

Subject:	Reconciliation Action Working Group – Minutes of Meeting	Page 1 of 4
File No:	CCS/21/68	
Document Ref:	D23/86099	
Venue:	Via MS Teams	
Date:	31 st May 2023	
Time:	6.00pm	Started at: 6.05pm Closed at: 7.05pm
Chair:	Jessica Herder	
Meeting Support (MS):	Linda Smith – EA to the Mayor and Councillors	
Staff Convenor:	Sean Willenberg	
Circulation:		

Working Group Role:

The role of the Reconciliation Action working group is to:

- Provide advice, input and feedback for the City of Ryde Council's Reconciliation Action Plan
- Assist in the implementation and review of Council's Reconciliation Action Plan.
- To work with Council to develop and promote appropriate celebrations of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture including Sorry Day, National Reconciliation week and NAIDOC week.

Working Group Members as per the Terms of Reference

Present	Apology	Name	Position Title	Organisation
x		Clr Penny Pedersen	Councillor	City of Ryde
x		Clr Sarkis Yedelian OAM	Mayor	
	x	Michelle Lawrence	Community Representative	
x		Jessica Herder	Chairperson	
	x	Guarav Patni	Community Representative	
		Lilian Hong	Community Representative	
	x	Kylie Tarleton	Community Representative	
x		Melanie Gould	Community Representative	
	x	Adam Whereat	Community Representative	
x		Sean Willenberg	Community Project Officer Social Inclusion	City of Ryde
x		Linda Smith	EA to Mayor and Councillors	City of Ryde
x		Sue Verhoek	Senior Coordinator – Community Services	City of Ryde
x		Ray Alam	Guest from Yarnnup	
x		William Trewlynn	Guest from Yarnnup	

Details**Action**

1.	<p>Welcome and apologies and Acknowledgement of Country</p> <p>Jess Herder opened the meeting and provided the acknowledgement of country.</p> <p>Those present and apologies are as noted above.</p>	Noted.
2.	<p>Minutes from the previous meeting held 2nd March 2023</p> <p>The minutes from the meeting of 2nd March 2023 were confirmed.</p>	Noted

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Details	Action
<p>3. Actions Arising</p> <p><u>Council staff to investigate the addition of a QR code to link further information regarding the Careless and Weavers plaque</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Staff will be placing the QR code on site near the plaque soon. - There will be an interpretation of the plaque undertaken by Council’s historian. - The detail on this page will then be linked with a QR code - The QR Code will be placed adjacent to the plaque <p><u>Investigate the First Nation’s history of Brush Farm House and options to update the plaque</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Conservation Management Plan has shown that the Wallumedegal clan were located on the grounds of the house, but no other information regarding their presence on site was found <p><u>Distribute the RAP Barometer Report</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - An email was sent to working group members re the 2022 report - It included input from Reconciliation Australia showing updates and progress towards reconciliation 	<p>Noted</p>
<p>4. Consultation session for Innovate RAP</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - William and Ray from Yarnnup addressed the group - Yarnnup is an Aboriginal owned consultancy group which will be helping with the creation of Council’s Innovate RAP - Yarnnup helps support businesses develop RAPs and will help create innovative programming into the future RAP. - It was noted that the Barometer Report shows the significant amount of work already undertaken in relation to RAPs - Some of the consultation was noted as being significant and shows how committed Council is. - A timeline/songline of what Council has done to date will be provided in the Innovate RAP - Yarnnup will help Council achieve endorsement with Reconciliation Australia over the next few months - Corporate documents will be reviewed to see how they relate to the City of Ryde RAP - During the next few months, Yarnnup will discuss with Council staff what it is that Council hopes to achieve through their reconciliation journey - They will also advise what other Councils are doing both within the state and nationally. - The process now is to see how Council can have an impact in the process of reconciliation - Clr Pedersen mentioned that Council had recently debated a motion on “The Voice”. - She asked that the presenters from Yarnnup be aware that not all comment at the Council meeting reflected the views of all Councillors and certainly not hers - Other Councils that will be viewed in relation to this Council’s RAP include Parramatta, City of Sydney, Blacktown and Penrith Councils 	

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Details		Action
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Of the NSROC Councils, comprising 8 Councils, it is not certain how many have created RAPs - City of Ryde has recently joined the Western Sydney Business Chamber - This will be a good group to consider when progressing this matter - William noted that the discussion re “The Voice” is quite separate to Council’s RAP - A Councillor workshop in August will be addressed by Yarnnup - Will there be a connection with Metro land council groups and Council through this process? - Will be building a strong relationship with a number of groups through different connections already existing and to be made in the future - Land management, cultural practises etc will all be reviewed. - Don’t want to be too specific, want to make Ryde’s RAP very open to evolving and to be flexible - Work will now run from 12 to 18 weeks but this could change due to workload from review bodies - The scope of work can be provided to anyone interested - At present, Council is in the define the project stage - Information needs to be gathered at present - Key community members will be liaised with over the next weeks - There will also be engagement with Council and this working group - Project should finish up in early September if all goes well - Reconciliation Australia also has to review the information provided by Council - Penny will provide details of the speaker she heard at Field of Mars who has a strong knowledge of the local area and its history 	
5.	<p>Innovate RAP update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - See above 	Noted
6.	<p>National Reconciliation Week and NAIDOC Week</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Events were held at Macquarie University for Reconciliation week - A survey of students who attended the session was undertaken - Tomorrow there will be two Aboriginal history talks held at Ryde Library - One talk will be held in Korean and English - A further talk in Mandarin will be held soon - On 3rd June a games event will be held at Ryde Park. Koori Kinnections will show people how to play traditional Indigenous games and an information pack will be provided - On 4th June – two guided walks through Glades Bay with history of the area provided by a first nations person will be held - Colonial history will also be provided. - 2 X cultural dances proposed for NAIDOC Week - History of how dances are handed down through elders will also be explained and people can learn the dances. - A boat making session for children between 5 and 12 will be held at the library. - A Day for our Elders event will be held at Helene Park at Meadowbank on 8th July and will feature musical and dance performances, free BBQ, some info stalls and local artists will be on site 	Noted

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Details		Action
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Clr Pedersen mentioned an artist she is trying to find - She is the artist who created the artwork for Council’s RAP – Jessica Johnson is her name - It was suggested that records be kept of each of these activities through words, photos etc for the RAP - Sean would like to see the working group involved in the above activities and to play a role. Sean will contact members of the group. - Penny has lots of photos she can provide 	
8.	<p>General Business</p> <p>Sorry Day activity by Coota Girls Aboriginal Corporation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sean was not able to attend the event - Sean advised the working group of the event, but nobody present was able to attend - Anecdotally it was a success - Parramatta had a smoking ceremony which Jess saw and said it was good - Melanie has the following events coming up - Reconciliation Week event at Hornsby PCYC on 1st June - Initiated through Sydney north first nations collaborative - Different performances including a jazz singer have been engaged for other events to be held through the week - Dee Why NAIDOC event on 4th July 	
9.	<p>Next Meeting:</p> <p>The next meeting of this Working Group will be held on Wednesday 30th August 2023 in person and via TEAMS</p>	Noted.