

Subject:	Community Harmony Reference Group – Minutes of Meeting	Page 1 of 5
File No:	COR2006/719	
Document Ref:	D16/	
Venue:	Devlin Room, Ryde Library, 1 Pope St	
Date:	22 nd September 2016	
Time:	Started at: 6.00 pm	Closed at: 7.00pm
Chair:	Jonathan Nanlohy	
Meeting Support (MS):	Valerie Albert	
Staff Convenor:	Jonathan Nanlohy	

Committee Role:

The primary role of the Community Harmony Reference Group is to:

- Provide advice to Council to ensure that Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) residents in the City of Ryde are able to participate actively in all aspects of community and civic life and that Council recognizes and values the diversity of the community

Committee Members as per the Terms of Reference

Present	Apology	Name	Position Title	Organisation
	x	Councillor Yedelian OAM	Chairperson	City of Ryde
		Councillor Pendleton	Delegate	City of Ryde
		Councillor Etmekdjian	Delegate	City of Ryde
		Councillor Li	Delegate	City of Ryde
		Councillor Laxale	Delegate	City of Ryde
		Mr Hugh Lee	Community Representative	
		Ms Rose Torossian	Community Representative	
x		Mr Hassib Elias	Community Representative	
	x	Mr Jon Soemarjono	Community Representative	
		Ms Ying-fan Yvonne Wang	Community Representative	
		Li Hua Chu	Community Representative	
x		Safar Sarmed	Community Representative	
		Agnes Shim	Community Representative	
		Ivy Pang	Community Representative	
		Kim Lee	Community Representative	
x		Kevin Pagaddinnimath	Community Representative	
x		Jonathan Nanlohy	Section Manager – Social Policy and Planning	City of Ryde

Additional Attendees

Name	Position Title	Organisation
Valerie Albert	EA to the Chief Operating Officer	City of Ryde

Details**Action****Responsibility and Date**

1.	Present:	Noted.	
2.	Apologies:	Noted.	
3.	Confirmation of Minutes		

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Details	Action	Responsibility and Date
	The minutes from the meeting of 23 rd June 2016 were confirmed and endorsed.	Minutes confirmed and endorsed
4.	<p>Matters Arising</p> <p><u>Guest Speakers</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Committee supported Council's recommendation to run general information sessions on Centrelink pensions, Medicare and Child Support services. - Council will engage with the Department of Family and Community Services to have a Centrelink representative present at each session. - Sessions will be specifically targeted towards Centrelink pension holders and new migrants, and will be run in community languages English, Mandarin and Korean. - It is proposed to have three targeted sessions before the end of this year, between 11.00am and 12.00pm at a Council venue to be confirmed pending attendee numbers. - Attendee evaluations from these sessions will assist Council in determining the community's need for information. Future sessions can be tailored around this feedback. - The information sessions will be promoted through Council's normal media channels and Committee members are encouraged to promote the sessions to their networks. - Mr Hassib Elias advised that he was happy to volunteer to assist in providing information support, especially to new migrants. - Mr Safar Sarmed suggested that Mr Elias contact the Settlement Services International regarding their information sessions for new migrants which provides details on social services, housing, rental, orientation to Australia, schooling, health system, police services, etc. <p><u>Cultural Event</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Committee agreed to hold a cultural event in March 2017 to align with Harmony Day 2017. - It was proposed that the event be held at the Civic Hall (preferred location) or West Ryde Community Hall. - Council can support the event but the organisation must be carried out by the Committee. A working party will be 	Jonathan Nanlohy to provide Members with details on session times and locations before the next meeting.

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Details	Action	Responsibility and Date
<p>formed to further discuss and plan for the event.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Council agreed to provide the venue and potentially a PA system. - Mr Kevin Pagaddinnimath requested that Council considers holding the event in April 2017 due to an ASAF/Macquarie University Film Festival being held in March 2017. - It was noted by the Committee that the close off for applications under the NSW Multicultural Council Grant Program had past and that represented community groups of this Committee had not applied. - The Committee agreed to explore Council's Small Grants program for a community cultural event to be held in March or April 2017. - The Small Grants category was designed to help smaller community groups and organisations with limited resources to respond to changing or unforeseen situations that fall outside of the annual Community Grants cycle, in an easy and accessible way. - Funding for the Small Grants Program is capped at \$1,000 per grant application. - Organisations may apply for a Small Grant once per financial year. 	<p>Kevin Pagaddinnimath to provide Jonathan Nanlohy with confirmed date of ASIF event. Jonathan Nanlohy to consider the date for this event and advise members at the next Community Harmony Reference Group Meeting.</p> <p>Jonathan Nanlohy to follow up with Jon Soemarjono, before the next meeting, regarding their organisation's application for a small grant.</p>	
<p>5. General Discussion/Other Business</p> <p>Local Government Amalgamation</p> <p>Mr Jonathan Nanlohy provided an update on the proposed Council amalgamation using following information from the Acting General Mangers communication to City of Ryde staff - information as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Justice Moore of the Land and Environment Court delivered his decision in respect of a number of proceedings relating to the Proposed Mergers on Tuesday afternoon, 20 September 2016. - With respect to the proceedings involving City of Ryde i.e. Hunters Hill and Lane Cove Council proceedings, the Court decided the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - (a) The complaints made by Lane Cove Council and Hunter Hill Council are without foundation; - (b) The challenges by Lane Cove Council and Hunter Hill Council are rejected and the proceedings are dismissed; and - (c) Immediately after 4 October 2016 the Court will order that the unsuccessful parties (being Lane Cove and Hunters Hill Councils) must pay the costs of the Crown 		

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Details	Action	Responsibility and Date
<p>parties unless any party applies to the Court for a different order. In this regard, City of Ryde's will make legal representatives to file the appropriate proceedings to have Ryde Council excluded from any costs order.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Crown, on behalf of the Minister for Local Government also gave a commitment to the Court that no steps would be taken to effect the amalgamation until after midnight 27 September 2016. - This basically means the City of Ryde could be amalgamated as soon as next Wednesday, 28 September 2016 as previously the Minister has proclaimed the new merged Councils at the earliest opportunity. - However, it is believed this is unlikely as Hunters Hill Council has indicated its intention to appeal this decision. If this occurs, Hunters Hill Council will have a further 28 days to confirm if they will formally appeal. Therefore this action would mean the proclamation in respect of our Proposed Merger would be deferred. <p>Social Inclusion Video and Screenings</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - As part of Social Inclusion Week 2016, Council will hold an event to screen the following 15 minute films: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Unified Ryde o Footprints (Ivanhoe Estate residents) - The event will take place at Ryde Library from 6.00pm on Tuesday, 22 November 2016 for approximately two hours and will include Q&A, performances from different communities and poetry readings (in Farsi). Likely numbers for this event is 60-80 people. - The Committee requested that Council seek participation from the Salvation Army. - The event is a good opportunity to send a strong message about what an inclusive community looks like. - Further details regarding the event program will be provided to the Committee in due course. - The Committee members are encouraged to attend the event. <p>Centrelink Information Sessions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - This item was discussed under item 4 above. 	<p>Jonathan Nanlohy to provide Members with an update on the event details/program once confirmed.</p>	

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	Details	Action	Responsibility and Date
	<p>Community Meeting Spaces</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Council is considering having an office space at West Ryde Community Cottage available for community hire one day a week. - The new Council Chambers at Level 1a, 1 Pope Street will be available from Tuesday, 27 September 2016. Details regarding the layout and meeting room availability will be provided to the Committee. 	Jonathan Nanlohy, at next meeting, to confirm meeting room availability at Level 1a, 1 Pope Street for future Community Harmony Reference Group Meetings.	
7.	<p>Date of next meeting</p> <p>Thursday 1 December 2016.</p> <p>Level 1A Pope Street Council Meeting Room</p>	Jonathan Nanlohy , at the next meeting, to provide an update to members on the future of the Community Harmony Reference Group and meetings in 2017.	