

Location:	Wyong Administration Building Level 2 Committee Room 2 Hely Street, Wyong
Date:	26 September 2018
Time	Started at: 4.03pm Closed at: 6.05pm
Chair	Mayor Jane Smith
File Ref	F2018/00099

Present:

Mayor Jane Smith, Deputy Mayor Chris Holstein, Councillor Louise Greenaway, Councillor Jeff Sundstrom, John Andrews, David Holland, Deb Holloman

Council staff present:

Dr Anumitra Chand – Section Manager Environmental Strategies, Scott Duncan - Section Manager Land Use and Policy, Rochelle Lawson – Senior Ecologist, Peter Ham – Unit Manager Waterways and Coastal Protection, Larry Melican - Section Manager Emergency Protection Natural Assets, Luke Sulkowski - Unit Manager Natural and Environmental Assets, Kelly Drover – Advisory Group Support Officer

Item 1 Apologies

Paul Links, Barbara Wills, Peter Draper – Department of Industry-Lands and Water (Crown Lands), Michael Hill – Forestry Corporation of NSW, David Green – Local Land Services (Greater Sydney), Mr Steve Atkins – NPWS Central Coast Area Manager, Scott Cox – Director Environment and Planning, Matthew Prendergast – Unit Manager Strategic Planning

Item 2 Disclosures of Interest

Mayor Smith previously declared a less than significant non-pecuniary interest as a former Chief Executive Officer of the Community Environment Network (CEN). CEN is delivering a project that works with COSS landholders, Council and other stakeholders to deliver on ground rehabilitation works.

Mayor Smith declared a less than significant non-pecuniary interest as a teacher with the Department of Education (DoE). DoE schools have been working on projects related to COSS.

Councillor Greenaway previously declared a less than significant non-pecuniary interest as a former Board Member of the Community Environment Network (CEN).

Item 3 Confirmation of Previous Meeting Record

The Advisory Group confirmed the Meeting Record from 25 July 2018.

The Advisory Group reviewed the Action Log.

Item 4 Land Acquisitions – Process for land acquisition

Rochelle Lawson provided a presentation on the Environmental Land Acquisition Program.

Action: The Advisory Group requests that as the Land Acquisition and prioritisation process matures, staff provide updates to the Committee at future meetings.

Action: Mayor Jane Smith and Barbara Wills to form a task group (with David Holland as a nominal attendee) to provide advice and recommendations on COSS assessment criteria and potential sites for land acquisitions. Group to meet on an adhoc basis as opportunities arise.

Item 5 Overview of COSS

Rochelle Lawson provided an overview of the Coastal Open Space System (COSS).

The Advisory Group noted there will be a report to Council 29 October 2018 regarding the long term protection of Porters Creek Wetland.

Item 6 Planning Proposals

Scott Duncan gave an update on Planning Proposals related to COSS.

Action: The Advisory Group requests that staff investigate a potential clause to be included in the Consolidated LEP that would continue implementation of the former Gosford COSS Strategy.

Item 7 Biodiversity Offset Scheme

Rochelle Lawson gave an update on the Biodiversity Offset Scheme.

Item 8 Biodiversity Stewardship Agreements Underway

Rochelle Lawson gave an update on the Biodiversity Stewardship Sites.

Item 9 COSS Status Report

Rochelle Lawson discussed the Draft Coastal Open Space System Status Report. A hardcopy of the report was provided to all Committee Members.

Item 10 Winney Bay Update

Luke Sulkowski gave an update on the Winey Bay Cliff Top Walk.

Action: The Advisory Group Support Officer to provide information to all Committee members regarding the exhibition period, drop in session at Copacabana Surf Club and link to the *yourvoiceourcoast* site for Winney Bay Cliff Top Walk which includes FAQ's, feedback form and a video of the site.

Item 11 Update from External Agency Representatives

There were no external agency representatives in attendance at the meeting.

Item 12 Consideration of Late Member Application

The Advisory Group has not accepted any new members.

Action: The Advisory Group recommends to Council that Gary Chestnut be invited to attend the COSS Advisory Group meetings as a specialist, based on his level of expertise and former involvement in the Gosford COSS.

Item 13 General Business and Close

The Advisory Group noted that OEH has declined to provide a copy of the draft Central Coast Regional Conservation Plan 2013 in response to Action Item 18 as below.

The Advisory Group recommends to Council that staff write to the Office of Environment and Heritage requesting a copy of the draft Central Coast Regional Conservation Plan 2013 for distribution to the Advisory Group.

Action: The committee recommends that Council submit a GIPA application with Office of Environment and Heritage to access a copy of the draft Central Coast Regional Conservation Plan 2013.

David Holland raised the COSS Strategy that had been circulated to the Committee. He noted that the Biodiversity Strategy may influence the future COSS Strategy. The Biodiversity Strategy is currently being developed and will be brought back to this Committee.

The Mayor advised that DoE Primary schools within the Erina catchment have been working on projects focused on COSS and biodiversity. The Mayor attended a recent event where students presented some of their work and participated in tree planting in COSS lands.

The meeting closed at 6.05pm

Next Meeting: **Thursday 29 November 2018**
4pm – 6pm
Central Coast Council Gosford Office
Level 1 Committee Room
49 Mann Street, Gosford