

## Minutes of the Aboriginal Advisory Committee Meeting held Friday 2 March 2012

### Venue:

Minjungbal Museum & Cultural Centre, Tweed Heads South

### Time:

9.30am (quorum not achieved)

10.25am (quorum was achieved) - 3.13pm

### Present:

Aunty Joyce Summers (Canowindra), Garth Lena (Minyunbul Community), Jackie McDonald (Tweed Wollumbin Aboriginal Education Consultative Group), Councillor Dot Holdom from 9.30am - 2.35pm, Desrae Rotumah (Tweed Aboriginal Co-Op) from 10.25am, Des Williams, (Tweed Byron Local Aboriginal Land Council), from 10.32am.

### Ex-officio:

Linda Cooper (Minutes), (Tweed Shire Council)

### Guest Observers (in order of arrival):

Anne McLean (Tweed Shire Council), Fred Gesha (Tweed Shire Council), Tim Robins (Everick Heritage Consultants) from 10.58am-12.35pm, Stewart Brawley (Tweed Shire Council) from 12.30-1.05pm, Ian Bentley (Tweed Shire Council) from 12.30-1.05pm, Ian Fox (Converge) from 10.25am-3.13pm.

### Apologies:

Leweena Williams (Tweed Aboriginal Corporation for Sport), David Oxenham (Tweed Shire Council), David Hannah (Tweed Shire Council)

The meeting commenced at 9.30am, however a quorum was not achieved until 10.25am.

### Agenda Item

#### **A1 Memorandum of Understanding / Reconciliation Action Plan - Fred Gesha (Tweed Shire Council)**

Fred Gesha distributed several documents regarding the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP). The MOU was originally developed between the AAC and the previous Tweed Shire Council's Aboriginal Liaison Officer, Lesley Mye.

Jackie McDonald advised that she was asked to sign the MOU as a community representative but did not sign this as the community was not happy with its content.

Fred has perused Council's Operational Plan for 2011/2012 and the long term Community Strategic Plan (CSP) for 10 years and noted there is a Delivery Plan Action to commence work on a RAP in 2012/13. Fred has downloaded the RAP Template. There are examples of RAP recommendations for action in red text. Fred has extracted recommendations from Council's Operational Plan for 2011/2012 and these recommendations are in blue text.

Many of the example strategies given by Reconciliation Australia are already being addressed by Council through the CSP and other initiatives. Fred advised that the RAP is a project that will involve all Council departments and the Aboriginal community therefore requiring ownership across Council from the Executive level.

Anne McLean advised that so far as Council's CSP objectives go the finalisation of the MOU does come first. Anne has spoken to David Oxenham about it who has advised if AAC wants the RAP first, he will recommend the CSP is updated accordingly. At the time the CSP was developed it was thought appropriate to develop a MOU first. However, if the community wants the RAP to come first then an MOU could be an outcome of the RAP process or maybe not needed at all.

Aunty Joyce advised that the completion of a RAP should be included in the MOU. Anne relayed that the MOU can include in the 'Undertakings' section of the document a commitment to develop a RAP. Aunty Joyce wants the RAP to be mentioned in the MOU.

Jackie asked if we can start discussing the RAP now, use it as a working document and commence workshopping so it will be ready for the new financial year in July. Anne advised there would be focussed workshops with the community at various locations and times. A professional facilitator will be brought in to assist with community consultation.

Anne advised the AAC needs to think about the process and how the Aboriginal community will be engaged. Fred can run workshops with the assistance of an experienced facilitator. The feedback provided by the community during the consultation for the CSP could form the basis of a discussion document for consultation. Structured workshops with the AAC would follow the broader community consultation. Once a draft document is developed to the satisfaction of the AAC it can be presented to Council Executive staff and Units as necessary before reporting to Council for adoption. This process will need the support of David Oxenham. Anne advised that the process could take up to two years to complete.

Fred circulated printouts of other Councils' RAP's for perusal by AAC.

Council's new General Manager (GM) will be commencing from the end of April. Completion of a RAP will be a new initiative. Councillor Dot Holdom suggested that if we get a quorum today it would be beneficial to invite the new GM to an AAC meeting.

Jackie advised that other Councils have an acknowledgement of the Shire's Aboriginal history and culture at the bottom of their letterheads. Jackie would like to see Tweed Shire Council do this. When Fred Gesha was employed at Byron Shire Council he worked on the wording of the acknowledgement.

***Agenda Item Suspended for General Business Items***

## General Business

### 6 Fred Gesha - Aboriginal Development Officer

Fred keeps getting asked for his visitor's pass at Council's Civic Centre reception at Murwillumbah despite the reception staff having seen Fred enter the building and show his employee pass to them on several occasions before. It was agreed that Anne will mention this to Suzanne Richmond, Human Resources Manager, so this does not occur again.

**Action:** Anne will talk to Suzanne Richmond in HR.

Councillor Holdom suggested that Anne McLean brings Fred Gesha to the Council chambers at 3.30pm on Tuesday 6 March so he can be introduced to the Councillors.

**Action:** Anne will liaise with David Oxenham regarding an introduction of Community Services Officer - Aboriginal Development to Councillors.

### 7 Community Access

A speaker recently addressed Council at a Community Access a meeting and slandered Aboriginal people. This is unacceptable.

Anne asked about the process required to address Council via Community Access. Councillor Holdom replied that the speaker has to go through the Public Officer and make a booking to speak, advising in advance the subject matter. A Community Access spreadsheet is then filled out and the speaker has five minutes to speak but can ask for an extension of time.

In this instance the speaker was granted access to speak on another matter but used the opportunity to shift from the subject matter and insulted the Aboriginal community. It is a tactic that has been used in the past.

**Action:** Anne to liaise with Manger Corporate Governance to discuss Community Access process.

**Action:** Invite the Mayor to an AAC Meeting to make him aware of the Committee's concerns.

***General Business Suspended for Agenda Item***

## Agenda Item

### A1 Memorandum of Understanding / Reconciliation Action Plan - Fred Gesha (Tweed Shire Council) - continued

Fred asked AAC to take the draft RAP and MOU out to their separate Boards.

# Minutes

Anne suggested Fred attends the AAC Member's Board meetings. He can brief members on the content of the documents and introduce himself in this process too. Councillor Holdom suggested that the RAP and MOU get emailed to everyone to distribute to their networks.

Fred and Anne discussed having several big workshops. An initial workshop will be undertaken to obtain ideas and then work through these ideas. AAC can be the ratification group but we need broader input from community. Fred would also like youth involved.

***A quorum was achieved at 10.25am and the meeting officially began.***

**Chair:** Garth Lena  
**Moved:** Aunty Joyce Summers  
**Seconded:** Jackie McDonald

**RESOLVED** that the Chair was declared vacant and nominations were called. Garth Lena was nominated and was unanimously elected to Chair the meeting.

Garth Lena opened the meeting with a welcome to all present and paid respect to Elders past and present.

## **Minutes of Previous Meeting:**

**Moved:** Aunty Joyce Summers  
**Seconded:** Jackie McDonald

**RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the Aboriginal Advisory Committee meeting held Friday 3 February 2012 be accepted as a true and accurate record of the proceedings of that meeting, with the following amendment:

Amend page eight of the Minutes of Friday 3 February 2012. Item O6, first sentence to read:

*"Anne asked if anyone knows the status of the suggested naming of the concrete viaduct."*

## **Outstanding Matters Report**

**O1 "Between River and Sea" Historical Images of Kingscliff**  
Deferred

**O2 Memorandum of Understanding ("MOU")**  
Deferred

**O3 Terms of Reference**  
Deferred

**O4 Terms of Reference**  
Deferred

**O5 Aboriginal Community Member Representation to Museum Advisory Committee**  
Deferred

**O6 Pacific Highway, Banora Point Upgrade**

It was agreed to replace "Awaiting bridge name to be endorsed by RTA" with "Awaiting bridge to concrete viaduct name to be endorsed by RTA".

Jackie advised that there have been no further updates on this item.

**O7 Pacific Highway, Banora Point Upgrade**

Final version of artwork has not been circulated by RTA. .

**O8 Telecommunications / Mobile Phone Towers**

Deferred

**O9 Reconciliation Week**

Deferred

**O10 AHIP Application for Kirkwood Road Project**

AAC agreed on a draft wording for the plaque. This will then be circulated within the community for input/amendments. The draft wording is written below:

"This site marks and recognises the location of a registered Aboriginal scarred / marked tree and acknowledges its cultural and spiritual significance to the local Aboriginal people."

**Action:** AAC members to circulate the draft wording for the plaque within the community for comment.

**O11 Fingal Head Holiday Park**

Garth has received a letter from the Everick on behalf of Tweed Coast Holiday Parks noting that the development as proposed will not proceed. Item closed.

**O12 Aboriginal Statement**

To be included in Reconciliation Action Plan.

***Outstanding Matters Report Suspended for Agenda Item***

**A2 Charles Street Primary School Cultural Heritage Assessment / Altitude Aspire Cultural Heritage Assessment / Various Cultural Heritage / Due Diligence Assessments on Outstanding Items Report - Tim Robins (Everick Heritage Consultants)**

Tim advised that there are a number of assessments that have been placed on hold until planning issues are resolved. Tim discussed various items on the Outstanding Matters Report as indicated below.

## Outstanding Matters

### **O15 Riva Vue, Murwillumbah**

Tim Robins advised that the top of the hill on this site was removed for the earlier stage of the development. He wants to close the Riva Vue Assessment. AAC agreed to close this item.

### **O18 Scenic Drive, Bilambil Heights; Chinderah Service Centre Due Diligence Report**

Scenic Drive, Bilambil Heights is a very steep residential development (90% of the site is very steep). Due to the gradient of the slope there is little chance of finding anything, with the only area of interest being a flat piece of land not proposed for development at this time. A site inspection was undertaken by Cyril and Jason.

Jackie advised that the AAC should be advised if further development is proposed at a later time on the flat land. Tim will draw up a recommendation that any further works would need to be monitored. It was agreed that this item can now be closed.

Tim advised that additional information has been added to the assessment regarding the proximity of the site to a ceremonial ground. Cultural information has been included in the amended report. The Chinderah Service Centre site has been totally worked over. Four to five metres of fill will go on top of the site. It was agreed that this item can now be closed.

### **O20 Tweed River Regional Museum - Flagstaff Hill**

Remains on hold. It was agreed that this item can be closed and easily reopened in the future.

### **O21 Royal Terranora Resort at Marana Street, Bilambil Heights**

Tim Robins advised that ground surface visibility was excellent. Kyle Slabb walked over the property for TBLALC and nothing was found. Ground surface visibility was excellent at the time of the inspection. Tim wants to close this item. Jackie asked if members of AAC can inspect the site once ground clearance has happened.

**Moved:** Jackie McDonald

**Seconded:** Aunty Joyce Summers

**RESOLVED** that AAC have an opportunity to inspect the site once the initial ground clearance has occurred.

### **O22 Hundred Hills development at Murwillumbah**

Tim Robins advised that a full archaeological assessment has been recommended, following recommendation from AAC. Des Williams advised that this item was discussed at a previous AAC meeting. It will be important for site monitors to be present when the top soil is scraped from the site. Waiting for developer to commence work. This item is to remain on hold.

### **O23 Tringa Street subdivision at Tweed Heads**

Tim advised that the Due Diligence assessment has been lodged and is being considered by Council.

There has been a new matter arise with this proposal as a Section 96 application has been lodged to gain access to the site via Parkes Rd, past TSC Sewerage site to the north. Jackie contacted Tim to advise that she has concerns about the access road. Tim has investigated the historic aerial photography it looks like the land has been worked over.

Jackie advised that the Section 96 application for the access needs to be changed. The access area has not been surveyed even with the Due Diligence Report. Jackie has a map of the development footprint. Responses are due by 5 March. Tim will contact the developers and request a survey of the access road. Prior to lodgement of the Section 96 application access was proposed via Gray Street and Hakea Street.

Councillor Holdom advised the sewerage plant is going to be upgraded. Once Banora Point sewerage plant is upgraded the Tweed Heads West one will be upgraded. Jackie asked if it will be fenced. Dot advised it would have to, being so close to the water.

Jackie is very concerned about the development footprint of the Section 96 application. She wishes Council to advise if an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment can take place as part of a Section 96 application.

The Committee are also very concerned about the proximity of the development to the nearby drain that leads to the Cobaki Broadwater. The Committee wish to emphasis to Council that it is important to ensure there are no pollutants from the nearby drain allowed to run into the Cobaki during construction and beyond. Many generations of the local Aboriginal community have relied on the Cobaki for health and well being.

Councillor Holdom advised the Committee has every right to ask this. Councillor Holdom suggested a relevant staff person come to the next AAC meeting to discuss this application.

**Action:** Anne McLean is to invite the relevant TSC employee to the next AAC Meeting to discuss the Development Application S96/04009.09 for 60 Tringa Street.

## **O24 River Heights Tourist Park at Kirkwood Road - Tweed Heads South**

Tim Robins has requested an additional inspection after land clearing. He is awaiting approval from Council to commence work.

***Outstanding Matters Report Suspended for Agenda Items***

## Agenda Items

### **A2 Charles Street Primary School Cultural Heritage Assessment / Altitude Aspire Cultural Heritage Assessment / Various Cultural Heritage / Due Diligence Assessments on Outstanding Items Report - Tim Robins (Everick Heritage Consultants)**

#### **a) Charles Street Primary School Cultural Heritage Assessment**

Tim asked Des to talk about the site inspection at Charles Street Primary School, Pottsville. Des inspected the site with Adrian Piper and went to the area of the site marked as sports fields on the map. One metre of soil has been taken off. It is low and swampy land. Minimum material would be found at that depth. Jackie asked if there was evidence of a midden there. Des noted there has been cultural material found in the past around the area of the old Pottsville School site.

Aunty Joyce and Jackie have previously visited the site. In the 1962 map you can see the sand ridge track. The sand ridge has since been removed from sand mining and excavation works. Des suggested the only possible remains might be where the existing Catholic Church has been built.

Des advised there are three sites marked on the map with grid references for possible Bora Ring sites. Des advised that due to the layout of the land (swampy) there would not have been a Bora Rings there. There is an old Bora Ring site (now destroyed) know to be in the vicinity of the community centre. Most of it is thought to be where the road is today. There are no scattered shells on the site to indicate the presence of a destroyed midden.

Tim asked is there anything else he can do for AAC for this site. Des advised there is nothing recoverable there. The sporting area would have had no permanent Aboriginal markings or places such as Bora Rings or scar tree. The area where the school is being proposed was most likely an Aboriginal campsite. All of that has been destroyed. Des advised that campsites do not carry as much significance as a Bora Ring.

#### **b) Altitude Aspire Cultural Heritage Assessment**

Tim Robins advised Altitude Aspire is within Area E at Terranora and the site is in a rainforest environment which has a high probability of cultural sites on the bottom portion of the lot. During the course of the assessment Everick consulted historical aerial photographs. The area marked in blue on the map has been subject to high cultivation. In photographs you can see them as being cultivated. There would not appear to be any justification for this section of the land having a high likelihood of cultural material. Cyril Scott assisted with the inspection and has lots of experience in this area. Cyril advised Tim that he did not think there would be anything of cultural significance there.

Garth said he feels that the site officer should not be saying this without inspecting the site more closely first. There was a known pathway in the site. Garth advised that the site officer is not looking at the whole landscape. Jackie noted the site needs further inspection after ground clearance, especially in the area marked at the top left of the map.



Jackie requested the following amendments in relation to the content of the report:

- It would have been helpful if Figure 3 - Locality Plan showed known Aboriginal sites in the surrounding area. This would serve as an education tool to demonstrate density of sites in that locality. The person looking at the map in the future could see that there were lots of Aboriginal sites years ago, for example Champagne Drive Midden and Scar Tree; the destroyed Avondale Drive midden. Jackie acknowledged that Champagne Drive is mentioned on page 30 but it could have been mentioned earlier too.
- Page 19 of the report: Jackie asked what "intergenerational equity" means. Tim advised it is a Part 3A requirement to ensure sites are managed for present and future generations. Jackie suggested statements could be added indicating the site is known to be part of a pathway. The land was regularly accessed and used therefore an important part of the cultural landscape.
- Page 25: the reference to Tindale's language group is incorrect. It is a reference to what Tindale said but not what was actually said. Tim responded that it has been corrected since then.
- Page 32/33: In relation to the Piggabeen deviation midden it was suggested a carbon date could be added to the information in the report. It is important to mention dates as it serves as an educational tool. Tim agreed to do this.
- Page 39: refer to the recommendations from the Cobaki/Broadwater Management Plan. Tim agreed to do this.

Jackie acknowledged the quality of the report overall. Tim thanked Jackie for her comments as they are helping to roll out Aboriginal history.

## **c) Tweed City Shopping Centre's planned expansion (new item)**

Tim advised that they have been approached by Tweed City Shopping Centre owners. Tweed City is interested in rezoning the service station site on Minjungbal Drive and some houses on Kirkwood Road in order to extend the shopping centre.

Tim asked AAC if there are any reasons why the land cannot be rezoned from residential to commercial. Jackie asked if it will be assessed. Tim answered that Everick have been engaged to undertake a Due Diligence assessment. Tweed City Shopping Centre owners will then submit a development application.

Tim advised the Due Diligence Code, in strict application, would suggest the land is significantly disturbed. Aunty Joyce advised there may be a lost Bora Grounds in that location. The Committee was of the view that investigation of residential sites is worthwhile.

Tim advised there may be something of cultural significance found on the land once the houses are demolished and the low sand settles. The apartment blocks look like they have imported fill on them. At this stage Tim does not know the plans for the development but assumes that the extensions may be for a car park. Tim advised that development does not have to occur on a culturally significant site. Desrae suggested the shopping centre can extend upwards instead of to the sides. Tim advised we can flag early that there may be a potential issue.

### **A3 Arkinstall Park - Stewart Brawley and Ian Bentley (Tweed Shire Council)**

Arkinstall Park is being redeveloped. Stewart Brawley advised that plans have recently been redesigned following input from community. Council is making application to the Federal Infrastructure grants program to complete the work. Following feedback, the redesign prevents removal of trees in the north-western corner of the site. Stewart circulated the original plan and revised plan of the area to the Committee. Stewart detailed the changes from the original to revised plan.

Desrae asked if the current usage agreement between Arkinstall Park and Tweed Heads South Primary School will continue. Stewart advised yes, usage allowance will not change. Desrae commented that all the playing fields are designated as rugby. Stewart advised that the size allowance is based on rugby fields as they require the largest area but the fields will be used by all codes.

Stewart advised that there will be a recreational area, bus stop, taxi rank and more car parking under the revised layout. Ian Bentley advised that the playground area has been designed around the trees to make the most of the shade and natural landscape. In the landscape design play elements have been split up to suit age groups ranging from toddlers to teenagers. Mounds and sweeping garden beds will be created and pathways will connect the individual play areas and run around existing trees. The aim is to build on the beautiful natural place it is. The park will encourage a nature-based type of play. There will be a few shelters built for use in wet weather. Mounds, rocks and walls will be used for informal seating. Colours and finishes will be muted using light browns and earthy tones. The colours will blend in with the environment.

Desrae asked if children with disabilities can use the park. Ian advised that the play equipment will not specifically cater for people with a disability but that there will be many pathways which will make wheelchair access easy. The pathway will be snaking through the park with created mounds.

Stewart advised that the funding application grant outcome will be advised in May. Council are currently lodging the development application. The first construction stage will involve road access, tennis courts, recreational area and extra lighting for the netball and tennis facilities.

Desrae asked if any tennis courts will be lawn. Stewart advised no. Tennis Australia provides funding towards the tennis courts. They give assistance and put on regional tournaments. Tennis Australia want the courts to be hard court. Grass courts are too high maintenance. There will also be a number of half-size courts for kids to progress in their learning and development. Desrae asked if tennis courts will continue to be accessible for schools and community generally. Stewart said yes.

Desrae asked if Arkinstall Park will include improved athletics facilities. Stewart advised significant funding is required for regional level athletics facilities. There is one on the Gold Coast. Most Little Athletics groups do not run on synthetic tracks in fact it is their preference to run on grass. Synthetic tracks are only suited to the elite level. Generally, Little Athletics are very happy with the facilities they have at Kingscliff. Stewart advised we do not have the population in the Tweed to support a synthetic athletics track.

Jackie asked if there is there room for cultural expression in the Recreation area. Stewart advised yes and that interpretive signage/art can be incorporated. Ian advised that within the Cultural Heritage Assessment Plan for the site, Sections 5.22 and 5.23 refer to incorporation of local culture into the design. Ian wants to discuss what stories the community would like to tell at the playground through art and signage. Ian advised that Council will consult further with the community and AAC to develop detail.

Aunty Joyce asked what a scramble wall is. Ian advised that it is a wavy wall used by children and it teaches them balancing skills.

#### **A4 Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Management Plan - Ian Fox (Converge) (Also Outstanding Matter 31)**

Ian Fox advised that Converge have submitted a tender and have been approved to develop a Shire-wide Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Management Plan (ACHMP) for Council in consultation with the community. Converge have met with Council several times to clarify what the outcomes of the year-long study will be.

There are five components required of Converge. There will be a Memorandum of Understanding that sets out process for consultation and agreement of procedures for recording cultural sites for the community. The second component is the requirement to identify and map known cultural sites in places across the whole shire. This has not been done before. The third component is to predict where there are likely to be cultural sites in the whole of the shire with GIS layers on a map. The fourth part is providing advice back to Council on the current legislative framework and how this study will fit into legislation and become something that provides guidelines for Council in the development application process.

Converge are to advise Council on how to record and map the cultural information as an ongoing project. Desrae asked if Council has to own the information. Ian advised no, only the information that the community chooses to provide. There will be consultation with the community on what level of information will be recorded. Council are seeking advice that will be a trigger so when planners assess development applications the ACHMP can be used as a tool to identify areas of cultural sensitivity.

Ian has asked AAC to consider how to might move forward with this. The outcome for the community is great in that there will be less likelihood of development going ahead that removes / destroys cultural heritage across the Shire. This can then connect through to LEP. Council would then have the capacity to inform people who put in an application that they must have a cultural heritage assessment in place.

Aunty Joyce advised that she is concerned about the protection of intellectual property rights and wished to see the MOU reflect that. Ian responded that it is appropriate for the community to consider how the information will be used and recorded. This project will set a benchmark for cultural heritage sites, whether a physical object, pathways for connection or places from mythological stories. Mapping can record current sites and sites that are destroyed or damaged, for example the bora ring near the Council car park. The mapping can also record modern sites that are significant to the community, for example Arkinstall Park. This can be included in the mapping. Criteria such as estuaries, ridge lines and old sand dune systems can also be added to the mapping. Ian advised that National Parks and Wildlife Service areas can and should be recorded in the mapping. The various layers are then added together to form a composite map that planners will use to guide development.

Ian advised there are a couple of ways to develop mapping protocols - through the AAC or a community workshop. Converge cannot start the project until the process of what and how we will record is in place. It must come from the community. There are many sub layers to the composite map. Ian wants to know what the community want to be recorded and how. After the MOU is established, there is a deadline of one year to complete the project. Copies of the mapping can be retained by the community and this can be set-out in the MOU. The community may also want the final composite map to be on display at the Land Council or Minjungbal Museum.

Councillor Holdom's concern asked how the information will be presented to Council. Ultimately the ACHMP will require sign off from Council so it is important that Councillors are part of the process and brought in the workshop the framework through the development stages.

Ian discussed his recent project he has undertaken for Ballina Shire Council. Ballina Shire Council identified just three officers in the entire Council who have the authority to interrogate the GIS map. This is due to the agreement in the MOU. In some areas there are no specific grid references but it is important to see that there is cultural activity in that area. Buffer zones can be put around the area.

The fifth part of the project is that the inclusion of a thematic history of the Aboriginal people in the Tweed area. The heritage guidelines identify 54 potential themes; some themes are relevant, others are not. Thematic history can be extracted from some of the information stored in Ian's library. We could record where the source of information is. The thematic history will need to be selective because of the amount of information available.

Ian asked if AAC want a separate group or committee. Converge have an obligation to consult the whole community. Ian advised they can undertake desktop work first and a legislation review but mapping and reporting on culture is dependent on AAC feedback. Ian has done this project with Ballina Shire Council and halfway through with Kyogle Council. Ian has made up a list of potential mapping layers but needs input from AAC so he knows what to record. Aunty Joyce suggested Ian needs to go to Elders.

Anne suggested a separate workshop take place where Ian provides further information to the AAC and show what the maps compiled for Ballina or Kyogle look like in a PowerPoint presentation.

Desrae asked if it would be beneficial to have a few community workshop. Ian advised he could do that and will be guided by AAC's advice. Ian wants to know whether Converge will work with Fred and visit all community bodies separately or have one big workshop.

Ian advised that we need agreement from the community and those interested that the project will take place and under what conditions. The second part is how cultural information will be recorded.

Aunty Joyce wants to decide on issues. Ian asked if we would like him to come to the next AAC meeting with a draft MOU. Everyone agreed.

Anne asked that before Ian prepares a Draft MOU that the AAC make time for a workshop before the next AAC meeting. This will give Ian the opportunity to go through the five steps of ACHMP and how it relates to the overall project and show examples of other plans.

Desrae asked what happens if people dispute about a story. Ian advised this happened in Ballina Shire. Three different locations were given for one event. He recorded all of them. Composite map just records that general area has cultural significance.

Councillor Holdom asked Aunty Joyce about the expression "cultural value no longer exists". If a cultural relic has been destroyed, this is an opportunity for the story surrounding it not to be lost over time. This is very important. Each site means something somewhere else in the broader landscape. Ian alluded to Hospital Hill in Murwillumbah. It has significant cultural value and meaning even though houses are on top of it. It will still be part of the map. Thirty four (34%) of Ballina Shire Council has ended up being identified this way on a composite map. Kyogle Council is looking a 40% so far.

Aunty Joyce asked about culturally sensitive and restricted areas. Ian advised there are four or five he is aware of. In this process there would be a way to identify an area that was culturally sensitive. It could fit into the map but you would not say what is there. You could identify a place for a lesser reason or purpose.

Des advised that Ballina and Kyogle's interests are the same as Tweed Aboriginals. Ian advised that some individuals that identified cultural significant places requested that no one else was given that information. Only the three Council officers can access that information.

Councillor Holdom is concerned that if there is a hugely significant site on someone's private property that only a few people know about, what happens if the knowledge is lost and there is no trail left. Someone could accidentally damage a site so another security step is needed above the community knowledge holders. Ian advised many of sites known to the community are not registered. One of the outcomes could be a requirement for Council to register sites. It takes an hour to register each site. We could identify which sites need to be registered and state which specific people are knowledge holders as a protection measure.

Ian advised that no individual or body can be excluded as the tendering documents note the ACHMP must be inclusive of the whole community, including non-Aboriginal stakeholders. Ian asked where is the AAC at are with an MOU. Anne suggested that the AAC needs an individual workshop to understand the process and look at the draft MOU but advised that decision making on the project overall should rest with the AAC. The Aboriginal community can participate in the process with consultative workshops as the process develops.

Ian suggested that an initial community workshop is held for interested Aboriginal community members to attend. This will help engage the broader Aboriginal community but ownership of the project rests with the AAC. Anne advised that it would be advisable for ownership to stay with the AAC as decisions would be recorded in minutes and recommendations of AAC that are reported to Council.

Ian advised that a Communication Plan has been developed to inform the broader non-Aboriginal community. Anne advised that at the April AAC meeting the Committee can decide how the project process is communicated to the wider Aboriginal community before communication with the non-Aboriginal community commences.

**Action:** AAC Workshop is to meet on Wednesday 14 March 2012 at 9.00am to 1.00pm at Minjungbal Museum and Cultural Centre.

**Action:** Anne McLean is to supply a projector that can be hooked up to Ian's laptop for him to do a PowerPoint presentation.

## **A5 Cultural Heritage Survey Telstra Tower Boxall Rd, Limpinwood [New Item] - Ian Fox (Converge)**

Ian Fox asked who AAC would like to nominate to do the cultural heritage survey on the Telstra Tower at Boxhall Road, Limpinwood. The survey will need to be done in the next two to three weeks. The Committee advised it is appropriate to ask a TBLALC site officer to attend and Jackie McDonald.

## **A6 Terranora/Cobaki Broadwater Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Management Plan (TCACHMP) - Ian Fox (Converge)**

The Terranora Broadwater Cobaki Plan has been in a draft version for some time. Part of the reason for this is to ensure the recommendations of the TCACHMP are incorporated in the Shire wide ACHMP ensuring outcomes of the two plans is consistent. Finalising it will depend on AAC's input.

***Agenda Items Suspended for Outstanding Matters***

## **Outstanding Matters Report**

### **013 Pottsville Environment Park**

Anne circulated an image for approval. The AAC discussed the appropriateness of the image. Ian advised there is historic information that indicates how traditional Aboriginal people crossed rivers. However from the Richmond north to Rockhampton there is very little evidence of watercraft in the historic record. Of the 650 recorded sites in the Tweed and Byron areas Ian has never seen a cylinder tree which in other areas is evidence of canoe usage. There are many marked and scarred trees but not cylinder trees.

Aunty Joyce advised that she knows we had canoes. Des advised rafts were used by people travelling from one spot to another and not for long distances. A canoe would have taken a long time to build and would be used all the time. Aunty Joyce advised if someone went from the Tweed to Murwillumbah, a canoe would be more sensible than a raft. Aunty Joyce advised that in the Museum there are photographs of canoes. Ian advised they are posed photographs from Hastings River. Ian also said there were mini canoes that were pushed in the river while the people swam behind them.

Des advised in Nambucca people walked across the creek but only used paperbark rafts when transporting deceased people. Des reviewed the wording for the proposed signage and requested an amendment being to change the specific reference from "Cudgera Creek" to read "in the region". Aunty Joyce proposed that the signage refer to "watercraft" not specifically "canoes".

Final wording not resolved. To be considered again at April AAC.

## ***Outstanding Matters Report Suspended for General Business***

### **General Business**

#### **1 ATSI Police Support Persons**

Deferred to April meeting.

#### **2 Cultural Exchange Programme**

Councillor Holdom would like to discuss this item at the April AAC Meeting.

#### **3 Human Resources Distribution List**

Deferred to April meeting.

#### **4 Proposed April AAC Meeting date - Friday 13 April**

It was agreed that the next AAC Meeting will be held on Friday 13 April 2012.

#### **5 Tweed Shire Council Employment Strategy**

Deferred to April meeting.

## 8 Churaki Stone Plinth Sculpture

Jackie raised the sculpture currently housed at the Surf World Museum Currumbin. She discussed the possibility of moving the stone plinth commemorating Churaki from the museum back to the headland at Greenmount Beach. The statue was completed with funds from Gold Coast City Council and Councillor Robbins is asking what the Committee would like done with the statue. Jackie showed a photograph of the stone plinth to AAC. Jackie advised that once AAC have decided where to display the stone plinth she will tell Councillor Chris Robbins from Gold Coast City Council the decision.

**Action:** Jackie to liaise with Councillor Robbins to identify a suitable spot on Greenmount Headland for the statue.

## 9 NSW State Surf Life Saving Carnival at Fingal

Des advised the proposed track adjoining the cemetery for part of the competition needs to be kept as a single lane. Des requested that when Council prepares the track for the competition that it is not widened. Anne asked Des to confirm the specific location he is concerned about in a letter to Council.

**Moved:** Des Williams

**Seconded:** Jackie McDonald

**RESOLVED** that the proposed running track near the cemetery must be kept to a single lane and that there is no deep digging in that location.

## Inwards Correspondence

### 1 "Investing in Sustainable Futures" Working Group

Deferred to next meeting.

### 2 "NAIDOC Week 2012"

Deferred to next meeting.

### 3 "NAIDOC Week School Initiative Competitions"

Deferred to next meeting.

### 4 School World Environment Day

Anne asked if anyone wants to do a cultural activity during School World Environment Day at Pottsville Environment Park. No one volunteered. This item will be discussed again at the April AAC Meeting.

## Outwards Correspondence

Nil.



## **Outstanding Matters Report - Items to be carried over to April Meeting**

**O14 Bush Regeneration teams**

Not actioned.

**O16 LPMA Projects**

Not actioned.

**O17 Green Teams Alliance**

Not actioned.

**O19 Care Agreement Application for Kirkwood Road Project**

Not actioned.

**O25 Guriguru - Jack Evans Open Space - Application for tender**

Not actioned.

**O26 Working for Barrels**

Deferred.

**O27 Cultural Signage Project**

Not actioned.

**O28 Kirkwood Road Project**

Not actioned.

**O29 Designated Aboriginal Positions**

Not actioned.

**O30 Designated Aboriginal Positions**

Not actioned.

**O31 Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Management Plan**

Discussed during Agenda Item 4.

Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Management Plan Committee Workshop is to be held on Wednesday 14 March at Minjungbal Museum.

**O32 NSW Ministerial Taskforce Papers**

Not actioned.

**O33 Aboriginal Development Officer**

Not actioned.

**O34 Aboriginal Development Officer**

Not actioned.

**O35 Tweed Wollumbin Aboriginal Education Consultative Committee**

Not actioned.

# Minutes



**O36 Aboriginal Historical Information - TSC LEP/DCP for Tweed Heads City Centre**  
Not actioned.

**Next Meeting:**

The next meeting of the Aboriginal Advisory Committee will be held on Friday 13 April 2012.

The meeting closed at 3.13pm.

**EXECUTIVE MANAGEMENT TEAM'S COMMENTS:**

Nil.

**EXECUTIVE MANAGEMENT TEAM'S RECOMMENDATIONS:**

Nil.