

Heritage Advisory Committee Meeting Record 13 March 2019



Location:	Central Coast Council Gosford Office Level 1 Committee Room 49 Mann Street, Gosford	
Date:	13 March 2019	
Time	Started at: 4.01pm	Closed at: 5.48pm
Chair	Mayor Jane Smith	
File Ref	F2018/00102	

Present:

Mayor Jane Smith, Councillor Kyle MacGregor, Warren Andrews, David Benwell, Walter Billington, Gary Dean, Sandra Hunt-Sharman, Verena Mauldon, Joseph Murray, Prue Wyllie, Kreenah Yelds

External Representatives (non-voting) present:

Merril Jackson - community member for Item 4 (left 4.46pm), Richard Waterhouse

Council Staff present:

Scott Duncan – Section Manager Land Use and Policy (left 5.14pm), Janine Crawford – Team Leader Brand and Marketing (arrived 4.15pm, left 5.04pm), Rebecca Cardy – Heritage Officer, Zoie Magann – Advisory Group Support Officer

Item 1 Apologies and Acknowledgement of Country

Councillor Louise Greenaway, Councillor Jeff Sundstrom, Councillor Doug Vincent, Margot Castles, Glenn Cannard – Unit Manager Community Partnerships

Mayor Jane Smith declared the meeting open at 4.01pm, and completed an acknowledgement of country and connection to land statement.

Item 2 Disclosure of Interest

Mayor Jane Smith previously declared a less than significant non-pecuniary interest as a former voluntary Chief Executive Officer of the Community Environment Network (CEN).

Wal Billington declared a less than significant non-pecuniary interest due to his involvement with the Wyong District Museum and Historical Society. The Wyong District Museum and Historical Society have previously submitted DAs to Council for Alison Homestead.

Richard Waterhouse advised that he had received complaints from unknown persons regarding an article he wrote about heritage. The complaint was that the article didn't mention Richard's involvement with the Heritage Advisory Committee, which the person believed was a conflict of interest. The Chairperson advised this didn't need to be disclosed and wasn't a conflict of interest for the Committee meeting, but would be noted.

Verena Mauldon declared a less than significant non-pecuniary interest due to her involvement with Veterans Affairs and the State War Memorials Committee. The State War Memorials Committee assesses grant applications for the Community War Memorials Fund.

Item 3 Confirmation of Previous Meeting Record

The Advisory Group confirmed the Meeting Record from 28 November 2018.

The Advisory Group discussed the Action Log.

It was noted that some members of the Advisory Group met informally on 6 February 2019 to brainstorm ideas for the Australian Heritage Festival. The notes from this session were circulated to the group.

Item 4 Gosford War Memorial and Poppy Project presentation

Item 9 was addressed with this Item, as both dealt with Gosford War Memorial.

Merril Jackson (Community Member) provided a presentation on the Gosford War Memorial and Poppy Project. The presentation addressed the history and significance of the War Memorial site, the use of the poppy nets, and recommendations for future direction.

The Advisory Group noted concerns raised by Richard Waterhouse regarding the deterioration of the Gosford War Memorial site and need for restoration.

The Advisory Group noted a recommendation from Verena Mauldon, suggesting that funding could be sought through the State Government's Community War Memorials Fund, for which Round 2 applications close on 25 April 2019.

Recommendation: That Council work with key stakeholders to develop a proposal (including funding applications if appropriate) to prepare a Plan of Management for the Gosford War Memorial site, which considers restoration and ongoing maintenance.

Merill provided a list of suggested events and locations that might be suitable for the use of the Poppy Nets.

Action: Rebecca Cardy to follow up with Glenn Cannard about opportunities for place activation using the poppy nets.

Item 5 Signage Project

Janine Crawford (Team Leader Brand and Marketing) provided a presentation on the Signage Strategy that is currently being developed by Council staff. Janine advised that heritage signage is being considered through a separate project, which the Heritage Officer is involved with.

Some comments raised were as below:

- there are benefits and problems with using digital signage (eg. engaging and effective way to relate mass information, but can be subject to technological issues)
- Pioneer Park is important site which deserves interpretative signage
- a range of signage solutions are needed as 'one sign doesn't fit all'

Janine also referenced the new Wyong Heritage Walk, which uses dedicated signage to highlight historically significant sites throughout the Wyong Town Centre.

Item 6 Heritage Festival 2019

Rebecca Cardy (Heritage Officer) provided a handout to the Advisory Group with some information about the Australian Heritage Festival, and events taking place on the Central Coast.

Action: Rebecca Cardy to distribute the Heritage Festival brochure to Advisory Group members once complete.

Item 7 Old Sydney Town

The Advisory Group discussed Old Sydney Town, and whether or not the site has heritage significance. It was noted that the site is private land and not owned by Council.

Some comments raised were as below:

- the structures and physical environment are significant,
- Some of the events and social representations were not necessarily accurate portrayals of early Sydney life but are still part of the social significance of the place.
- the site is an important part of local history, and was a popular tourist attraction
- it was originally built for a commercial purpose, not necessarily for accurate portrayals
- there are concerns about how the site could be restored and maintained given its condition and its private ownership

Item 8 War Memorial Park – Woy Woy

Rebecca Cardy (Heritage Officer) provided an update on the War Memorial Park in Woy Woy. It was advised that the red concrete is being removed, and resources for a Plan of Management are being sought.

The Advisory Group noted appreciation that the site will be restored, including the removal of the concrete and replacement of garden beds.

Item 9 War Memorial Park – Gosford

This Item was addressed with Item 4.

Item 10 Draft Heritage Policy

Rebecca Cardy (Heritage Officer) provided an update on the draft Heritage Policy that is currently being developed by Council staff. A hardcopy of the draft Heritage Policy was distributed to the Advisory Group, and will be made available to members who were not present at the meeting for their feedback.

Action: Advisory Group Support Officer to distribute an electronic copy of the draft Heritage Policy to Advisory Group members.

Action: Advisory Group members to forward any comments/feedback on the draft Heritage Policy to the staff for collating by 3 April 2019.

Item 11 General Business and Close

- a) Wal Billington raised concerns regarding the storage situation at Alison Homestead, as historical records cannot be stored securely and are at risk of deterioration. It was noted that a Plan of Management was previously done for the site, and included considerations for storage.

Action: Staff to explore options for alternative storage solutions to assist Alison Homestead, such as temporarily storing a small number of records (3 filing cabinets/15 drawers) on Council premises until appropriate arrangements can be made.

- b) Kreenah Yelds noted her appreciation that an updated Conservation Management Strategy is being developed by Council staff for Henry Kendall Cottage, which includes the landscape and outbuildings.

The meeting closed at 5.48pm

Next Meeting: Wednesday 5 June 2019
4pm – 6pm
Central Coast Council Wyong Office
Level 2 Committee Room