ABORIGINAL LIAISON COMMITTEE

14TH FEBRUARY 2007

SUBJECT TO ADOPTION BY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE ABORIGINAL LIAISON COMMITTEE OF KEMPSEY SHIRE COUNCIL HELD ON WEDNESDAY 14TH FEBRUARY 2007 COMMENCING AT 10.30AM AT COUNCIL’S COMMITTEE ROOM; CORNER ELBOW AND TOZER STREETS, WEST KEMPSEY.

PRESENT

Mayor Councillor Betty Green (Chairperson); Councillor Jim Gribbin (Councillor); Judy Blomfield (Community); Jamie Donovan (Indigenous Worker Centrelink); Darcy Budden (Aboriginal Health NCAHS), John Smith (NSW Police ACLO), Yolanda Batterson (NSW Police ACLO); Kevin Smith (NSW Police ACLO); Robert Mumbler (Kempsey Shire Council / Greenhill), Betty Mumbler (Community), Janet Smith (Community), Aimee McElroy (Booroongen Djugun Aboriginal Corporation) and Noeline Griffen (Burrun Dalai).

Also in attendance was Melanie Booth (Community Services and Lifestyle Coordinator)

1: WELCOME

The Mayor welcomed all members.

2: APOLOGIES

Guy Whelan (Manager Community Services and Lifestyle); Gerald Hoskins (Workforce Equity Manager North Coast Area Health Service) and Debra J Morris (Aboriginal Liaison Officer).

RECOMMENDATION

Moved: Clr B Green
Seconded: Judy Blomfield
That the apologies be accepted

3: Adoption of the Minutes of the Aboriginal Liaison Committee Meeting 22nd November 2006

RECOMMENDATION

Moved: Judy Blomfield
Seconded: John Smith
That the minutes of the meeting of the 22nd November 2006 be adopted.
4 Business arising from the Previous Minutes – 22nd November 2006

4.1 Hosting the Local Government Aboriginal Network Conference 2008

The committee was advised that Armidale Council would be hosting the conference in 2008.

RECOMMENDATION

Moved: Clr J Gribben
Seconded: Judy Blomfield

That the information be noted.

4.2 Local Government Aboriginal Network Conference 2007 Life Membership Category

RECOMMENDATION

Moved: Judy Blomfield
Seconded: Clr J Gribben

That the nomination of Aunty Beverly Roberts for the Local Government Aboriginal Network Conference Life Membership Category in 2007 be deferred until the June 2007 meeting for consideration.

5 Statement of Commitment Information Package–Communications Strategy

RECOMMENDATION

Moved: Jaime Donovan
Seconded: Bob Mumbler

That the updated strategy be forwarded with the minutes of this meeting.

6 NAIDOC Week Planning Committee

RECOMMENDATION

Moved: Betty Mumbler
Seconded: Bob Mumbler

1. That the first meeting of the NAIDOC Week Planning Committee will be held on the 26th March 2007 at 10.30am at Booroongen Djugen Aboriginal Corporation.

2. That the National NAIDOC Guidelines be utilised by the committee in planning the 2007 event.

3. That the Macleay River Historical Society be contacted to determine the length of time Kempsey has celebrated NAIDOC Week.

7 Remainder of the Statement of Commitment Strategic Plan Matters

Amendments to the Remainder of the Statement of Commitment were discussed with the amendments made as per Appendix A, part 1, part 2.

MEETING ADJOURNED
At this stage being 12.30pm it was determined that the meeting be adjourned until 11.30am on Wednesday, 7th March 2007.

MEETING RESUMPTION

The meeting was reconvened on Wednesday, 7th March 2007 at Booroongen Djugen Aboriginal Corporation Community Centre commencing at 10:30am

PRESENT

Jim Gribbin (Councillor), Ruth Maruca (Chairperson Dunghutti Elders Council), Jamie Donovan (Indigenous Worker Centrelink), Noleene Griffen (Burran Dalai Aboriginal Corporation representative), Drew Roberts (General Manager Macleay Aboriginal Housing Association), Judy Blomfield (Community), Amie McElroy (Booroongen Djugen Aboriginal Corporation), Mary-Lou Buck (Community/RTA), and Debra J Morris (Aboriginal Liaison Officer).

Also in attendance was Margaret Hoskins (Community)

APOLOGIES

Mayor Betty Green, Bruce Snape (Director Corporate and Community Services), Guy Whelan (Manager Community Services and Lifestyle), Gary Morris CEO (Booroongen Djugen Student Association), Ivy Brown (Student Support Officer Djigay Centre), Victor Darcy (Coordinator Attorney General’s Department Circle Sentencing), Ren Perkins (Manager Digay Centre), Gerald Hoskins (Workforce Equity Manager North Coast Area Health Service).

RECOMMENDATION

Moved: Mary-Lou Buck
Seconded: Clr Jim Gribbin
That the apologies be accepted

8 Adoption of the Minutes of the Aboriginal Liaison Committee Meeting held 22nd November and reconvened 4th December, 2006 by Council on the 13th February 2007

2007.98 RESOLVED:

Moved: Cl. Sowter
Seconded: Cl. Walker

That the Minutes of the Aboriginal Liaison Committee Meeting held 22nd November and reconvened 4th December 2006 be adopted subject to item 11 (b) being amended to read;

That the final draft Communications Strategy attached at appendix B be adopted.

RECOMMENDATION

Moved: Drew Roberts
Seconded: Clr Jim Gribbin

That Council consider the adopted Communications Strategy an agenda item for the next Council meeting to be signed off by the Mayor, Councillor Betty Green, The Dunghutti Elders Council Chairperson, Mrs Ruth Maruca and the Kempsey Local Aboriginal Lands Council Chairperson, John Kelly.
9 Business Arising from the Minutes of the 14\textsuperscript{th} February 2007.

9.1 Kempsey Assistance Patrol

Would like to know what has happened with the previous recommendations.

The Attorney General’s Department has called for Written Expressions of Interest for Night Patrols.

The Coordinator for the Kempsey Local Aboriginal Lands Council informed the Committee that they would be submitting an application.

The Aboriginal Community Justice Group will meet on the 13\textsuperscript{th} March 2007.

RECOMMENDATION  
 Moved: Mary-Lou Buck  
 Seconded: Ruth Maruca

That the Aboriginal Liaison Committee supports in principle the Aboriginal organisations that are submitting an expression of interest for the Night Patrol.

10 Local Government Aboriginal Network Conference Report

RECOMMENDATION  
 Moved: Ruth Maruca  
 Seconded: Drew Roberts

That the report on the Local Government Aboriginal Network Conference be deferred until the next meeting due to the Aboriginal Liaison Officer not being in attendance.

That the draft report be presented at the April meeting of the Aboriginal Liaison Committee.

11 Kempsey Shire Council Corporate Strategic Plan - Aboriginal Meeting - Update

The Corporate Strategic Plan in 2004/05 is on the website and was adopted on the 13\textsuperscript{th} February 2007.

12 Crime Prevention Matters

No matters discussed

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ACCESS AND EQUITY ACTIVITY</th>
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<tr>
<td>Holistic Issues</td>
<td>The Statement of Commitment to the local ATSI community is promoted by Council and is supported by action and performance indicators.</td>
<td>That the Statement of Commitment is reviewed and actioned within the community.</td>
<td>Statement of Commitment in place.</td>
<td>Completed - That Statement of Commitment was adopted by Kempsey Shire Council on the 26th May 1999.</td>
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<td>Action Plan developed.</td>
<td>Ongoing - Action plan is progressively being implemented. The Aboriginal Liaison Committee last reviewed the plan in November 2006. (see attached)</td>
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<td>Action Plan implemented.</td>
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<td>A communication strategy is in effect consultation with the Aboriginal Community.</td>
<td>A Communication and Protocols Strategy is developed for consultation with the ATSI community.</td>
<td>A Communication and Protocols Strategy is developed by the 30th June 2006.</td>
<td>Ongoing - The drafting of the Communication and Protocols Strategy has finished and was forwarded to the Aboriginal Liaison Committee meeting of the 22nd November 2006.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>There is an effective interagency group in place to coordinate existing services and programs that address high priority ATSI issues.</td>
<td>Kempsey Shire Council supports the Goorie Interagency Group (GIG) as the mechanism for the coordination of services and programs within the ATSI community.</td>
<td>No of meetings attended by the Aboriginal Liaison Officer. Terms of Reference are developed and supported by Council by the 30th December 2006.</td>
<td>Ongoing - 7 meetings held.</td>
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<td>Ongoing - Terms of Reference for the Goorie Interagency Group (GIG) will be discussed at a meeting and then sent to the ALC Agenda. New Target Date to be set.</td>
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<td>An improved Aboriginal Mentoring Program.</td>
<td>That the Aboriginal Mentoring Program is reviewed to ensure it is relevant to the needs of the ATSI Community.</td>
<td>A review of the program is undertaken by 31st July 2006.</td>
<td>Ongoing - A review of the Aboriginal Mentoring Program will be undertaken by the Aboriginal Liaison Committee and Council. Review to be listed on the agenda of the Aboriginal Liaison Committee for further deliberation.</td>
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**THIS IS PAGE 5 OF THE REPORT OF THE ABORIGINAL LIAISON COMMITTEE HELD ON 14TH FEBRUARY AND 7TH MARCH 2007 AND SUBMITTED TO THE ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL ON THE 17TH APRIL 2007.**

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**MAYOR**
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<tr>
<td>ATSI sacred sites are comprehensively mapped in a culturally appropriate manner.</td>
<td>That the ATSI Community is involved in the development of a mapping protocol of sacred sites within the Kempsey Shire.</td>
<td>Mapping protocol is developed and referred to the Kempsey Local Aboriginal Lands Council.</td>
<td><strong>Completed – 2004</strong>&lt;br&gt;The Mapping protocol was completed on the 30th December 2004. It has been included in the Kempsey Local Aboriginal Lands Council Annual Report for consideration of funding for implementation.</td>
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<tr>
<td>ATSI sacred sites are comprehensively mapped in a culturally appropriate manner.</td>
<td>Council investigate the employment of a fully grant funded Aboriginal Cultural and Heritage Officer.</td>
<td>That the investigation of an Aboriginal Cultural and Heritage Officer is undertaken by Council.</td>
<td><strong>Completed – 31st October 2005</strong>&lt;br&gt;Kempsey Council had resolved not to investigate the employment of the Aboriginal Cultural and Heritage Officer. No further action will be taken for Council to pursue this matter. Please refer to Priority Two Actions – Culture Heritage and Arts for further information on the Kempsey Local Aboriginal Lands Council to pursue.</td>
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<td>Employment Issues</td>
<td>An Aboriginal Employment Strategy (AES) for Shire-wide employment for Aboriginals (Eg: Moree model.)</td>
<td>That an Aboriginal Employment Strategy (AES) is facilitated by Council in consultation with stakeholders.</td>
<td>An Aboriginal Employment Strategy is developed by 30th June 2009.</td>
<td><strong>Ongoing –</strong> In conjunction with the Council Equal Employment Opportunity Committee a Council specific Aboriginal Employment Strategy is being developed. The Shire Wide Aboriginal Employment Strategy has been referred to Economic Development. Economic Development will determine the time line for the development of the Shire wide strategy.</td>
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<td>Housing Issues</td>
<td>Adequate affordable housing</td>
<td>That affordable housing in both private and government sectors is supported and developed.</td>
<td>No of meetings held at Macleay Aboriginal Housing Authority (MAHA).</td>
<td>Ongoing - 8 meetings held.</td>
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<td>That Aboriginal Housing Needs are identified and a plan is operational by the 2010.</td>
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<td>Aboriginal Housing needs have been identified with an operational plan developed and is being maintained for the period til 2010.</td>
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**PRIORITY TWO ACTIONS**

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<tr>
<th>Family Services (refer to also Children’s Section.)</th>
<th>Aboriginal Child, Youth &amp; Family Strategy for Macleay Valley using partnerships improving access to current services appropriately.</th>
<th>Develop, enhance and review partnerships with key agencies to ensure access and equity of services to ATSI community.</th>
<th>Review of partnerships with key agencies undertaken by DOCS.</th>
<th>Strategy developed to improve access and equity of service provision by December 2006.</th>
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<td>Completed – 30th December 2006</td>
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<td>DOCS is the agency responsible for the preparation of a Strategy / Action Plan.</td>
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<td>Cultural, Heritage and Arts (refer to Sacred Sites Mapping also.)</td>
<td>A policy that enhances, protects and maintains culturally significant sites and issues such as land, dialect, beliefs, values and cultural.</td>
<td>That Kempsey Shire Council supports the Aboriginal Lands Council to advocate for employment of a Culture &amp; Heritage Officer full time.</td>
<td>That a Culture and Heritage Officer is employed.</td>
<td>Ongoing - Matter has been referred to the Kempsey Local Aboriginal Lands Council who have included this in the Annual Report for eligibility of funding.</td>
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<td>That staff, contractors and consultants engaged by Kempsey Shire Council have undertaken Aboriginal Cultural Awareness Training.</td>
<td>No of staff, contractors and consultants undertook Aboriginal Cultural Awareness Training.</td>
<td>An Aboriginal Cultural Awareness program is scheduled to be developed in the 2006/2007 financial year.</td>
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<td>That Kempsey Shire Council maintain is coordination role of the NAIDOC Week Celebrations.</td>
<td>A successful NAIDOC Week Celebrations held.</td>
<td>Completed – 8th July 2006</td>
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<td>NAIDOC week was successfully held from the 2nd to the 8th July 2006.</td>
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<td><strong>Education</strong></td>
<td>Reduced suspension and absenteeism from schools, increased retention, literacy and numeracy.</td>
<td>Improved communication about issues contributing to suspension and take preventive action.</td>
<td>A plan is developed on issues contributing to suspension and early intervention options by * Lowered rates of suspension and absenteeism. Council support of vocational training and work experience opportunities. No of ATSI people undertaking vocational training and work experience at Kempsey Shire Council.</td>
<td><strong>Ongoing</strong> - Matter to be referred back to the Aboriginal Liaison Committee to the next meeting.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Crime Prevention (see Council’s Crime Prevention Plan also)</strong></td>
<td>ATSI and NON ATSI programs in place to facilitate social cohesion.</td>
<td>Kempsey Shire Council lobby and advocate for ATSI and Non ATSI programs that facilitate social cohesion such as: More Aboriginal workers, Through Care Approach Aboriginal Community Justices Group (AJD), Community Centres etc.</td>
<td>No of programs in place that have been successfully implemented.</td>
<td><strong>Ongoing – Total 3 programs</strong> Aboriginal Liaison Officer attends the meetings of the Aboriginal Community Justices Group. Community Centres in West Kempsey and Greenhills are maintained and sustained.</td>
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<td><strong>Services : Water, Power and Sewerage</strong></td>
<td>Tasteless water and basic services available in all parts of the Shire.</td>
<td>Kempsey Shire Council reviews the delivery of services to the Aboriginal Community.</td>
<td>A review of services is undertaken by November 2006.</td>
<td><strong>Ongoing</strong> - A meeting is yet to be scheduled with Shire Services, Macleay Water and relevant stakeholders regarding improvement of services. This matter is to be discussed at the next meeting. New Target date to be set.</td>
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<td>Alcohol and Drugs</td>
<td>There is a coordinated interagency approach to addressing issues of family breakdown and interpersonal violence.</td>
<td>Kempsey Shire Council supports and empowers the Goori Interagency to coordinate existing services and programs relating to family breakdown and interpersonal violence.</td>
<td>No of agencies work successfully together.</td>
<td>Ongoing - Goorie Interagency Meetings held and ongoing support and participation,</td>
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<tr>
<td>Health</td>
<td>Raising awareness of health service staff of cultural awareness issues when dealing with sensitive health matters.</td>
<td>Kempsey Shire Council to lobby, support and advocate Durri and Area Health Service of: - cultural awareness issues when dealing with sensitive health issues, - infant mortality - mental health.</td>
<td>Level of lobbying, support and advocacy provided.</td>
<td>Ongoing.</td>
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</table>
14 Reconciliation Matters/ Projects

14.1 40th Anniversary of the 1967 Referendum

The following proposal was forwarded by Mary-Lou Buck and she will organise the project.

**RECOMMENDATION**

*Moved:* Ruth Maruca  
*Seconded:* Drew Roberts

That the Aboriginal Liaison Committee support in principle an exhibition of the 1967 Referendum history at the Library and other Council facilities.

That Council support the project and donate $500 towards the running costs.

14.2 CROC FESTIVAL

**RECOMMENDATION**

*Moved:* Mary-Lou Buck  
*Seconded:* Drew Roberts

That the Aboriginal Liaison Committee supports the Croc Festival to be held at Kempsey this year and that Council consider holding this event annually and supporting it financially.

15 EEO Reference Group

1 Cultural Awareness Package is being developed and a final draft will be presented back to the committee

**RECOMMENDATION**

*Moved: Mary-Lou Buck*  
*Seconded: Noleen Griffen*

That the Cultural Awareness package be a standing agenda item for the ALC.

2 Wider Aboriginal Employment Strategy

**RECOMMENDATION**

*Moved :Ruth Maruca*  
*Seconded: Drew Roberts*

That the Aboriginal Liaison Committee members workshop and present a draft document back to the Aboriginal Liaison Committee and EEO reference Group.
RECOMMENDATION

Moved: Ruth Maruca
Seconded: Drew Roberts
That Mary-Lou Buck to facilitate a workshop for the Aboriginal Liaison Committee members

16 General Business

16.1 Naming of the Park at West Kempsey.

This matter has been referred to the Kempsey Local Aboriginal Lands Council

16.2 Wutuma Aboriginal Keeping Place

Meetings have been held with and conducted by the Area Consultative Committee and this project is progressing well.

16.3 Bellingen Shire Council - Invitation

Aboriginal Memorial Rock Ceremony

ALO advised that if this clashes with any proposed NAIDOC Week activity on the Saturday, she would be an apology.

RECOMMENDATION

Moved: Mary-Lou Buck
Seconded: Ruth Maruca
That the invitation for the Aboriginal Liaison Officer to attend be noted.

17 Evaluation

The meeting was held in nice surroundings and the meeting was positive, interactive and productive.

18 Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Aboriginal Liaison Committee will be held on the 9TH May 2007 at Booroongen Djugen Aboriginal Corporation Community Centre commencing at 10:30am with lunch to be provided.

19 Conclusion

Their being no further business the meeting concluded at 1pm.