



Minutes of Public Voice Committee Meeting 15 September 2015

**MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC VOICE COMMITTEE
TUESDAY 15 SEPTEMBER 2015 AT 5.36PM**

PRESENT: The Lord Mayor, Councillor Nuatali Nelmes
Councillor Declan Clausen
Councillor David Compton
Councillor Therese Doyle (*arrived 6.04pm*)
Councillor Jason Dunn
Councillor Brad Luke
Councillor Michael Osborne
Councillor Stephanie Posniak
Councillor Allan Robinson
Councillor Andrea Rufo
Councillor Lisa Tierney

IN ATTENDANCE:

General Manager	Ken Gouldthorp
Director Corporate Services	Glen Cousins
Director Infrastructure	Frank Cordingley
Director Planning and Regulatory	Peter Chrystal
Acting Manager Council and Legal Services	Emily Kolatchew
Acting Manager Strategic Planning	Patty McCarthy

MINUTES: Meetings Secretary Kerry Sullivan

WEBCASTING: Meetings Secretary Amy Leach

Chair, Councillor Nelmes, 27 October 2015

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1 OPENING OF MEETING

1.1 The meeting was opened at 5.36pm.

2 MESSAGE OF ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

2.1 The Lord Mayor read the message of acknowledgment to the Awabakal and Worimi peoples.

3 PRAYER

3.1 The Lord Mayor read a prayer and a period of silence was observed in memory of those who served and died so that Council might meet in peace.

4 APOLOGIES

4.1 An apology and leave of absence was granted for Councillor Doyle who arrived at the meeting at 6.04pm.

4.2 MOTION

Moved by Cr Posniak, seconded by Cr Luke

The apologies submitted on behalf of Councillors Crakanthorp and Waterhouse be received and accepted and leaves of absence granted.

Carried

5 DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY AND NON-PECUNIARY INTERESTS

5.1 Nil.

7 PUBLIC VOICE SESSIONS

**ITEM-1 PV 15/09/15 - CONSERVATION AND CULTURAL TOURISM
MANAGEMENT PLAN**

**REPORT BY: PLANNING AND REGULATORY
CONTACT: DIRECTOR PLANNING AND REGULATORY / MANAGER
STRATEGIC PLANNING**

PURPOSE

For the Parks and Playgrounds Movement to update Council regarding the State Heritage Listed Coal River Precinct (SHR1674) and Council's Conservation and Tourism Management Plan (Pizzey Plan) adopted 2008. The Parks and Playgrounds Movement requests that Council revise the Pizzey Plan to promote the precinct as a special Newcastle historic and recreational place.

The Coal River Conservation and Tourism Management Plan was adopted by Council in 2008 to guide future planning and policy making in the Precinct. The Council report noted the Pizzey Plan provided valuable overview and insight regarding the importance of the precinct and included a series of initiatives to enhance local, regional and national appreciation of Newcastle's history through its indigenous pre-history and European settlement.

The Pizzey Plan recognises the contribution of the Coal River Precinct to the visitor product on offer in the historic East End, noting the synergies between iconic heritage sites including Nobby's and Fort Scratchley as well as identifying opportunities to increase Newcastle's market share within the specialised cultural tourism segment.

The Plan identifies a series of priorities as part of an integrated interpretation and management plan for the Precinct. Council has a number of priority projects underway to implement the major themes of the Plan, including the Bathers Way project, which presents the Coal River storylines in extensive new signage treatments, new paving and public domain improvements. Examples of other Council projects and policy documents that complement the Coal River story include:

- Cathedral Park revitalisation (2012 - ongoing);
- Opening of the Newcastle Museum at Honeysuckle in 2013;
- Delivery of 'City Evolutions' interpretive lighting project in Watt Street - 2013-2014;
- Adoption of the Newcastle Destination Management Plan - 2013 (which recognises heritage as a key asset and one of Newcastle's 'unique selling' points);
- Adoption and implementation of Fort Scratchley Plan of Management 2013

- Newcastle Walking Trails - 6 new themed walks released April and June 2015, one walk is specifically linked to the Coal river story;
- Dual naming of key sites within the Coal River precinct. A budget of \$50,000 has been allocated in 2015-16 to implement at 8 sites;
- Newcastle East Heritage Trail (to be reproduced 2016).

Other agencies with major projects underway within the Coal River precinct include Newcastle Now, which has enhanced and expanded public access to Nobby's Lighthouse. Newcastle Now continues to improve the visitor experience at this important heritage site through events, interpretations and activities that explore the Coal River theme.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

Doug Lithgow, representative of the Parks and Playgrounds Movement, Gionni Da Gravio, University of Newcastle and National Trust Secretary Ann Hardy provided an update to Council regarding the State Heritage Listed Coal River Precinct and Council's Conservation and Tourism Management Plan (Pizzey Plan) adopted 2008.

The presenters requested Council to revise the Pizzey Plan in order to promote the precinct as a special Newcastle historic and recreational place.

Councillors gave support for the precinct receiving recognition on the National Heritage Register.

The Director Planning and Regulatory indicated that officers would review the matter and provide a report back to Council.

The meeting concluded at 6.10pm.

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