

Reconciliation Action Plan

Meeting Minutes

Monday 28 November 2022

6pm-8pm

Queens Park Room – Council Chambers

1. Welcome and Acknowledgement of Country

The Mayor acknowledged the traditional owners of the Waverley area.

Present

Councillors	
Clr Paula Masselos	Councillor
Clr Dominic WY Kanak	Councillor
Council Officers	
Emily Scott	General Manager
Ben Thompson	Director, Community, Culture and Customer Experience
Rebecca Rodwell	Manager, Community Planning & Partnerships
Matilda Brown	Aboriginal Community Development Officer
Community Member/Organisations	
Michael Mahoney	Resident
Gene Ross	Resident
Dr Sarah Jane Moore	Resident

2. Apologies

Clr Leon Goltsman, Clr Sally Betts, Clr Tony Kay, Clr Angela Burrill, Sharon Cassidy, Fletcher Rayner, Aunty Barbara Simms, Liz Tierney, Walangari Kantawarra, Damien Barnes

3. Welcome to new members and introduction

Matilda Brown was introduced as the new Aboriginal Community Development Officer.

4. Acceptance of previous minutes and matters arising

The March minutes were unable to be moved and therefore the March and October minutes will be considered at the next meeting.



Matters Arising

Gujaga Foundation unable to present the protocols and cultural audit information. To be organised for the first meeting in 2023.

5. Aboriginal Public Art

Rebecca explained the process that was being undertaken to select the Aboriginal Public Art which will be commissioned for the Bondi Pavilion. Elizabeth Reidy is leading the process from Council, and working with the Gujaga Foundation to identify and select the piece. A local story is the foundation for the shortlisted proposals (Whale Dreaming), and there are various protocols and criteria which are essential requirements of the work.

Elizabeth Reidy will attend the next meeting to update the committee.

The committee made the following comments;

- The art work will be a starting point for conversations
- The story (Whale Dreaming) should be available in written and spoken form, and also in Dharawal language

6. Reconciliation Action Plan

Officers will start working on a new map in early 2023. The process will be as follows;

- Utilise RAP templates and resources, which contain the minimum required actions and deliverables
- Establish an internal RAP Working Group (staff)
- Develop a consultation and engagement strategy
- Draft RAP will require 2-3 rounds of feedback from Reconciliation Australia, public exhibition, endorsement from Council and formal accreditation through Reconciliation Australia

Matilda is in the process of establishing a stakeholder list consisting of Elders, cultural knowledge holders, Waverley residents, and businesses with the aim of engaging with the wider community.

Suggestions from the committee included;

- An opportunity for a facilitated session for Aboriginal staff and the committee members to feed into the RAP development
- Ensure a range of voices are heard
- Provide opportunities for training, empowerment and skills development for the committee and community members seeking this support
- Council has the capacity to offer 'time, treasure and talent'
- The new RAP should be a living, breathing document

7. Uluru Statement from the Heart

Matilda is attending the Inner West Council training 'Walking Together', which is delivered by Sydney Alliance in late December. There is the opportunity for people outside of the Inner West to register for this if the committee members are interested.

Action – circulate the information about the dates and training to the committee

The statement requires a critical mass of support. Clr Masselos suggested she would raise the Uluru Statement campaign with the Mayors of our neighbouring Councils at their next meeting.

Action – Clr Masselos to discuss the Uluru Statement campaign with the Mayors of Bayside, Randwick and Woollahra to discuss collaborative opportunities



WAVERLEY
COUNCIL

There is significant support for the Statement, as part of the Waverley education campaign, we should consider contacting local businesses including Westfield.

Matilda has been developing a survey which will be launched shortly for people to register their interest for information and events regarding the Uluru Statement and Waverley's campaign. A dedicated webpage is also under construction.

8. Significant Dates - Planning for 2023

January 26

The committee recommended that Council host a small event on the 26 of January at 5:30 am to acknowledge the significance of the date for Aboriginal people, to honour the past, reflect and show support for our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community members and traditional owners. Council Officers will prepare a report for the December Council meeting. Suggestions include a smoking ceremony or fire, ochre and providing the opportunity for Elders to speak.

National Reconciliation Week & NAIDOC week

There are many activities and events which take place during these significant weeks. Council should consider our role in these and how we can support Aboriginal Organisations ie with use of space (Bondi Pavilion etc). This will be discussed at the next Advisory Committee meeting.

Remembrance Day

Dr Moore attended the recent Remembrance Day ceremony and appreciated the acknowledgement of losses for Aboriginal people as a result of wars. This should continue to be acknowledged in the future. The committee did not identify any changes which should be made for ANZAC Day.

9. Other Items

NIL

10. Meetings in 2023

9 March, 8 June, 6 September, 30 November

11. Future items for discussion

Mural – Chapel By the Sea