

# Minutes

## Positive Aging Advisory Committee

Coffs Harbour City Council Administration Building  
Monday 6 June 2022



COFFS HARBOUR

CITY COUNCIL

www.coffsharbour.nsw.gov.au

|                 |                         |   |
|-----------------|-------------------------|---|
| Attendees:      | Judith (Jude) Cole (JC) | Committee Chair - Community Representative        |
|                 | Carol Burfoot (CB)      | Deputy Committee Chair – Community Representative |
|                 | Shawn Bergquist (SB)    | Coffs Coast Legacy                                |
|                 | Paul Tracey (PT)        | Blue Sky Community Services Inc.                  |
|                 | George Gardiner (GG)    | Community Representative                          |
|                 | Dennis Houghton (DH)    | Community Representative                          |
|                 | Cr Tony Judge (TJ)      | Councillor Representative - CHCC                  |
|                 | Heather Reid (HR)       | Council Staff Rep / Minute Taker - CHCC           |
| Invited Guests: | Mary Boyce (MB)         | Community Representative                          |
|                 | Sonia Doohan (SD)       | Coffs Harbour City Council                        |
|                 | Nicole McLennan (NM)    | Coffs Harbour City Council                        |
|                 | Richard Widders (RW)    | Coffs Harbour City Council                        |

| Item   | Discussion   | Actioner |
|--|--|----------|
| 1. Meeting Opened 10:04 am   |  |          |
| 2. Acknowledgement of Country  |  | Council  |
| 3. Apologies:  | Glen James (GJ), Michael Collins (MC), Gary Carr (GC), Adam Ellison (AE)   | Noted    |
| 4. <b>Business Arising</b>   |  |          |
| 5. Confirmation of Minutes   | 9 May 2022 – Noted   | Chair    |
| <b>6. General Business</b>   |  |          |
| 6.1 Ecotourism Certification and tourism opportunities for people with disabilities – Nicole McLennan, Team Leader, Industry Development | <p>In 2021, Council received certification as NSW's first Eco Tourism Destination (2nd only in Australia to Port Douglas). This required 100 points of accreditation and a proven strong, well-managed commitment to sustainability and high-quality nature-based tourism.</p> <p>While Council managed the process, our whole region and community was evaluated against six criteria:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Destination Management - sustainable development, infrastructure, planning and monitoring.</li> <li>2. Nature &amp; Scenery- wildlife, landscape and scenery.</li> <li>3. Environment &amp; Climate – management of water, waste, pollution and renewable resources.</li> <li>4. Culture &amp; Tradition - respect and protection of living culture, traditions, and cultural sites.</li> <li>5. Social &amp; Well-being - the way our community gets involved, looks after each other (and the land) and creates a strong, fair economy.</li> </ol> | Council  |



| Item | Discussion   | Actioner |
|------|--|----------|
|      | <p>6. Business &amp; Hospitality - how the tourism sector takes responsibility for sustainability, promotes our regions respectfully and looks after our tourists.</p> <p>Seven local businesses also have ecotourism accreditation.</p> <p>Council is using this certification as a framework to promote business development.</p> <p>Council has also produced a physical map of the local area and a QR Quest for children to move around different destination sites.</p> <p>Feedback:</p> <p>Issue of RV Friendly campsites (JC) – Ongoing conversation with Local Planning (NM)</p> <p>Noted that whale watching sites in Coffs Harbour LGA are often not listed in the media (GG) – Woolgoolga is however often championed as a prominent site for whale watching and Jetty Dive offer a swim with the whales experience (NM).</p> <p>Damage to walking track at the rear of Pacific Bay Resort (Charlesworth Bay) (JC)</p> <p>Solitary Islands Helicopter Trip is a great asset (GG)</p> <p>Issues relating to an increase in rubbish and noise for events such as Oztag which bring a large influx of visitors to areas such as the Jetty and Park Beach (SB). An education piece around the benefits of ecotourism is required to counter this negative influence (NM).</p> <p>Have seen social / generational changes in visitation to the Coffs Harbour LGA (DH). Covid has brought opportunities for areas such as Coffs with a national and international appeal. People are travelling outside of peak periods and there is an increase in demand for co-working spaces for people on working holidays (NM)</p> <p>Issue of unregistered motor bikes in State Parks frequented by mountain bikes and hikers. The Great Koala Park offers untapped potential for tourism (MB).</p> <p>Issues of safety for those using motor bikes in these areas with the SES required to often evacuate riders to formed fire trails for treatment by ambulances who cannot access these remote sites (DH).</p> <p>Opportunities for disused rail tracks to be converted to hiking/bike trails in the hinterland (PT). Council is presently looking at a number of small projects with the Glenreagh Mountain Railway (NM).</p> <p>Congestion at the Coffs Harbour Boat Ramp is an ongoing issue (JC). Council is to consider a report on Thursday (9/6/22) regarding a permanent solution to removal of sand (TJ). In some areas in the NT a stainless steel option is used for launching of boats in steep areas (PT).</p> <p>Need to consider amenity requirements for older people such as appropriate waste removal for continence products (SB).</p> |          |



| Item  | Discussion   | Actioner |
|---|--|----------|
|   | Would like to see a rock pool in Coffs Harbour (SB).   |          |
| 6.2 Update – Sonia Doohan, Section Leader, Community Planning & Engagement                          | Sonia will coordinate the Committee during Heather’s leave.<br>Currently, a number of documents to be adopted by Council during June including the Community Strategic Plan (CSP), Council’s Operational and Delivery Plan and Disability Inclusion Action Plan (DIAP).  | Council  |
| 6.3 Draft Positive Ageing Action Plan - Safety  | Currently, complete in draft format for review by Senior Staff prior to consideration by Council in late August/early September.<br><br>The draft document will then be placed on public exhibition for 28 days, with community invited to make a submission on Council’s Have Your Say webpage. The draft document will be circulated to the Committee at this time.<br><br>On closing of the public exhibition, a further report will come to Council, noting the public submissions and recommending adoption by Council. This will be late 2022. | Council  |
| 6.4 Role of elders in the Gumbaynggirr nation – Uncle Richard Widders, Aboriginal Community Planner | Discussion about the importance of elders to the Gumbaynggirr people and the complexities that exist in community.<br><br>Role of traditional owners/custodians of knowledge vs the general Aboriginal community.<br><br>The differing experience of ageing for Aboriginal people compared to the broader community.   |          |
| 6.5 Info Exchange / Round Table   |  |          |
| <b>7. Outstanding Actions Review – N/A</b>  |  | Council  |
| <b>8. Next Meeting</b>  | Monday 1 August 2022 at 10:00am, Venue – Coffs Harbour City Council Administration Building  |          |
| Meeting Close   | 11:49 am   |          |

