

Subject:	Reconciliation Action Working Group – Minutes of Meeting	Page 1 of 4
File No:	CCS/21/68	
Document Ref:	D21/147241	
Venue:	Via MS Teams	
Date:	Wednesday, 13 th October 2021	
Time:	6.00pm	Started at: 6.05pm Closed at: 7.05pm
Chair:	Alison Salt	
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
	✓	Mayor Jerome Laxale	Councillor	City of Ryde
✓		Clr Penny Pedersen	Councillor	City of Ryde
	✓	Clr Christopher Gordon	Councillor	City of Ryde
✓		Clr Bernard Purcell	Councillor	City of Ryde
		Clr Edwina Clifton	Councillor	City of Ryde
✓		Alison Salt	Chairperson	
✓		Michelle Lawrence	Community Representative	
✓		Jessica Herder	Community Representative	
	✓	Guarav Patni	Community Representative	
		Lilian Hong	Community Representative	
✓		Kylie Tarleton	Community Representative	
✓		Melanie Gould		
	✓	Adam Whereat		
✓		Sue Verhoek	Senior Coordinator Community Services	City of Ryde
✓		Sean Willenberg	Community Project Officer Social Inclusion	City of Ryde
✓		Linda Smith	EA to Mayor and Councillors	City of Ryde

Details**Action**

1.	<p>Welcome and apologies and Acknowledgement of Country</p> <p>The Chair welcomed all present.</p> <p>Melanie Gould provided an acknowledgement to country.</p> <p>Those present and apologies are as noted above.</p>	Noted.
2.	<p>Minutes from the meeting dated 30th June 2021</p>	Noted

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	Details	Action
	The minutes from the meeting held on 30 th June 2021 were adopted.	
3.	<p>Presentation by Melanie Gould – Sydney North First Nations Collaborative</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - An interagency of services was developed in 2017. - The aim of this was to improve service provision. - The Collaborative is now multiagency in nature which provides a cohesive service and removes duplication, given the small local aboriginal population - The Collaborative works with community groups in the region including Hornsby PCYC. - The PCYC group meets fortnightly during school terms for indigenous students. - The Ryde womens’ group meets in Shaftesbury Place. - It has been meeting since 2017 when an indigenous population was identified in Ryde - Many of the women attending have a chronic care/health condition - For many of the women, attendance at the group meetings are their only social outing other than health appointments - The Collaborative supports a number of partners in the areas of health and literacy - In May of 2021, an event was held at Barker College where a number of organisations came together to conduct a check of eye and ear health of Aboriginal students from a number of schools - The Clinic saw 30 students over 2 days - The tests identified that 23% of the students had an issue with their middle ear - 40% had difficulty keeping on task and 7% had auditory issues - An optometry check found a third of the students required glasses. - The collaborative also provides advocacy and help to GP’s regarding services and govt subsidies for Aboriginal health - A new course catered to this region for GP’s and allied health professionals is also being developed. 	Noted.
4.	<p>COVID resources</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sean provided information about a booklet that has been produced to provide Indigenous people with facts about COVID, vaccination etc - Council has a COVID support page on its website and will include the above information - Sean will also send the information to the members of this committee so they can pass it on to people in their community - “Riverbank Frank” and other indigenous people are being used to promote the vaccine program for COVID in the Indigenous community - A suggestion was made that posters be erected in Council venues to promote vaccination 	Noted.
5.	<p>Council Web page update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - An Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander page is available on Council’s webpage - The page details dates of significance, Aboriginal history and COVID information. It also provides details of the women’s group. - A request was made that the page also promote Macquarie Uni as a place of study, widening participation program - Further that the page provide support for services and work being done by the healing foundation who are creating stories about history - The page could be used as a place of education for non-Aboriginal communities - It could provide links to other pages on Council’s website - It could provide information about how to cope with mental health during COVID 	Noted

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Details		Action
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Could put events coming up in Ryde and maybe Sydney on some occasions - Could start a register for Indigenous artists and businesses - Head to Health clinics have just been commenced – could promote these – Melanie to send details - Details regarding the Caber-ra Nunga program could also be provided. This program is delivered by Relationships Australia - A good news story could also be highlighted periodically - Information re procurement could also be provided and links about how to get support re procurement - Could respect, opportunities etc could be used as headings for the links to be provided - There is also an Aboriginal radio station that can only be found on line that would be worth promoting NIDS.org.au It brings in radio stations from all over Australia 	
6.	<p>RAP action items completed to date</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - On 30th Sept 2021, Council submitted 20 of 36 action items as complete - This forms part of the barometer report - Sean has access to the 2020 barometer report and will send through information from this. - He will also send 2021 information when it is available - TAFE has just submitted its RAP report and notes some of the great videos that were submitted - It was suggested that in future Council also compile some short videos - TAFE ran a survey regarding the understanding of Acknowledgement of Country with 93% knowing what acknowledgement of country meant but only 75% knew what country they were on - Kylie is happy to share that information, questions, videos etc 	The information was noted.
7.	<p>General Business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Cllr Pedersen raised an issue on behalf of Marilyn Wise who wants to arrange for the naming of an area in Meadowbank Park to be named after an aboriginal woman. - There is a plaque in Parramatta which uses the wrong name for this same Aboriginal lady - Ms Wise has lots of letters of support but wants to know what to do next - It was suggested she contact the Darug group at Parramatta - Auntie Elaine at Parramatta might be able to provide assistance - Sue Verhoek advised that Council’s Environment Team is looking into the matter and more information can be brought back to this group when that is complete - Information for the Darug elders will be sent to Sean - Alison asked if any member of the group could provide contacts for people able to provide a Welcome to Country - The information to be provided off line - NAIDOC events have been postponed due to COVID and will be held as part of other events to be hosted over the year - A working group will be created to assist with this - A question was raised regarding the Aboriginal history of Ryde book which had been mentioned previously. - Sean will chase this up as no update has been received. - NAIDOC event at RNS will be held later in the year. Details will be sent when available 	The information was noted
	Next Meeting:	

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Details

Action

	The next meeting of this Committee will be held on Wednesday 24 th November 2021	Noted.
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