

**TWEED SHIRE COUNCIL  
MEETING TASK SHEET**

**Action Item - COUNCIL MEETING Thursday, 25 October 2018**

Action is required for Item **49** as per the Council Resolution outlined below.

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**TITLE: [SUB-TCWC] Minutes of the Tweed Coast and Waterways Committee Meeting held Wednesday 12 September 2018**

**ALTERNATE MOTION**

**Cr C Cherry  
Cr K Milne**

**RESOLVED** that:

1. The Minutes of the Tweed Coast and Waterways Committee Meeting held Wednesday 12 September 2018 be received and noted.
2. The Executive Leadership Team's recommendations be adopted as follows:

**A2. Mooball Creek Log Wall Replacement**

*That Council:*

1. *Prior to preparation of a report on the retaining wall replacement undertakes further consultation with the Pottsville Community Association.*
2. *Calls for a report on options to replace the failing log retaining wall at Mooball Creek Pottsville, and with consideration of issues such as community preference and budget constraints, determine the best way to proceed with works in the area.*

The Motion was **Carried**

**FOR VOTE - Unanimous**

**TITLE: [SUB-TCWC] Minutes of the Tweed Coast and Waterways Committee Meeting held Wednesday 12 September 2018**

**SUBMITTED BY: Natural Resource Management**

mhm



**Leaving a Legacy**  
*Looking out for future generations*

**LINKAGE TO INTEGRATED PLANNING AND REPORTING FRAMEWORK:**

- 1 Leaving a Legacy
- 1.1 Natural Resource Management
- 1.1.3 Coastal Management - To protect and manage the use and quality of the Tweed's beaches and foreshores.

**ROLE: Collaborator**

**SUMMARY OF REPORT:**

The Minutes of the Tweed Coast and Waterways Committee Meeting held Wednesday 12 September 2018 are reproduced in the body of this report for the information of Councillors.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

**That:**

1. **The Minutes of the Tweed Coast and Waterways Committee Meeting held Wednesday 12 September 2018 be received and noted; and**
2. **The Executive Leadership Team's recommendations be adopted as follows:**
  - A2. Mooball Creek Log Wall Replacement**

***That Council calls for a report on options to replace the failing log retaining wall at Mooball Creek Pottsville, and with consideration of issues such as community preference and budget constraints, determine the best way to proceed with works in the area.***

**REPORT:**

The Minutes of the Tweed Coast and Waterways Committee Meeting held Wednesday 12 September 2018 are reproduced as follows for the information of Councillors.

**Venue:**

Canvas & Kettle Meeting Room

**Time:**

9.00am

**Present:**

Rhonda James (Chair); Cr Katie Milne; Cr Chris Cherry; Ben Fitzgibbon; Bill Fenelon; David Cranwell; John Harbison; Robert Quirk; Bruce Peate; Jane Lofthouse; Tom Alletson, Marama Hopkins, Bill Hoskins; Stewart Brawley.

**Guests:**

Kerrie Foxwell-Norton 9 - 9.30am

**Apologies:**

Carl Cormack; Sam Dawson; Peter Comerford; Ian Berger; Lindy Smith; Tracey Stinson.

**Cabarita Beach Bogangar Regional Surfing Reserve**

Kerrie Foxwell-Norton addressed the committee on the matter of the Cabarita Beach Bogangar Regional Surfing Reserve. A copy of the reserve nomination was tabled. It was noted that the surfing reserve nomination had been prepared by a community based committee and had come from discussions on the Cabarita Beach community plan in 2012. The reserve nomination was subject to a process of community consultation and has been approved by the National Surfing Reserve Committee. In short the reserve status is mostly symbolic and is intended to influence how people think about the place and how they interact with each other and the natural environment.

Kerrie sought Council advice and a key contact person to discuss matters such as signage location and type. Stewart Brawley, Manager Recreation Services offered to be the contact.

**Minutes of Previous Meeting:****Proposed amendment (addition) to the minutes of the 13 June meeting**

David Cranwell requested that Tom Alletson meet and consult with members of the Pottsville Community Association regarding the replacement of the Mooball Creek log wall between the June and September Tweed Coast and Waterways Committee (TCWC) meetings.

**Moved: Katie Milne**

**Seconded: David Cranwell**

**RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the Tweed Coast and Waterways Committee meeting held 13 June 2018 be accepted as a true and accurate record of the proceedings of that meeting, subject to the addition of the amendment above.

It was noted that the Committee recommendation of 18 June:

*"That Council requests a workshop to be held advising which neighbouring Councils currently have an environmental levy, how many of the coastal councils across NSW have environmental levy's, what amount of funds a comparable levy would generate and the type of projects could be facilitated by this levy."*

was not supported by Council at its meeting of 19 July.

Mayor Milne noted that the following resolution was passed at the August meeting of Council:

*"that:*

1. *A report be brought forward on the impacts of increasing the proportion of funds allocated in the Council budget for Natural Resource Management from 4% to 5% of total rates ie a 1% increase in next years' budget, and*
2. *The Executive Leadership Team determines the most appropriate areas across a range of departments to source the funds from to assist in reversing the decline of threatened species"*

## **BUSINESS ARISING:**

### **BA1. Clearing of wetland vegetation west of Pacific Motorway at Clothiers Creek**

In August 2017 vegetation was cleared on rural land at Clothiers Creek. Concern was expressed regarding the nature of the vegetation - that being regrowth freshwater wetland species, and the impact of clearing on ASS runoff. Tom advised that the clearing had been reported to the Office of Environment and Heritage by Council staff, but that OEH had advised that given the zoning and past use of the land for agriculture, clearing was permitted. Tom to supply Council and OEH advice to committee.

The capacity for Council to regulate ASS runoff from agricultural land was also discussed. Tom will arrange for Council staff to brief the committee on existing management arrangements with respect to drainage maintenance works in ASS areas, and Councils capacity to regulate chronic ASS runoff.

## **AGENDA ITEMS:**

### **A1. Tweed River Estuary Coastal Management Program (CMP) Update**

Tom advised that there had been little progress on the CMP while awaiting comment on the draft document from NSW Agencies. Comments had been received from OEH and Lands, still awaiting comment from Fisheries and RMS. Comments on the document from agencies will be circulated to the committee when they are complete.

Given the long delay in the draft review process, the timeline for exhibition and completion of the CMP has been significantly extended. It is now anticipated that a final draft will be provided to the committee in April 2019, to go on Exhibition in April and May.

## **A2. Mooball Creek Log Wall Replacement**

Tom presented a detailed comparison of four design concepts for a structure to replace the existing Mooball Creek log retaining wall. The comparison included a multi-criteria analysis of options and provided a ranked recommendation. It is recommended by staff that rock revetment be used to stabilise the foreshore. It is the only affordable option for the Waterways Program at this time. It is acknowledged that the Pottsville Community Association has advised Council that they do not support use of rock in this area, citing concerns over safety as their objection to rock being introduced to the site.

As a means of reaching a decision on how to proceed it was recommended that the matter be put before Council in the form of a report with options on how to proceed.

**Moved: John Harbison**

**Seconded: Pat Dwyer**

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

That Council calls for a report on options to replace the failing log retaining wall at Mooball Creek Pottsville, and with consideration of issues such as community preference and budget constraints, determine the best way to proceed with works in the area.

## **A3. Annual Water Quality Reporting**

Tom provided committee members with a draft copy of the annual water quality report for 2018. A number of suggested changes and comments were made.

## **A4. Tweed Coast Estuaries Management Plan Overview**

Tom provided an overview of the 2013 Coastal Estuaries management plan which included a review of recent water quality data and an update on implementation of actions (to be emailed to committee). The most significant risks current within estuary management are considered to be management of access to the creeks for swimmers and ASS impacts on water quality.

The location of water quality sampling points in Cudgera Creek was discussed with Tom to present an update on these and potential changes at the December meeting.

## **A5. Environmental Trust Grant - Upper Tweed Estuary**

The committee was advised of success in securing a \$97,000 grant for river bank rehabilitation and fish habitat enhancement in the upper Tweed Estuary. The site is located adjacent to property owned by Greg O'Conner, opposite the confluence of Tweed River and Dunbible Creek. A strength of the grant application was support, both cash and in principle, from OzFish, a group representing recreational fishing with an emphasis on fish habitat protection and enhancement. It was noted that a Council and OzFish had planned a community tree planting at Col Wiley Park near Byangum Bridge for Sunday 23 September - International Rivers Day.

### **Follow up actions and outstanding items:**

- **Terranora Yabby Monitoring Project**

DPI Fisheries provided an update on a NSW Recreational Fishing Trust funded project: 'Bait security - ensuring sustainable and productive NSW invertebrate bait resources'. This project assesses bait security (ghost nippers and beach worms state-wide populations) in NSW.

This matter has been previously discussed with the Tweed Committee and in response to the concerns that have been raised at Terranora in 2015 DPI developed and implemented a Code of Practice (the Code) for land based fishing activities associated with NSW charter fishing businesses operating in the Tweed River. The Code introduced a series of additional controls to ensure these activities are undertaken in a professional and environmentally responsible manner.

One of the bait security study sites is located within Terranora Creek where several recreational fishers have previously expressed their concern about the harvest of ghost nippers by charter boat operators and potential impacts on intertidal habitats.

The ghost nipper component of the study has two elements: an assessment of populations and manipulation of certain areas to assess disturbance impact associated with fishing over short and longer terms.

Over the three years of the study (2015, 2016 and 2017) abundance of ghost nippers varied across the Terranora sites through time although there is no evidence of consistent differences between sites.

Short term disturbance did not significantly affect the abundance or size and structure of ghost nippers at a local scale. Prolonged disturbance, however, did have a significant impact on the abundance of local populations of ghost nippers when sampled after 63 days, this impact was not evident in sampling after longer intervals.

It is anticipated that the outcomes of the bait security research will provide scientific-based evidence to assist with the consideration of existing arrangements as outlined in the Code, as well as the potential to further develop these management arrangements.

#### **GENERAL BUSINESS:**

- It was requested that Rob Seibert from Council's Water and Wastewater Unit provides another update on the Bray Park Weir and Clarrie Hall Dam projects.
- Results of the 2018 Tweed Coast koala survey will be presented at the December meeting.

#### **Next Meeting:**

The next meeting of the Tweed Coast and Waterways Committee will be held on Wednesday 12 December 2018.

The meeting closed at 12:40pm.

#### **EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP TEAM'S COMMENTS:**

##### **A2. Mooball Creek Log Wall Replacement**

*Nil.*

**EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP TEAM'S RECOMMENDATIONS:****A2. Mooball Creek Log Wall Replacement**

*That Council calls for a report on options to replace the failing log retaining wall at Mooball Creek Pottsville, and with consideration of issues such as community preference and budget constraints, determine the best way to proceed with works in the area.*

**COUNCIL IMPLICATIONS:****a. Policy:**

Code of Meeting Practice.

Terms of Reference - adopted by Council at its meeting on 17 November 2016 - Minute No. 517 (ECM 4316118).

**b. Budget/Long Term Financial Plan:**

Not applicable.

**c. Legal:**

Not Applicable.

**d. Communication/Engagement:**

**Inform** - We will keep you informed.

**UNDER SEPARATE COVER/FURTHER INFORMATION:**

Nil.

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