

Minutes of the Tweed Coastal Committee Meeting held Wednesday 8 February 2012

Venue:

Canvas & Kettle Meeting Room

Time:

1.25pm

Cr Milne opened the meeting by welcoming members and recognising the traditional owners of the land on which the meeting was being held.

Present:

Cr Katie Milne (Chair); Richard Hagley, Ben Fitzgibbon (Office of Environment and Heritage); Rhonda James (Restoration Industry); Ian Rabbitts (Fingal Head); David Cranwell (Pottsville); Gary Thorpe (Hastings Point); Jane Lofthouse, Tom Alletson, Stewart Brawley (Tweed Shire Council).

Informal:

Lachlan Stace (NRCMA); Cathey Philip (Minutes Secretary).

Apologies:

Cr Barry Longland; Ian Hanson (NSW Land & Property Management Authority); Lance Tarvey (Office of Environment and Heritage); Terry Kane (Cabarita Beach-Bogangar); John Harbison (Mooball); Jason Pearson (Kingscliff); Sebastien Garcia-Cuenca, Mark Kingston (Tweed Shire Council).

Minutes of Previous Meeting:

Minutes of the previous meeting held 14 December 2011 have not yet been submitted to Council and therefore cannot be adopted by Committee at this stage. Minutes will be submitted to the Committee at the April 2012 meeting.

Business Arising:

BA1. Chinderah Bug Farm

As requested by Terry Kane at last meeting, Jane obtained and presented design plans for the Bug Farm intake at Kingscliff Beach. As Terry was not in attendance, this item was deferred until next meeting.

BA2. Critical Marine Habitat Study

Lachlan Stace, Marine and Coastal Theme Officer from NRCMA provided members with information regarding the Authority's review of Catchment Action Plans (CAP) and opportunities to provide input.

There was a lengthy discussion regarding matters that the Committee could put forward as priorities to the CAP review, particularly in the coastal and marine theme.

Lachlan noted that the Critical Marine Habitat Study commissioned by NRCMA was done through the Marine Knowledge Program which aims to address knowledge gaps.

An item for the April meeting agenda is provision of a list of knowledge gaps that should be considered in terms of the NRCMA CAP review. Some suggested items included research on pipis; biodegradable bait bags; dissolvable fish hooks; regulation of diffuse water pollution from land uses.

Lachlan left at 2.05pm

BA3. Interpretive Sign - Hastings Point

Tom advised that a meeting had taken place at Hastings Point regarding an agreed location for the interpretive signs.

BA4. Critical Marine Habitat Study

Jane advised the Committee that the reason for the pippie collection closure is due to low numbers. It is unknown as to why the species numbers are low - there has been no disease or conditions identified.

BA5. Kings Forest Drain

A lengthy discussion was held regarding the potential for impact from acid sulfate soils runoff from drain spoil. It was suggested this should be referred to Council's EHOs and the EPA. Discussion on the inability of Government to regulate diffuse water pollution from poor land use practices.

BA6. Fingal Headland - Wedding Bookings

Stewart advised that until review is complete of this area and other park uses, no bookings are being taken.

Stewart left the meeting at 2.40pm

Agenda Items:

A1. Kingscliff Beach Update

Jane provided an update on the status of the EIS for sand extraction from The Tweed River. No major feasibility issues at this stage; further consultation on the dredging proposal and pipeline route at the next meeting.

Jane advised that the Tweed Coast Holiday Parks is putting in a Development Application to continue the temporary rock wall along the Kingscliff Beach holiday park.

Minutes

A2. Tweed DuneCare Coordinating Committee - Minutes

Jane briefly went through items discussed at the Tweed DuneCare Coordinating Committee on Thursday 2 February 2012.

Moved: Cr Milne

Seconded: Richard Hagley

RESOLVED that the Manager Recreation Services considers putting a "no fires" section at the end of regulatory signs at beaches.

From the Tweed DuneCare Coordinating Committee meeting held 8 December, Ian raised concerns regarding Council cutting down five threatened species trees in the road reserve.

Cr Milne requested further information be brought back to next meeting regarding Council tree registers already in place and management of threatened species in road reserves.

Gary left meeting 3.02pm

General Business:

GB1. Bank Erosion at Pottsville

David provided photos regarding eroding approach to Pottsville boat ramp.

GB2. Bathymetric Survey Cudgen Creek

Jane to forward copy of survey to Ben.

Next Meeting:

The next meeting of the Tweed Coastal Committee will be held Wednesday 11 April 2012.

The meeting closed at 3.10pm.

EXECUTIVE MANAGEMENT TEAM'S COMMENTS:

Nil.

EXECUTIVE MANAGEMENT TEAM'S RECOMMENDATIONS:

Nil.