

Subject:	Arts Advisory Committee – Draft Minutes of Meeting	Page 1 of 5
File No:	CLR/07/8/101/1/17	
Document Ref:	D18/26057	
Venue:	Meeting Room – 1A Pope Street Ryde	
Date:	Monday 12 th February 2018	
Time:	6.00pm	Started at: 6.00pm Closed at: 6.50pm
Chair:	Councillor	
Meeting Support (MS):	Linda Smith – EA to the Mayor and Councillors	
Staff Convenor:	Gunjan Tripathi	
Circulation:		

Committee Role:

The primary role of the Arts Advisory Committee is to:

Consider matters and inform Council and Council officers of community views and likely impact regarding:

- The progress of arts and cultural sector within the City of Ryde to make Ryde a culturally rich and vibrant community.

The Committee is responsible for providing advice and recommendations to Council and Council officers on the following objectives:

- Developing excellence in arts at both community and professional levels
- Developing policies and strategies that advance arts and culture
- Creating an arts economy by developing creative industries
- Supporting existing and growing emerging artistic talent and creative communities
- Using arts and culture to celebrate community identity through exhibitions and festivals
- Utilising arts and cultural activity to enhance community wellbeing, social inclusion and cohesion
- Supporting the development of arts and cultural infrastructure and the activation of public spaces for arts and cultural activity

Committee Members as per the Terms of Reference

Present	Apology	Name	Position Title	Organisation
✓		Councillor Gordon	Chairperson	City of Ryde
✓		Councillor Pedersen	Delegate	City of Ryde
	✓	Councillor Zhou	Delegate	City of Ryde
✓		Antonia Coutelis		
	✓	Rose Torrosian		
✓		Leonard Fung		
✓		Anna-Eugenia Binne		
✓		Margaret Mayger		
✓		Therese MacKenzie		
✓		Cecilia Hwang		
✓		Suzanne Hauser		
	✓	Jen Humphrey		
✓		Priya Eliezer		
✓		Rita Lepedjian		

Present	Apology	Name	Position Title	Organisation
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✓		Gunjan Tripathi		City of Ryde
✓		Paul Chidzero		City of Ryde
✓		Linda Smith	EA to the Mayor and Councillors	City of Ryde
✓		Liz Berger		City of Ryde
✓		Angela Jones-Blayney		City of Ryde

Details

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1.	<p>Present: As detailed above.</p> <p>Welcome: Clr Gordon welcomed all members to the inaugural meeting of the Arts Advisory Committee.</p> <p>Councillor Gordon provided the following comments regarding his vision for the committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - There are many artists in the City of Ryde but no sense of “the arts”. All groups seem to be working in silos. - He campaigned for local council to focus on the arts sector. - Many other Councillors have an interest in the arts including Clr Pedersen – actor and broadcaster, Clr Purcell – filmmaker, Clr Zhou – amateur singer and guitarist. - He mentioned the support of all Councillors and noted the Mayor has arranged for previously stored artworks to be hung in the Council offices and allowed Clr Gordon to purchase new artworks at the City of Ryde art show. - He congratulated Clr Pedersen on instigating the “battle of the bands” held on Australia Day and would like to see that idea expanded in future years. - Councillor Gordon would like all styles and cultures to be represented by this committee and would like to see a diverse presence on the committee including student, professionals and community members interested in arts - One of the tasks of the committee is to discuss “art spaces” and what is needed in this area. Ideas include a performing arts centre, a vibrant nightlife at Macquarie Park etc. - Arts and Events are not the same thing and it was noted that the way to promote arts is not to necessarily put on an event. - He noted the tendency to justify arts with other values such as – good for the economy, mental health etc. Clr Gordon’s opinion is that arts are good simply because they are good and need to be valued for its own sake - In the short term it may be necessary to justify the arts but sometimes the long term effect of this is that the arts don’t remain. - Clr Gordon hopes this committee will assist in promoting, enabling, facilitating and holding at by the forces which operate against the arts. 	As noted.
2.	Apologies – Jen Humphrey, Rose Torossian, Clr Zhou	As noted.
3.	<p>Presentation on Arts in Ryde</p> <p>Some figures were provided with regard to the arts in Australia as follows:</p> <p>Workers involved in the arts in Australia – 230,000 Workers involved in mining in Ausralia – 232,000</p> <p>Artists are small business owners and billion dollar export earners for Australia.</p> <p>Australia has the 6th largest music market in the world.</p> <p>Close to 70% of primary aged children do not receive music education although music has been proved to have many benefits.</p>	<p>The information was noted.</p> <p>Gunjan will be presenting on the current initiatives supported by Council at the next committee meeting These briefing notes will provide information regarding Council’s current actions.</p>

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<p>Figures for Ryde show that 85% of people had attended an event associated with the arts.</p> <p>35% of people had participated in an event as above.</p> <p>This raises the question – what can Council do for the arts? It was suggested that this committee should think big when answering that question.</p> <p><u>Committee member introductions</u></p> <p>Each committee member provided a brief precis of their background and interest in the arts.</p> <p><u>Toni Coutellis</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Retired, took up art in 1980's, a member of Parramatta Arts Advisory Council. Wants to see Ryde as a centre of excellence would like Council to consider the Ryde Bowling Club site for a cultural centre, performing arts centre which eisteddfods etc could be held. <p><u>Cecilia Hwang</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A nurse who works with the Korean community. Wants to learn and achieve through membership of this committee. <p><u>Anna Binnie</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A museum and concert junkie. Loves live theatre. Thinks Ryde does not recognise the talents of young people gave examples of people who have gone overseas to follow their unique interests. - She has a passion for needlework and would like to see Ryde libraries used to display community works. Exhibits each month featuring textiles or craft, quilting, lace, embroidery etc would be appreciated. <p><u>Penny Pedersen</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Was raised seeing theatre, studied classical ballet and theatre and has been on the board of the Griffen Theatre - She has worked as a performer and has a regular broadcasting role. - Would like to see Council engage with people about the arts and to see resultant social harmony created through the arts, especially as an alternative to sport. - Believes the arts can provide employment and gateways to employment. <p><u>Suzanne Hauser</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Artistic director of Ryde Youth Theatre. - Has trained as an actor and writer. - Ryde is one of only two Councils to deliver programs such as the Youth Theatre. - Noted that the work produced by the theatre is original and written by members. There are six productions per year. - The space now provided by Council is good for experimentation but infrastructure in the area is an issue. - She believes the "cross pollination" that would occur in a purpose built centre would be beneficial to all. <p><u>Lenny Fung</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Is a singer, art director and dance. He has a passion for the arts and is currently working as an Assistant Director. 	<p>With regard to the Performing Arts Centre, it was advised that planning is underway to build a centre within the City but no decision yet as to what it will be or where it will be built</p>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Has noticed the lack of venues and activities in the area. - Believes that Ryde is a “landing pad” for people from other countries. - Would like to see these people given a voice to discuss their lives and experiences. - She has been involved with film making in a technical role and as a director. - She has a background in media and currently works at the ABC. <p><u>Margaret Mayger</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A long term resident, pianist and singer. - Has an interest in making the local artistic world more active. - Believes Council needs a directly or events and groups to advise of cultural events. - Council should know what is happening and produce a listing so people know what is on and coming up. - Supports a centre for the arts and suggests that in the meantime, consideration be given to using North Ryde School of Arts of Brush Farm House. <p><u>Therese MacKenzie</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Believes everyone can learn art and music etc - Works in IT but finds the arts give her balance - Sees crochet etc not as craft but art - Was the founder of Artisans in Ryde - Believes it is important to connect with existing groups - The Artisans of Ryde want to set up groups to pass down their crafts and involve people of different ages - Would like to see young and old learn from each other in a craft space <p><u>Priya Eliezer</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Has trained in fine arts and has been involved in art and music her whole life - Emerging artists can be any age and she would like to see such people mentored. - Council has lots of opportunity to network eg with Seniors in NAIDOC week etc and should take advantage of that <p><u>Rita Lapedjian</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Has a hospitality and events background - Thought there was a need for music in the local area and started the Ryde Hunters Hill Symphony Orchestra - The orchestra is now in its eighth year and has performed between 35 and 40 concerts - Rita would like to encourage students who have studied music at school to join the orchestra - The orchestra employs a professional conductor and composer - Has a vision to advance the arts and have an arts centre for all genres. 	
4.	<p>Agenda Items</p> <p><u>4.1 Draft Terms of Reference</u></p> <p>The draft terms of reference were recommended for adoption by the committee. Any issues regarding any part of the document should be raised with staff.</p> <p><u>4.2 Meeting schedule for the year</u></p> <p>Meeting dates are proposed as follows:</p> <p>12th February 2018</p>	Noted

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<p>14th May 2018 13th August 2018 12th November 2018.</p> <p><u>4.3 Possibility of working groups</u></p> <p>An audit is to be presented to the next meeting. Following consideration of that document, the creation of appropriate working groups can be considered.</p> <p>The audit will show what is happening in the local area. It will identify the organisations, events, craft groups, youth theatre, artisans groups, quilters, women's groups in the ethnic community etc.</p> <p><u>4.4 Illuminatrope – possible donation to Council</u></p> <p>Councillor Pedersen provided information about a sculpture which has been offered to the City of Ryde.</p> <p>The artists will be addressing Council about the piece which was conceived in 2015, completed in 2016 and which has toured Australia including an exhibition at Eden Gardens.</p> <p><u>4.5 Discussion on the Art Project</u></p> <p>Liz advised that an audit is currently underway in relation to this matter and that more information will be presented to the next meeting of this committee.</p>	<p>Noted</p> <p>Audit of what is currently happening in the local area to be provided to the next meeting.</p> <p>Committee members should send relevant details to staff for inclusion in the audit.</p> <p>The information was noted.</p> <p>The Committee supported the intention of Councillor Pedersen to report to Council on this matter.</p> <p>A link to further information on the Illuminatrope to be provided to the committee.</p> <p>Further information to be provided by staff at the next meeting.</p>
<p>5. <u>General Business</u></p> <p><u>5.1 Standing items for agenda</u></p> <p>Advice regarding regular standing items was provided.</p> <p><u>5.2 Key dates and events relevant to this committee</u></p> <p>The following items were listed for consideration:</p> <p>Arts project Youth strategy Mentoring – cultural development for young people.</p> <p>The next Youth Theatre production will be held from 6th – 15th April 2018.</p>	<p>Items to be considered as standing items to be presented to the next meeting of this committee.</p> <p>The information was noted.</p>
<p>6. <u>Next Meeting:</u></p> <p>The next meeting of the Committee will be held on 14th May 2018</p>	<p>Noted.</p>