4.09pm
Chair	Mayor Jane Smith	
File Ref	F2018/00098	

## **Present:**

Mayor Jane Smith, Councillor Louise Greenaway, Councillor Jilly Pilon (arrived 2.15pm), Michael Campbell, Doug Darlington, Robert Davies, Marlene Pennings, Samantha Willis

## **External Representatives present:**

Lara Davis – Office of Environment and Heritage, Neil Kelleher – Office of Environment and Heritage

## **Council Staff present:**

Peter Ham – Unit Manager Waterways and Coastal Protection, Ben Fullagar – Section Manager Coastal Protection, Danielle Hargreaves – Section Manager Learning and Education, Peter Sheath – Section Manager Waterways, Nick Carson – Environmental Education Officer, Vanessa McCann – Ecologist, Nicole McGaharan – Ecologist, Zoie Magann – Advisory Group Support Officer

## **Item 1 Apologies**

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Councillor Doug Vincent, Graham Hankin

The Chairperson, Mayor Jane Smith, declared the meeting open at 2.02pm and undertook an Acknowledgement of Country.

## **Item 2 Disclosure of Interest**

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Mayor Jane Smith declared a less than significant non-pecuniary interest due to her involvement with the development of the Tuggerah Lakes education programs as a teacher for the Department of Education.

Mayor Jane Smith declared a less than significant non-pecuniary interest as a founding board member of the Central Coast Marine Discovery Centre, which is supporting a proposal for research project in Tuggerah Lakes.

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

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The Advisory Group confirmed the Meeting Record from 31 October 2018.  
The Advisory Group reviewed the Action Log.

**Action:** An update on Action 22 to come to a future meeting of the Advisory Group once the Council report has been completed.

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

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No feedback was received.

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### **Item 5 Education and Engagement**

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Nick Carson (Environmental Education Officer) provided a presentation on the various environmental educational programs that Council delivers, including tours and workshops.

The Advisory Group noted concerns about the method of lawn maintenance that Council employs in terms of lawn clippings not being collected, which may result in them being washed into estuaries.

Peter Sheath (Section Manager Waterways) advised there is funding in the 2019/20 budget allocated to conducting a desktop assessment on compliance.

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### **Item 6 Educational Resource**

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The Advisory Group noted an educational resource forwarded from Ray Mizzi. The resource is a web based course that includes units of work based on the Tuggerah Lakes and is aligned to the NSW curriculum.

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### **Item 7 Wrack Update**

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Peter Sheath (Section Manager Waterways) provided further information on wrack, including information on collection and disposal methods, associated costs, and the reuse of wrack as a resource.

The Advisory Group noted Central Coast Sustainability Cluster Group is planning to do some work with Council's Waste section, and the Advisory Group may be able to provide some feedback in terms of wrack disposal.

The Advisory Group noted the information provided by Graham Hankin in regards to the Central Coast Marine Discovery Centre's proposal for a research project involving black ooze in Tuggerah Lakes.

**Action:** The Advisory Group requests that staff liaise with the Waste section of Council to explore future options for wrack re-use in development of a Waste Management Strategy.

**Action:** The Advisory Group requests that staff make contact with academics at The University of Newcastle to discuss the possibility of investigating fish habitats in Tuggerah Lakes and the potential environmental impacts of the wrack collector.

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**Item 8                    Integrated Water Cycle Management Strategy**

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Peter Sheath (Section Manager Waterways) provided an overview of the Integrated Water Cycle Management Strategy including the management of coastal wetlands and Porter’s Creek Wetland

The Advisory Group discussed the protection of Porters Creek wetland, the previously proposed Stormwater Harvesting Scheme and how development within the catchment may impact on Porter’s Creek wetland.

**Action:** The Advisory Group request that a staff member from the Planning section of Council be invited to the next meeting to discuss current development controls that are in place to minimise impacts on Porters Creek wetland, and provide insight into relevant developer contributions and their allocation.

**Action:** The Advisory Group request that enquiries are made into inviting someone to a future meeting to provide information on the biodiversity and hydrology of Porters Creek wetlands, in particular the wetting and drying cycles for the wetlands.

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**Item 9                    2019/20 Budget**

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Item deferred to the February meeting as the first agenda item.

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**Item 10                  General Business and Close**

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No general business was discussed.

The meeting closed at 4.09pm

**Next Meeting:            Wednesday 27 February 2019  
4pm – 6pm  
Central Coast Council Wyong Office  
Level 2 Committee Room**