



KEMPSEY
Shire Council

ABORIGINAL LIAISON COMMITTEE

30th AUGUST 2006

SUBJECT TO ADOPTION BY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE ABORIGINAL LIAISON COMMITTEE OF KEMPSEY SHIRE COUNCIL HELD ON WEDNESDAY 30th AUGUST 2006 COMMENCING AT 10.00 AM AT COUNCIL'S COMMITTEE ROOM ; CORNER ELBOW AND TOZER STREETS, WEST KEMPSEY.

PRESENT

Councillor Betty Green (Chairperson), Councillor Jim Gribben; Lillian Greenup (Female Mental Health Worker Durri AMS); Betty Mumbler; (Community Member); Drew Roberts (General Manager Macleay Aboriginal Housing Association); Stacey Kelly Greenup; (Female Youth Worker Durri AMS) Bob Mumbler , (Greenhills Community Centre Coordinator);Victor Darcy (Circle Sentencing Project Officer- Attorney Generals Department); Talia Condie (Aboriginal Court Support Officer- Attorney General's Department); and Debra J Morris (Aboriginal Liaison Officer).

APOLOGIES

Tom Vermeulen Director Shire Services Guy Whelan Manager Community Services and Lifestyle, Mary-Lou Buck, Gary Morris, Madeline Donovan; Dana Clarke; Deal Roberts; Judy Blomfield and David Kelly

1 ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE ABORIGINAL LIAISON COMMITTEE 28TH JUNE 2006.

The minutes of the Report of the 28th June 2006 were referred to the Council's Ordinary meeting on the 8th August 2006 and were adopted.

RECOMMENDATION

That the minutes be noted.

2 BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES HELD 28TH JUNE 2006.

2.1 KEMPSEY ASSISTANCE PATROL

RECOMMENDATION:

*Moved: Betty Green
Seconded: Victor Darcy*

That this matter be deferred to the next meeting until further information is obtained.

2.2 ABORIGINAL EMPLOYMENT STRATEGY

RECOMMENDATION:

*Moved: Betty Green
Seconded: Lillian Greenup*

That a copy of Council's Aboriginal Employment Strategy be made available for the next meeting.

2.3 ABORIGINAL COMMUNITY JUSTICE GROUP

The next meeting of the Aboriginal Community Justice Group will be held on Tuesday, 5th September 2006.

The Aboriginal Community Justice Group Coordinator's position will be advertised before November 2006. This position will be classified as Grade ¾ under the Attorney General's Department umbrella.

RECOMMENDATION:

*Moved: Drew Roberts
Seconded: Stacey Kelly Greenup*

That Lillian Greenup be nominated as the ACJG interim representative until the Kempsey Aboriginal Community Justice Group Coordinator is appointed.

2.4 CIRCLE SENTENCING PROGRAM- VICTOR DARCY, CO-ORDINATOR

Victor Darcy is the Co-ordinator for this program since its commencement on 15th March 2006. There have been 6 Circle Sentencing Courts with repeat Offenders. To date none have re-offended.

The Court deals with court matters such as contravening Apprehended Violence Order's.

One person has actually been sent to gaol, therefore circle sentencing courts are not a soft option as some may believe.

The Coordinator has been doing Media rounds such as attending Rotary functions and other Non-Aboriginal meetings. He will meet with the Corrective Services Community Safety Committee in October 2006.

The Coordinator has scheduled three (3) Circle Sentencing Courts and six (6) others are being coordinated to occur before November 2006.

The Coordinator has asked that any queries in relation to Circle Sentencing be directed to him in the first instance.

3 SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS

Clr Green called for suspension of Standing Orders and introduced Barbara Huntington, Area Assistance Scheme and Sherrie Foster, Coordinator Homestart Program.

Barbara gave an overview of the Area Assistance Scheme and some of its achievements over the years.

These included the Youth Worker, Aboriginal Liaison Officer and the Greenhill's Community Centre Coordinator projects.

Sherrie Foster- Homestart

- DoCS funded service- Intervention Prevention program
- The project originated in England in 1983 and is a world wide program.
- Is part of the Families First program.
- Recruits, trains, linkages for mentors/volunteers for families to become functional families
- Isolation is a social problem for dysfunctional families.
- Has been operating for 7 years.
- Is in partnership with South & West Renewal Projects and Family Day Care.
- 7 Mentors working with 39 families in the South and West areas.
- Is seeking support for this project to include a cultural appropriate section for training for Aboriginal workers.
- There was a 10 week training programme..

QUESTIONS:

Drew Roberts queried whether this is the project that Aunty Betty Cohen is involved with.

Sherrie- Yes, Betty did her training with us through the West Kempsey project and is now employed for 3 days per week through Family Day Care and two (2) days per week CDEP

Lillian Greenup- What is the actual submission for and will it create employment for Aboriginal people?

Response Sherri

There will be a wage component for the Coordinator to recruit, train and develop linkages for Aboriginal mentors / Volunteers. Once completed, they will gain a qualification, which will enable them to work as child carers.

This is why the partnership with Family Day Care is essential. The Coordinator will develop a manual that will be culturally appropriate so we are seeking Aboriginal input.

Debra J Morris -Barbara, is this one off funding?

Barbara Yes

No further questions. Cllr Betty Green thanked the presenters for coming to the meeting.

Discussion continued with members feeling that not enough information was provided. Councillor Betty Green asked the Area Assistance Coordinator to address the meeting again as there was still some concern in relation to the submission.

Further discussion and debate took place. It was suggested that the Area Assistance Coordinator contact Drew Roberts and Lillian Greenup re this matter and that further consultation with the Aboriginal community and organisations take place.

The closing dates for submissions is the 6th September 2006.

Cllr Betty Green thanked Barbara for attending.

PLEASE NOTE:

Suspension of Standing Orders lifted and the Aboriginal Liaison Committee resumed.

4 STATEMENT OF COMMITMENT STRATEGIC PLAN MATTERS

RECOMMENDATION:

*Moved: Betty Mumbler
Seconded: Lillian Greenup*

That the matter be deferred to the next Special Aboriginal Liaison Committee to be held on the 28th September 2006.

Only two (2) agenda items for discussion. These are the Statement of Commitment Action Plan and Local Government and Shires Association Aboriginal Network Conference.

5 NAIDOC WEEK PLANNING COMMITTEE

The NAIDOC Week Planning Committee needs a quorum therefore, members were requested to set a date, time and venue for a post NAIDOC Week meeting.

RECOMMENDATION:

*Moved: Betty Mumbler
Seconded: Lillian Greenup*

That the post NAIDOC Week Planning Committee convene a meeting on the 21st September 2006 commencing at 10am at the Green Hills Community Centre.

Received a letter from the 312 (Macleay Valley) SQN AAFC in response to the letter of invite to the NAIDOC Week celebrations and have expressed an interest to be involved in next years celebrations.

RECOMMENDATION:

*Moved: Bob Mumbler
Seconded: Lillian Greenup*

That an invitation also be sent to the other Defence Services, ie The Army, The Navy and The Army Reserve.

6 AUSTRALIA DAY

At the meeting held on the 7th December 2005 the Aboriginal Liaison Committee members were asked to comment on the following:

- (i) Do the Aboriginal community wish to participate in Australia Day activities?
- (ii) Do we need awards for Aboriginal Citizen of the Year and Young Aboriginal Citizen of the year?

for future Australia Days.

A letter has been drafted and will be forwarded to peak Aboriginal Organisations and ALC members for a response and the next meeting Of the Australia Day committee is in October.

Members queried who the Aboriginal representative on this committee was.

Response:

At the present, it is the Aboriginal Liaison Officer.

7 GENERAL BUSINESS

7.1 LOCAL GOVERNMENT ABORIGINAL NETWORK CONFERENCE – GUNNEDAH

The 19th Annual NSW Local Government Aboriginal Network Conference is being hosted by Gunnedah Shire Council and will be held on the 15th October to the 17th October 2006.

Members were presented with the following information for their discussion and recommendations as follows;

- NSW Local Government Aboriginal Network Conference 2006
- 2008 Conference Host Nomination form- closes 29th September 2006 before close of business
- Life Membership Nomination form- closes 29th September 2006 before close of business
- Merit Award Nomination Form- closes 29th September 2006 before close of business

Information is also available on the website and Aboriginal Liaison Officer will distribute the relevant details to the members.

The Aboriginal Liaison Officer will be in attendance.

RECOMMENDATION:

*Moved: Lillian Greenup
Seconded: Drew Roberts*

That the Aboriginal Liaison Officer attend this meeting with one (1) or two (2) ALC members. It was suggested that one or two (2) Kempsey Shire Councillors also attend the conference in Gunnedah

RECOMMENDATION:

*Moved: Cl. Betty Green
Seconded: Cl. Lillian Greenup*

That Kempsey Shire Council considers the merits of hosting the 2008 Local Government Aboriginal Network Conference.

RECOMMENDATION:

*Moved: Lillian Greenup
Seconded: Stacey Kelly-Greenup*

That Aunty Beverly Roberts be nominated for the Local Government Aboriginal Network Conference Life Membership Category 2006.

RECOMMENDATION:

*Moved:Lillian Greenup
Seconded: Stacey Kelly-Greenup*

That the Merit Award Application be circulated to members for information and nominations.

7.2 LILLIAN GREENUP- FEMALE MENTAL HEALTH WORKER

Lillian Greenup gave a brief introduction and an overview of the position. She is based at Durri Aboriginal Medical Centre.

RECOMMENDATION:

*Moved: Drew Roberts
Seconded: Stacey Kelly-Greenup*

That Lillian Greenup retains her membership on the ALC as the Female Mental Health Worker and that relevant changes be undertaken to the ALC mailing list.

7.3 STACEY KELLY-GREENUP- FEMALE YOUTH WORKER

Stacey Kelly – Greenup introduced herself as the newly appointed Female Youth Worker at Durri AMS. Stacey will be sending out a letter of introduction in the near future.

RECOMMENDATION:

*Moved: Drew Roberts
Seconded:Lillian Greenup*

That Stacey Kelly Greenup retains her membership on the ALC as the Female Youth Worker and that relevant changes be undertaken to the ALC mailing list.

7.4 BOB MUMBLER- GREEN HILLS COMMUNITY

Gave a brief report on the Centre and the programs that are operating from the centre such as;

- The After School Hours activity and the young people have been doing artworks and the works will be on Exhibition in Sydney.
- Partnerships with relevant Registered Training Providers such as TAFE and Booroongen Djugen Aboriginal College to address such issues as Mental Health, Anger Management, Literacy and Numeracy.
- Wesley Uniting – an outreach project
- Area Health- The Biggest Loser program.
- Education- Truancy matters
- Crime Prevention issues
- 11 CDEP workers and 11 Work for the Dole projects.
- Goorie Home Modification is relocating to the Centre.
- Croc Festival
- A storage container is being made available to address Occupational and Safety matters

8 EVALUATION

There was a quorum present at this meeting. Members felt that the meeting was informative, positive and productive as a means of sharing information.

9 NEXT MEETING

A Special Meeting of the Aboriginal Liaison Committee will be held on Thursday, 28th September 2006

10 CONCLUSION

The meeting concluded at 12.15 PM.