

# Minutes

## Guraki Aboriginal Advisory Committee



<b>Date:</b> 30 <sup>th</sup> November 2022	<b>Time:</b> 12.00-3.00pm	<b>Venue:</b> Fort Scratchley and via Teams
<b>Meeting Opened:</b> 12.36pm	<b>Meeting Objective:</b> Guraki Aboriginal Advisory Committee	

### 1. Welcome

#### 1.1 Attendance

Luke Russell – Wylaa buuranliyn (Chair)  
Cr Peta Winney-Baartz (via Teams)  
Cr Charlotte McCabe  
Cr Deahanna Richardson  
Andrew Smith - Worimi Local Aboriginal Land Council  
Kumarah Kelly - Community member  
Maree Edwards – Community member  
Theresa Dargin – Community member  
Toni Manton – Community member

David Clarke - Executive Director Corporate Services City of Newcastle  
Jody Clark- Aboriginal Engagement Partner, City of Newcastle (via Teams)  
Timothy Daley – Senior Project Planner, City of Newcastle (via Teams)  
Yvonne Edwards – Museum Administration Officer, City of Newcastle  
Bree Rooney - Museum Co-Ordinator, City of Newcastle.

#### 1.2 Invited Guests

All Councilors

#### 1.3 Apologies

Nathan Towney - University of Newcastle  
Lee Lazarevic - Aboriginal Affairs  
Kerryn Wilkinson - Interim Manager People & Culture, City of Newcastle

#### 1.4 Declaration of Conflicts of Interest

None

### 2. Confirmation of Previous Minutes and Actions Arising

2.1 Minutes from the previous meeting on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> September 2022 were supported and approved by Andrew Smith and seconded by Cr McCabe.

### 3. First Exhibition

#### 3.1 *Presentation by Yvonne Edwards and Bree Rooney*

The First Exhibition to be held at Newcastle Museum in April 2023 was discussed, and suggestions and ideas exchanged.

- All mediums, all ages, all artists, free, opens in April.
- Significant Art Conference at the same time.
- Guraki's April 2023 meeting will be at the Museum so the Committee can see the works.
- Call for a committee member to be a panelist
- Discussion around Welcome to Country (WTC).
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- Agreed must be a formal WTC.
- Positive discussions around the possibilities with this project, relationship building, capacity building, assistance with process, generally well received.
- Highlighted need to encourage emerging artists to participate and support them via capacity building.
- CN to continue to update and involve Guraki on this project.
- **Action:** Luke Russell nominated to be Guraki's representative on the assessment panel.

#### 4. Hunter Street Streetscape, 1<sup>st</sup> Stage

##### *4.1 Presented by Timothy Daley (via Teams)*

The project was discussed, and suggestions and ideas exchanged.

- Part of a greater plan that has previously been discussed at Guraki.
- CN is working with Iris Capital who are developing the East End Project. Iris Capital have engaged Kahlia Salvatori a landscape architect who is of Aboriginal descent and has local familial ties. Kahlia has some great concept ideas based around the river and its traditional alignment, connection to country.
- CN is considering engaging her to work on its public domain components, including the proposed Harbour to Cathedral Corridor.
- Tim asked if Guraki would be supportive of utilizing this consultant going forward.
- **Action:** The Committee was comfortable with CN engaging the landscape architect as proposed and noted that further engagement with Guraki will occur.
- Discussion re CN's Procurement Policy and supplier diversity including engagement of Aboriginal owned businesses.
- **Action:** CN to forward a copy of CN's Procurement Policy to Committee.
- Tim also flagged a project that is coming in the Civic Precinct which will be brought to Guraki in 2023.

#### 5. Standing Items

##### *5.1 Presented by Luke Russell*

##### **5.2 Place naming**

- Council endorsed a Notice of Motion in November 2022 to develop a Place Naming Policy, including a requirement to engage with Guraki and Local Mob to seek approval when Aboriginal names are proposed.

##### **5.3 Sub Committee Updates:** Stockton Beach

- Stockton Beach signage proposal (as previously presented to Guraki by local residents) needs to wait until the works at the site are finalised.

- CN to improve communication with Worimi Lands Council around works taking place at Stockton.

#### 5.4 Statement from the Heart:

- A local organizing committee has formed. Luke and Deahna are representing Guraki.
- Local forums are on hold until the National agenda is settled.
- Some areas more activated and eager than others. Broad discussions on the topic.
- Noted that Council unanimously supported a NOM to support the Statement from the Heart.
- **Action:** Guraki to continue discussions in 2023, with advice from the local organizing committee.

### 6. General Business

#### 6.1 Meeting times for 2023:

1. Monday January 30 <sup>th</sup> , 8.30-10.30am, CN
2. Wednesday February 22 <sup>nd</sup> , 12.00-2.00pm, Stakeholder
3. Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> April, 8.30-10.30am, CN
4. Wednesday 28 <sup>th</sup> June, 12.00-2.00pm, Stakeholder
5. Monday 28 <sup>th</sup> August, 8.30-10.30am, CN
6. Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup> October, 12.00-2.00pm, Stakeholder
7. Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> November, 8.30-10.30am, CN

- **Action:** Committee to advise if these dates and times are not suitable.

#### 6.2 Terms of Reference:

- the draft Terms of Reference were presented and discussed.
- Kumarah raised that she has received a call from Julie Rose about her not being invited to today's Committee meeting.
- Reasons and the process was discussed.
- Committee discussed that she has missed more than 3 meetings without an apology, Julie Rose attended one meeting this year and Awabakal have attended 3 meetings in 6 years. It was agreed that due process had been followed.
- Committee thought they should have been advised that this had taken place. This had been discussed prior and actions agreed upon however concern was expressed that Committee members did not know of the most recent action, but were getting calls from community members.
- CN and Chair to communicate better with the Committee – and decisions regarding membership to come to the Committee.
- Julie to be offered to come before Guraki but will not be on the Committee.
- Awabakal Ltd's membership to be discussed further noting Awabakal Ltd is a stakeholder rep on Guraki and Julie is Awabakal's nominated representative.
- As part of the discussion Kumara indicated that she is appointed as a community member, not Awabakal LALC's representative, which is a stakeholder member. Consideration to be given to Awabakal LALC nominating a member to attend as their representative in 2023

The Committee noted one person can not represent two interests / members on the committee.

- The Committee also discussed whether stakeholder members ought be able to nominate a proxy to attend when their representative is unavailable.

Action: Membership and any proposed termination should be the discretion of Committee and this should be reflected in the TOR.

Action: Committee to consider draft TOR and put on agenda for 1<sup>st</sup> meeting in 2023

### **6.3 Traditional Custodians / Goori / Koori:**

- Committee noted there are diverse views about naming of the local lands
- CN to wait until the local Aboriginal community settles on agreed names for the lands of Newcastle LGA.
- The Committee indicated a preference for the term "Traditional Custodian" rather than "Traditional Owner".

## **7. Closing**

7.1 Meeting closed at 3.00pm

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Chairperson  
Luke Russell