

OBERON COUNCIL

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COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Clive McCarthy (in the chair), Cr Ian Doney, Brenda Doney, Peter Dove, Philippa Gemmell-Smith, Ian Davis and Susan Loudon,

OBSERVERS: Mr Gary Wallace, Director of Development; Mr Christo Aiken, Heritage Advisor.

APOLOGIES: Apologies were received and accepted from Iain McPherson.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Nil

CODE OF CONDUCT TRAINING

Councils Human Resource Officer Joanne Barton conducted code of training for those members present.

UPDATE OF LAND USE STRATEGY

The Director of Development, Gary Wallace gave the committee an update regarding the current draft Land Use Strategy (LUS) in respect to the land identified as a Heritage Conservation Area at O'Connell. Council has received direction from the NSW Department of Planning & Infrastructure requiring additional information explaining how the land was identified as a proposed Heritage Conservation Area.

This is in lieu of a complete Heritage Impact Statement.

Mr Christo Aitken will have a draft report available for the April meeting, however should any committee member have any information that will assist in the preparation of this report, information was requested to the Director as soon as possible.

HERITAGE SIGNS

Brenda Doney advised that she and Sue Loudon are still editing the information that is to be obtained on the History of O'Connell. Brenda tabled a book of sketches of the buildings in the conservation area of O'Connell completed by a young O'Connell school student. The committee commended the work that has been put into the sketches and indicated that these should be considered as part of the O'Connell signage. The proposed sign could have the history of O'Connell on one side and a map and sketches on the other.

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General Manager

Chairperson

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Philippa Gemmell-Smith made reference to the Indigenous Heritage of O'Connell and said that it was important that reference to both the Gundungurra tribe and Wiradjuri tribe are mentioned on the sign.

Peter Dove advised the committee that the sign erected at Black Springs is not the one completed by the Black Springs Progress Association. Staff will investigate the location of the original signage.

CHARLES KINGFORD SMITH SIGN

The date on the Charles Kingford Smith sign erected at the Oberon High School commemorating Charles Kingford Smith landing is incorrect.

Moved Peter Dove
Second Sue Loudon

That the committee accept the offer from Armsign to produce the correct date out of 1.0mm sheet aluminium that can be placed over the incorrect date at no cost to Council.

Carried

Ewen Stewart joined the meeting at 5.55pm

GENERAL BUSINESS

COXS ROAD/AVENUE OF TREES BROCHURES

Brenda Doney asked if Council had given their consent for the Brochures on the Cox's Road and the O'Connell Avenue of Trees. Gary Wallace advised that Council had resolved to support the process.

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AVENUE OF TREES WALKWAY

Brenda Doney asked if Council had agreed to a walking path through the avenue of trees at O'Connell. Cr Clive McCarthy advised that there was no agreement to a pathway.

Moved Brenda Doney
Second Sue Loudon

Committee seek support from Council for a stabilized granite pathway through the Avenue of Trees at O'Connell from the bus shelter to the Beaconsfield turnoff, along the western side between the tree trunks and the fence.

Carried

Cr Clive McCarthy suggested that some one may care to do a walk through to see how much room there is. Susan Loudon indicated that she would undertake the task.

Philippa Gemmell Smith has advised the committee that she has been granted a scholarship to complete a PHD on the history of Oberon. Cr Clive McCarthy extended congratulations to Philippa on behalf of the Heritage Committee.

GINGKIN PAPERS

Philippa raised the issue of the Gingkin Papers and the committees wish to hold a copy at the library. Philippa advised the members that the bulk of the documents where private letters and under copyright laws would require Council to wait 70 years prior to a copy being made available to the public.

Discussions held regarding funding for this project with some of the members believing that \$500.00 was made available for this project. The Director of Development is to follow up to confirm if all or any of the funds have been spent.

BURRAGA HERITAGE ITEMS

Ewen Stewart raised the issue of the listing of heritage items in Burraga. He indicated that there was a meeting in Burraga last week in which a Company is looking at potential mining opportunities relating to the old copper mine. This may not happen for another 10 years, however Ewen believes that we need to register all historical items in Burraga now so if the company do start operations historical items are preserved.

The Director of Development advised the Committee that those items that were listed under the old Evans Shire would be considered as part of the LEP process, however up to this time no additional items have been identified. Further, the Director advised that during the exhibition process no items of interest were identified within the submissions.

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Moved Ian Doney
Second Clive McCarthy

Committee requests Ewen Stewart to bring back a list of suitable Historical buildings in Burruga that the committee can visit.

Carried

LOCAL HERITAGE FUND

Councils Heritage Advisor Mr Christo Atkins brought to the committee attention two reports from the Heritage office:

- 2009-2011 NSW Heritage Grants Local government Heritage Management program Summary Heritage Strategy Annual Report for 2010-2011
- NSW Heritage Grants Local government Heritage Management programme Summary Heritage Strategy Annual Report 5 year review

A copy was handed out to those present and the report will be discussed at the next Heritage meeting.

Discussions were held relating to the re-establishment of the local heritage fund. Christo advised the committee that dollar for dollar funding is available should Council reintroduce the fund up to a value of \$8,500.

The Committee resolved to ask Council to consider the re-establishment of the Local Heritage Fund in this years budget estimate up to a value of \$8,500.

INTERIM HERITAGE ORDERS

Christo advised the committee of minor changes to the Heritage Act that give power to Council to impose a Internal Heritage Order on a property should it be considered of heritage value to hold off potential demolition until the heritage item has been fully researched. This could ultimately give Council six months to complete an assessment.

LINDLEGREEN INSPECTION

Christo advised that he has approached the Mrs Ashelford as owner of Lindlegreen Cobb Barn about the possibility of listing the Cobb Barn it on the State Heritage register. He has left some information with them and will contact them in a few weeks regarding their decision. A copy of the documentation will be sent out to all Committee members.

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HERITAGE SIGN FUNDING

Discussions were held regarding options for funding the three heritage signs.

Moved Clive McCarthy
Second Peter Dove

A request be made to Council to provide funds in next years budget of \$7000 to enable the Heritage committee to complete the Heritage signs in Burruga, Black Springs and O'Connell.

Carried

Moved Ian Doney
Second Peter Dove

That the Heritage Committee seek approval from Council to ask the Manager of Community Services in consultation with Councils Heritage advisor Mr Christo Aitken to submit a grant application to assist with the three interpretative signs.

Carried

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Heritage Committee will be held on Monday 23 April 2012, commencing at 5.00pm.

This concluded the business of the meeting and the meeting closed at 7.10pm.

Confirmed this _____ day of _____ 2012.

General Manager

Chairperson

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