

# Arts & Cultural Advisory Committee



## Minutes

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**Date:** Monday, 20 May 2024  
**Time:** 7 – 9 pm  
**Venue:** Council Chambers and Via Zoom. The meeting was recorded  
**Chair:** Cr. Geoff Paine  
**Minute taker:** Jacqueline Felstead, Arts Program Officer  
**Attendees:** **Councillors:** Cr Geoff Paine (Chair)

**Committee Members:** Leanne Ipsen, Rebecca Davies, Ali Spoor, Chris Cook, Elsa Ch'ng\*, Terrie Waddell, Mel Paine, Jean Verso, Chloe Mann, Simone Thomson\*, Cassie May, Sandra Miller, Yu Fang Chi\*.

**Officers:** Nichole Johnson (Manager Community Partnerships), Saleh Hadi (Coordinator Arts & Cultural Development), Emily Wubben (Curator & Collections Management Officer)\*, Jacqueline Felstead (Exhibitions Support Officer), Ignacio Zamora (Arts Development Officer).

**Apologies:** Corrienne Nichols (Director Communities), Sarah Hammond (Arts Program Officer), Sammaneh Pourshafighi  
  
Zoom attendee \*

### Order of business

#### 1. Attendees

Attendance and apologies were confirmed.

#### 2. Acknowledgement of Country

Acknowledgement of Country was conducted by the Chair.

#### 3. Welcome and Introduction

Chair welcomed all in attendance.

#### 4. Conflict of interest and Informal Meeting of Councillors

No conflicts of interest were recorded.

**ACTION:** To submit Informal Meeting of Councillors Record to Governance.

## 5. Minutes from previous meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 19 February 2024 were confirmed as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

Moved: Leanne Ipsen. Seconded: Cassie May. Carried

## 6. Matters Arising

- Ayman Kaake and Nicholas Currie acquisition form to be distributed for signatures.

## 7. Updates

### **Creative Infrastructure Framework Update**

Endorsed 30 April 2024

#### **Current Steps:**

- Implement changes requested by Councillors
- Publish on Council's website

Next steps:

Creating an effective plan for Action Items, utilising what we have and ensuring effective and accessible spaces.

#### **Implementation Phase:**

- Survey + feasibility with relevant Council's Departments
  - Technical (identifying key sites)
    - Accessibility
    - Structural
    - Social placement within urban fabric
    - Financial

### **Art Policies and Guidelines Review**

Policies are scheduled for endorsement on 28 May 2024

#### Council level alignment:

Alignment with Council's adopted Arts and Culture Strategy 2022-2026, Equity and Inclusion Policy 2022-2025, Customer First Strategy 2023-2026, Gender Equity Action Plan 2022-2025, Health and Wellbeing Plan 2021-2025, Procurement Policy 2021-2025.

### External changes:

- The National Cultural Policy – Revive 2023
- National Association of Visual Arts – NAVA code of Practice 2023
- National Standards for Australian Museums and Galleries - 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition 2023
- Gender Equity Act 2020.

### Final stage:

Council Meeting 28 May 2024.

## 8. Officer Updates – Arts & Cultural Development

### Curator and Collections Management

- **Local Remix Still Life** opened 3 May at Montsalvat and includes significant collection works alongside commissioned installations by Nusra Latif Qureshi, Kenny Pittock, Tricia 'Vandal' Van Der-Kuyp.
- **Public Programs** - seven free public programs are included in the Local Remix offering.
- **Publication** 44 page catalogue and filmed interviews with artists shared on social media.
- **Engaging Spaces Panel** event for Business Week in collaboration with Economic Development and Tourism will run on 29 May at Montsalvat. Moderated by Victor Griss speakers include Sophie Travers, Philp Samartzis and Nusra Latif Qureshi
- **Acquisition**  
Proposed acquisition of Siri Hayes artwork Suspension 2023, a photogram made as part of her residency at Laughing Waters.

Supported by ACAC

**ACTION:** Formal acquisition recommendation forms to be circulated to ACAC members for approval.

### Arts Development – Public Art

- **Heidelberg Heritage Signs:** signage renovation project.  
Installation completed 1 May 2024
  - six new signs with upgraded materials, crisp accessible design, Acknowledgement of Country
  - Funded through Living Local Suburban Grants Program
  - Celebration lunch at ELCG and public walk through planned for June
  - Seeking grants to address signs in Research
- **Diamond Hills Pre-School Public Artwork:** Tim Reid installed sculpture on 14 March. Site specific and tells story of school. Official unveiling Friday 9<sup>th</sup> August with artist in attendance and acknowledgement of collaborators. 90% reclaimed

materials. Images and text address play and education as well as legacy of cross-generational connections.

- **Audit & Maintenance Plan:** Public Art Conservation assessment and strategy has been completed which gives a base from which to prioritise conservation works and budget in short-long term. The report covers 26 artworks and they are structurally safe for the public.
- **Update of public art website page** will include activities on conservation of collection.
- **Changing places:** Collaboration with disability and inclusion. Changing places are larger than standard toilets, space for assistance and showers. Received 16 applications and shortlisted four who were paid for submissions. 2 May 2024 - panel selection decided on works by 'Ling and Meggs' – they have 30 years of experience. The installation is inspired by landscape and the feeling of gradually lifting your eyes to the sky. Abstract – capturing feeling and emotion to create a relaxed atmosphere. Due to be finished by end of August 2024.

### **Arts Programs Officer**

**Nillumbik Prize for Contemporary Writing.** Anthology launched to over 135 attendees at Diamond Valley Library. Recital of works. Mayor and Youth Mayor in attendance. The NPCW24 was delivered in partnership with Writers Victoria and Yarra Plenty Regional Library.

### **Eltham Library Community Gallery & Socials (Exhibitions Officer)**

- **Midsumma Program: 2025 Rainbow Exhibition**  
LGBTIQA+ artists and curators are invited to apply for a solo or group exhibition at the Eltham Library Community Gallery. \$5000 project fee. Closes July 7
- **2025 Exhibition Proposals ELCG**  
Artists and curators are invited to submit ideas for solo, two-person and curated exhibitions for the 2025 exhibition program. Information session Thursday 6 June online and Wednesday 26 June in person. Applications close 7 July.

**ACTION:** ACAC Assessors requested.

- **Joanne McFadyen** Exhibition and sold-out workshop ran 11 June 2024.

## **9. Member Updates**

### **Chris Cook - Murwillumbah Art Trail**

**Leanne Ipsen - Face to Face exhibition** At Bridges in Hurstbridge, Nillumbik U3A artists (29 local artists). Exhibition of works where an artist is selected and works made based on their style and portrait

- Thanks were extended to Leanne and Chris for their presentations.

## **10. ACAC Membership**

- Expressions of interest for the 2024-2026 ACAC will be advertised from 30 May – 20 June 2024. Membership scheduled for endorsement at a Council meeting on the by 27 August 2024.
- Email will be sent out all regarding dates and timeframes of those whose 2022-2024 ACAC members that are finishing.

- Next meeting is last for those finishing in 2024. Will be kept updated with links to EOI.
- 16 in total including two Councillors.
- Can reapply – not limited in terms of reference.
- Aim is to ensure diverse group.

## **11. Other Business**

- Nillumbik Art Museum (NAM) was raised as a discussion point. It was requested that NAM come to a future meeting to present to the ACAC.

## **12. 2024 Meetings**

The next meeting is scheduled for **Monday, 19 August 2024.**

### **Close**

The meeting closed at 8.50 pm.

**Date:** Friday 2 August 2024

**Time:** 10.30am – 1.30pm

**Venue:** Nillumbik Shire Council; Chamber and via Zoom

**Chair:** Cr Frances Eyre

**Committee members:** Tanya Cottrell, Sandra Verdam, Ann Hutchinson, Kate Puls, Tom Fisher, Chantal Blitenthall, Richard Kottek, Janice Crosswhite, Joy Ferguson and Sheila Cheary

**Present:** **Council:** Leanne Horvath (Coordinator Community Support Services), Natalie Town (Senior Communication Officer), Cassie Zurek (Social Planning and Policy Officer), Mitch Walker (Community Development Officer) and Julie-Anne Grech (Business and Program Support Officer)

**Guest Speakers:** Nil

**Apologies:** Deanna Finn, Mahshid Ghorbani, Yuqi Yan, Annie Lee, Narelle Hart and Heather Macmillan

## Order of business

### 1. Welcome

Cr. Eyre welcomed all to PAAC. Apologies were noted.

### 2. Acknowledgement of Country

Acknowledgement of Country was read by Cr Eyre.

### 3. Conflict of Interest and Informal Meeting of Councillors Record

Nil

### 4. Minutes of previous meeting & Outstanding Action Items

That the minutes of the meeting held on Friday 7 June 2024 are confirmed as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

Moved: Sandra Verdam

Seconded: Kate Puls

Carried Unanimous vote

### 5. Business Arising

Nil

**6. Janice Crosswhite, PAAC Member, presentation on 80+ years free use of NSC's Leisure and Fitness Facilities**

Janice presented to the Committee the idea of providing residents who are 80 and over free membership to all Council supported leisure facilities in the Shire. Supported by her case study detailing current leisure facility use, numbers and benefits of free usage, Janice urged the Committee to support the idea.

All PAAC members present agreed that PAAC recommends to Council to support free use of their leisure indoor facilities for 80+ aged users.

Recommendation: That PAAC advises the Council to support free use of their leisure indoor facilities for 80+ aged users

**7. Natalie Town, Senior Communications Officer Nillumbik Shire Council, update on recent 'Council Communications' consultation.**

The Senior Communications Officer provided an update on the recent Participate Nillumbik 'Council Communications' consultation. The aim of the survey being to seek out what information residents would like to hear from Council and the best means of distributing this information. The feedback from PAAC included the following:

- Most importantly, hard copies of any information needs to be distributed throughout the Shire, especially in the outer areas that aren't readily accessible i.e. information distributed to all General Stores, Post Offices and Churches
- Ensure that the website is current with information and programs; and that all feedback links are working
- Distribute information via email, to allow those in the 'tech know' to distribute throughout their networks
- Noticeboards throughout the Shire are important for the dissemination of information
- What is the process involved in having an event or group highlighted in Nillumbik Communications / Publications? One of the Committee members noticed that a group external to the Shire was included in the Nillumbik News while the same type of group within Shire has not been highlighted.
- Topics that the Committee would like to see more of are upcoming local events and programs, information sessions, anything free that older people can attend. Particularly interested in the environmental issues

Query regarding how to encourage older residents to sign up to E-News. The Committee recommended using technology classes to teach older people in the community how to use/access the internet, how to access websites, how to download information, how to upload information/register for online events and understanding Social media. Natalie to continue this conversation with Chantel (Eltham Library).

A printed copy of the survey was handed out to Committee members who would like the opportunity to 'have their say' with -E form to be submitted within a week.

**8. Cassie Zurek, Social Planning and Policy Officer, Health and Wellbeing Plan update and looking forward**

The Social Planning and Policy Officer guided the Committee through an overview of the 2021 – 2025 Health and Wellbeing Plan (HWP) reflecting on Year 3 actions.

Priority HWP areas for Positive Ageing were considered for Year 4 based on the ‘Priority Areas’ of:

1. Social inclusion and connection
2. Community and climate resilience
3. Gender equality and prevention of family violence
4. Physical activity
5. Food
6. Reducing harm

Any new/additional ideas from the Committee for Year 4 were noted by the Social Planning and Policy Officer with feedback on what has worked well and been favourably received also acknowledged and transcribed.

The Committee have been asked to continue to reflect on the current Health and Wellbeing Plan and provide feedback regarding priorities and direction for the upcoming Plan. The Social Planning and Policy Officer will return to the Positive Ageing Advisory Committee to continue this planning process. Any further thoughts, directions or ideas can be forwarded to the Social Planning and Policy Officer at the following email address: [Cassie.Zurek@nillumbik.vic.gov.au](mailto:Cassie.Zurek@nillumbik.vic.gov.au)

**9. Mitch Walker, Community Development Officer, update on ‘food security’ work underway in Nillumbik.**

With the rise of first time users of Food Pantries in Nillumbik (4 major ones and a few smaller ones throughout the Shire) questions have been raised about how we support food pantries and the people who use them.

The Community Development Officer has begun to map the current services, networks and suppliers in and around Nillumbik (Manningham, Banyule and Whittlesea) which has led to the confirmation that the issue is an intersectional problem and comes from greater need within all Communities.

How can we collaborate and function together better as a Team to support those in need in the Community? How can we gather information in a respectful way to better understand these needs? How can we build knowledge? Nillumbik, in partnership with Banyule and working with the emergency relief network, is applying for a ‘Community Food Relief Program – Local Grant’ which supports local food relief activities and food security initiatives. The Community Development Officer will be investigating what is missing in the Community and working towards addressing these issues. The expectation is that support will be directed at data gathering and continuing beneficial conversations both within and outside of the Shire leading towards tangible actions.

Any suggestions that were put forward by the Committee were noted by the Community Development Officer and Committee Members were encouraged to contact the Community Development to wither continue the conversation or provide any ideas / suggestions moving forward. Mitch Walker can be contacted at [Mitchell.Walker@nillumbik.vic.gov.au](mailto:Mitchell.Walker@nillumbik.vic.gov.au)



## 10. Roundtable

Sandra – it has been beautiful to see groups and independent users having fun with the Tovertafel that has been recently installed at the Hurstbridge Hub. More demonstrations to come, please keep an eye out for the upcoming dates and share with your networks.

Richard – attended a presentation on supply and distribution of food for people in need which included the importance of safe storage of food. The group advised that Lite and Easy have a discount for those on a health care package (simple and easy).

Kate – really enjoyed Maggie Beer’s Big Mission Series that recently screened on the ABC. OPAN held a webinar ‘Food for thought: Your choice, your rights highlighting the importance of food for older Australians. Links, downloads and resources can be found at <https://opan.org.au/video/food-for-thought/>

Janice – the Panton Hill Tennis Club have had success with a State Government grant to add to local funding to have courts upgraded. Upgrades will include pickle ball as well as tennis. In October, to tie in with Seniors Week, the Club will be hosting a lunch at the clubhouse. The Club will be inviting the Panton Hill Living & Learning Centre, footy club and wider community as they are hoping to get younger people and families to use the facility and engage in social connection with those in their Community

Chantal – upcoming events at the Eltham Library during Seniors Month in October:

- Scam Awareness – Monday 7 October 11.00am to 12.00pm
- Understanding Type 2 Diabetes – Tuesday 8 October 11.00am to 12.00pm
- Eltham Orchestra – Saturday 12 October – 2.00pm to 3.00pm
- Embracing Local Wisdom – Wednesday 23 October 1.00pm to 2.00pm

All events are Bookable online at [www.yprl.vic.gov.au](http://www.yprl.vic.gov.au) (currently not available to book online at the moment but will be available soon).

Cr Eyre – provided a reminder that there is Walking Basketball at the Diamond Valley Sports and Fitness Centre and at the Eltham Leisure Centre. A Walking Soccer program has also just started at the Diamond Valley Sports and Fitness Centre.

## 11. Other Business

Cr Eyre thanked the Committee for all their hard work.

## 12. Next Meeting

**When: Friday 6 December 2024**

**Time: 10.30am – 1.19pm**

**Where: To Be Advised and Hybrid on Zoom**

**Meeting closed 1.21pm**

Action Summary Table			
Action	Who	Due	Completed?
Information/teaching sessions at the various Shire libraries to support (older) Nillumbik Shire Residents with the process of paying bills online.	Community Support Services, Customer Experience Team and Yarra Plenty Libraries	Timeline to be advised	<b>Proposed</b> information sessions supported by Customer Experience Team and Aged Care and Navigation Officer – 11 September 2024 at the Eltham Library and 13 September 2024 at the Hurstbridge Hub. Information is on Council website. Once printed information is available, to be distributed throughout the Shire as well as in the Mobile Library

**Current and upcoming Council engagements:**

Engagement	Details

# Environment & Sustainability Advisory Committee (ESAC) Minutes



**Date:** Wednesday 21 August  
**Time:** 6.00pm – 8.00pm  
**Venue:** Council Chambers  
**Chair:** Cr Ben Ramcharan  
**Minute taker:** Laura Nix, Kirsten Reedy

## Order of Business

1	<p><b>Welcome and Acknowledgement of Country</b></p> <p>Nillumbik Shire Council acknowledges the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people as the Traditional Owners of the Country on which Nillumbik is located. We pay our respects to Elders past, present and future, and extend that respect to all First Nations People. We respect the enduring strength of the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung and acknowledge that sovereignty was never ceded.</p> <p>Present: Lily van Eeden, Lucinda Flynn, Anne-Marie King, Malcolm Cock, Vasundhara Kandpal, Sue Rosenhain, Katrina Naish, Elnaz Ettehad</p> <p>Cr Ben Ramcharan, Cr Geoff Paine, Laura Nix, Kirsten Reedy, Leigh Northwood, Hannah Burns, Warren Tomlinson</p> <p>Apologies: -</p> <p>Absent: Orianna Edmonds, Graeme Lang, Andrew McMahon</p>	Chair
2	<p><b>Conflict of interest</b></p> <p>Conflict of interest provisions are contained in section 80C of the <i>Local Government Act 1989</i>, the Councillor's Governance Code, the Employee Code of Conduct and the Volunteer Handbook. No conflicts declared.</p>	Chair
3	<p><b>Minutes of previous meeting</b></p> <p>Confirm that the minutes of the previous meeting were a true and accurate record of the meeting.</p> <p>Moved: Malcolm Cock                      Seconded: Katrina Naish</p>	Chair
4	<p><b>Outstanding Action Items</b></p>	Chair
5	<p><b>Waste and circular economy</b></p> <p>Induction information provided on waste and recycling services in Nillumbik and legislative and strategic context.</p> <p>Discussion around textile reuse and recycling options, transition to glass bins in line with state government targets by 2027, soft plastics, and focus on diverting food waste from landfill.</p>	H Burns
6	<p><b>Urban tree canopy strategy</b></p>	K Reedy

	Process and timing update – the draft strategy will be considered by Council for adoption at the upcoming August Council Meeting.	
7	<p><b>Biodiversity Strategy</b></p> <p>Overview of new strategy (was adopted on 30 July 2024). Available at: <a href="#">Nillumbik Biodiversity Strategy 2024-2034 - Nillumbik Shire Council</a></p> <p>Discussion on the draft Year 1 implementation plan. Committee member thoughts on the proposed actions, and an indication of aspects that the committee might be able to provide advice on during the year sought.</p> <p>Discussion points raised included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Biodiversity budget – how can Council decision making be informed to result in necessary (more) budget allocation for biodiversity action?</li> <li>- Concern that there is community disengagement with, and cynicism about, Council’s consultation processes, especially when hard work in preparing responses and raising issues results in minimal change.</li> <li>- Interest in understanding how the implementation plan will be reported on.</li> <li>- The level of detail in the annual implementation plan, which is a list of proposed action to be delivered within current resources (‘what’ rather than ‘how’), some are specific, some are general functions of council, and some are investigative.</li> <li>- The need for the community to appreciate nature. Committee ideas to be explored at a future meeting.</li> </ul> <p><b>Action:</b> ESAC members to review the list of actions in the implementation plan and suggest items that they would like to discuss further.</p>	W Tomlinson
8	<p><b>Committee member presentation – Vasundhara</b></p> <p>Discussion on food sustainability and the ecological impacts of agriculture, and how such matters can be considered globally and in Council strategies such as the Municipal Health and Wellbeing Plan and Biodiversity Strategy.</p> <p><b>Action:</b> Vasu to distribute her one-page list of potential actions to ESAC members.</p>	V Kandpal
9	<p><b>Other business</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Member bios, working with children’s checks</li> <li>• Rethink Nillumbik – program introduction – upcoming sustainability events</li> <li>• Spring Outdoors – upcoming environment/nature events</li> <li>• Year 3 Climate Action Implementation Plan was endorsed on 30 July. Will be a key agenda item at next meeting. Available at <a href="#">Climate action - Nillumbik Shire Council</a></li> </ul>	
	<p><b>Next meeting</b> 19 February 2025 - due to upcoming local government elections on 26 October and associate caretaker period pre-election, counting of votes period (27 Oct – 15 Nov), and new councillor induction period (to early December)</p>	
	<p><b>Attachments in ESAC google drive</b></p> <p>Waste and recycling presentation slide-deck</p> <p>Draft Year 1 Biodiversity Strategy Implementation Plan</p>	

## Table of Open Actions

Meeting date	Action	Owner/s	Status	Comment
21/08/24	ESAC members to review the list of actions in the draft year 1 implementation plan and suggest items that they would like to discuss further.	ESAC		
19/06/24	New ESAC members to email Laura their bios for the website (for examples refer to <a href="#">Environment and Sustainability Advisory Committee - Nillumbik Shire Council</a> ). Existing members can provide an update to their 22-24 bio - or keep as is.	ESAC	In progress	<i>Awaiting bios from some members</i>
19/06/24	Officer to register all ESAC members for Council's environment and sustainability e-news. Members can unsubscribe at any time.	Officers	Complete	<i>Complete</i>
19/06/24	Discuss the Climate Action Plan (CAP), Biodiversity Strategy and waste/circular economy at upcoming meeting.	Officers	Scheduled	<i>Biodiversity Strategy and Waste/Circular Economy August agenda items; CAP to be on agenda at next meeting.</i>
19/06/24	Hard copies of the Nillumbik Climate Action Plan to be made available to ESAC members who would like one, at next meeting.	Officers	Complete	<i>Made available at August meeting</i>
19/06/24	Officers to ascertain whether a meeting in first week of December is possible.	Officers	Complete	<i>Advice provided that December meeting unlikely</i>

# Inclusion and Access Advisory Committee

## Minutes



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**Date:** Friday 23 August 2024  
**Time:** 10.00am – 12:00pm  
**Venue:** Nillumbik Shire Council; Council Chambers  
**Chair:** Angela Clare  
**Scribe:** Julie-Anne Grech

### Attendees:

#### Councillors:

Nil

#### Council Officers:

Narelle Hart (Manager Community Programs), Angela Clare (Disability Inclusion Officer), Ignacio Zamora (Arts Development Officer), Natalie Town (Senior Communications Officer), Chris Gipps (Recreation and Community Infrastructure Project Manager) and Julie-Anne Grech (Business and Program Support Officer)

#### Committee members:

Neville Coutts, Gina Lloyd-Thomas, Rhonda Bain, Helen Ryan (Araluen), Silvana Scibilia, Seane Cumming (Different Journeys), Aaron Williams (Brotherhood of St Lawrence), Nicole Coxford (Carers Collective)

#### Other:

Andrea Jovev, Aligned Leisure People and Compliance Officer



## **Apologies:**

Cr Perkins, Angela Lampard, Diana Warrell, Melanie Keely, Sue King, Shannon Morgan (St. John of God), Carol Lee.

## **Order of business**

### **1. Welcome by Chair, Angela Clare.**

### **2. Acknowledgement of Country**

Acknowledgement of Country was read by Angela Clare.

### **3. Conflict of Interest and Informal Meeting of Councillors Record**

Nil

### **4. The Minutes of the previous meeting held on 28 June 2024 were confirmed as a true and accurate record of the meeting.**

**Proposed:** Neville Coutts

**Seconded:** Helen Ryan

### **5. Accessible Work Experience (AWE) Program at Eltham Leisure Centre – Andrea Jovev, Aligned Leisure People and Compliance Officer**

#### **Disability Action Plan Priority Area reference: 5.2.5**

Andrea provided the Committee with an outline of their new Work Experience Program. Whilst it has taken a little time to design a program that participants feel comfortable with, the program has been a great success for the first two participants and for the Aligned Leisure staff. The two students from St. John of God have been quite independent of their carers and every effort has been made to customise a program for each participants individual

needs. The program has led to one of the participants enquiring about extended pathways to learning, a great result.

## **6. Changing Places artwork update (grant funded) - Ignacio Zamora Arts Development Officer**

### **Disability Action Plan Priority Area reference: 5.3.12**

The Arts Development Officer led the Committee through the selection process for artists for the murals in the Changing Places facility at Alistair Knox Park. Following an expression of interest process, 16 portfolios were collected, from which 4 candidates were shortlisted. Each of these candidates submitted a concept proposal with a selection panel including members of the Inclusion and Access Advisory Committee and the Arts and Culture Advisory Committee choosing the concept proposal by Ling and MEGGS.

Committee members commented that it was difficult it was to choose the final candidate given the talent of applicants.

Ling and MEGGS have over 30 years combined experience in producing large scale murals and public artworks in Melbourne, throughout Australia and internationally. Their proposal focuses on the use of colour, texture and balance inspired by the beauty of Eltham's natural landscape and the colour palettes of Australian native flora and the movements / shapes found in the local geography / landscape.

Two workshops are being coordinated between artists at Araluen and Ling and MEGGS. The contribution from artists at Araluen will be integrated as part of Ling and MEGGS final artwork design for the interior of the Changing Places facility.

The Arts Team (in partnership with Disability Inclusion) are also exploring further opportunities for external artwork via this grant initiative. This is yet to be confirmed.

Despite some unavoidable delays on-site, Changing Places and the associated broader toilet facilities are anticipated for completion by the end of 2024.



## **7. Communications check-in - Natalie Town, Senior Communications Officer**

### **Disability Action Plan Priority Area reference: 5.1.13 and 5.1.18**

The Senior Communications Officer provided an update on the recent Participate Nillumbik 'Council Communications' consultation survey. The aim of the survey is to seek out what information residents want to hear from Council and the best means of distributing this information. The feedback from the Committee included the following:

- Look at including Easy English and making the website more accessible for the vision impaired
- Not everyone is connected to the internet or knows how to use it so written / hard copy is very important.
- Face to face connections including pop-ups in town squares and speaking to community groups
- A committee member queried if there might be potential for volunteers to go door to door. Some committee members responded that for many people, door knockers would be unwelcome and an invasion of privacy.
- The lack of local newspapers impacting flow of information. Natalie advised that The Manningham / Nillumbik bulletin, Warrandyte Diary and Hurstbridge Roundabout are all still available in local pick up points
- Greater use of noticeboards
- The digital section of the library could provide an area for dissemination of information for the e-news
- Data collected on how many 'hits' each site or newsletter receives will help to gain insight into what are areas of interest for residents

The committee member from Different Journeys asked if there was a regular 'What's on in Nillumbik' brochure that they could distribute at their regular local social events. Natalie advised that the information was being updated constantly in the events webpages on the Nillumbik website.

Committee members were advised to visit [Events calendar - Nillumbik Shire Council](#).

A printed copy of the survey was handed out to Committee members for completion.

Committee members who could not attend this meeting are welcome to contact the Senior Communications Officer, Natalie Town to provide feedback (contact details below). Natalie can also send a hard copy of the survey, upon request. Feedback is requested by Monday 9 September.

**Natalie Town**  
**Senior Communications Officer**  
**Communications**  
[Natalie.Town@nillumbik.vic.gov.au](mailto:Natalie.Town@nillumbik.vic.gov.au)  
9433 3105 | 0418 871 979

## **8. Promotion of accessible features and spaces in Nillumbik – Chris Gipps, Recreation and Community Infrastructure Project Manager**

### **Disability Action Plan Priority Area reference: 5.1.22**

The Recreation and Community Infrastructure Project Manager presented a Recreation and Leisure Department overview, highlighting their work with trails, playgrounds, open space, sports grounds, sports infrastructure, project planning and delivery.

Currently the team are reviewing the Council website re: recreation and leisure content and are seeking feedback about how information is presented.

The team are working in partnership with Angela Lampard to improve website content and to assess/improve accessible features at Diamond Creek Trail, Hurstbridge Dog Park / Fergusons Paddock, Diamond Creek Regional Play Space, Eltham North Adventure Playground and Alistair Knox Park and Playground.

Some of the valuable suggestions from the Committee included:

- Noting where sitting points / park benches are located along routes
- Listing the distance between points i.e. how far is it on the trail from Edendale to Eltham centre
- Listing available water taps
- Distance to toilets / facilities
- What BBQ areas / eating facilities / tables are available
- Greater signage for cyclists i.e. advising that trails are shared trails or more signage directing cyclists to give way to walkers
- The Hurstbridge Dog Park is not overly accessible
- Include information on each page about reportable incidents
- Include information about which areas are on/off leash for dogs including acceptable dog/owner behaviour
- Detail which times at each area are busy/less busy for those wanting a quieter play
- Diamond Creek Regional Play Space is very hard to find; needs better physical signage
- Detailing which areas have fencing / physical barriers
- Whether carparks are sealed or unsealed
- Snake safety in summer

Any further suggestions in addition to the above can be directed to the Recreation and Community Infrastructure Project Manager 0437 241 701 or email [Chris.Gipps@nillumbik.vic.gov.au](mailto:Chris.Gipps@nillumbik.vic.gov.au)

## **9. International Day of People with Disability Grant applications to date – Angela Clare, Disability Inclusion Officer**

### **Disability Action Plan Priority Area reference: 5.3.5**

The closing date for applications has been extended by one week to 1 September 2024 due to lower than expected numbers of applications.

Angela advised that two applications had been received so far. One application was for workshops for people with disability to create Christmas decorations and giftwrap from recycled textiles (Christmas ReFelt) and one for a community Mental Health workshop and morning tea, exploring issues around the co-

occurrence of mental ill health with autism and intellectual disabilities.

Angela advised that in alignment with the Council Community Grant Policy, any grants under \$5000 per individual award are now required to be assessed by an internal Council panel. Successful applications will be promoted via the Disability Inclusion e-newsletter.

Should the grant pool not be expended, any unspent funds will be carried over and made available next year.

## **10. Other Business and reminder about the election period**

The election period starts at midday on 17 September and ends at 6pm on 26 October. Advisory Committee meetings will not be held until after Council's Extraordinary Meeting which is likely to be held in the middle to end of November 2024.

## **11. Next Committee meeting:**

**Where:** Nillumbik Shire Council (Council Chamber)

**When:** 13 December 2024

**Time:** 10:00am - 12:00pm.

Please reach out to Angela Lampard about any Agenda items you'd like to propose.

**Meeting closed 12pm**

<b>Date:</b>	Thursday 29 August 2024
<b>Time:</b>	4.30pm – 6.30pm
<b>Venue:</b>	Eltham Community and Reception Centre 801 Main Road, Eltham
<b>Chair:</b>	Cr Natalie Duffy
<b>Minute taker:</b>	Tania Treasure
<b>Present</b>	Cr Duffy, Carl Cowie, Orianna Edmonds, Katrina Naish, Wayne Kinrade, Sarah Panneels, John Gawne, Luke Marshall, Malcolm Cock, Patricia Weinberg, Hudson Brown, Nicole Staveley, Chanmali Tregambe & Tania Treasure
<b>Apologies</b>	Simon Mauger, Georgie Nathan

**1 Welcome and Acknowledgement of Country**

- Cr Duffy welcomed EDAC committee members for the 2024 -2026 term.
- We acknowledge the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people as the Traditional Owners of the Country on which Nillumbik is located, we pay our respects to Elders past, present and future, and extend that respect to all First Nations People. We respect the enduring strength of the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung and acknowledge that sovereignty was never ceded
- Each member provided an introduction of their professional background and why they joined EDAC.

**2 Conflict of interest**

- No conflicts declared

**3 Minutes of previous meeting**

- Supported

**4 Admin**

- Members asked to sign the Advisory Committee Policy Declaration, electronic copy provided with agenda, hard copies provided at the meeting.
- Members to email Tania a short bio.

**5 Introduction to being a member of EDAC**

- Refer to attached presentation.

**6 Introduction to key guiding Council strategies**

- Refer to attached presentation.

## 7 Key matters that members would like EDAC to work on

- Broad discussion of ideas that included:
  - Set out a plan for what could be achieved and how
  - Circular economy
  - What are the common threads that connects the different towns
  - Businesses connection to the community i.e. festival and events
  - What is our economy and where are the opportunities
  - Intergenerational programs connected to skills and labour
  - Need to consider all of the municipality, more broader than the major townships
  - Businesses experience higher costs for electricity and payroll tax than other metropolitan areas
  - Promote visitation throughout the region
  - Transport is often a challenge to encourage visitors to travel throughout the region
  - Opportunities to promote the night time economy in our townships
  - Social enterprises how they are supporting our community
  - Explore how producers can work together to sell their products
  - Explore need to support businesses with succession planning
  - Encourage business practices that enhance sustainability
  - Harness the train line to promote townships
  - Next meeting to explore opportunities within the Economic Development Strategy objectives and what budget is available

## 8 Other business

### **Next Meeting**

*Date:* Thursday 5 December

*Time:* 4.30 to 6.30 pm

*Venue:* Eltham Community and Reception Centre

# Panton Hill Bushland Reserve System User Group - Advisory Committee



## Minutes

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<b>Date:</b>	Thursday 5 September 2024
<b>Time:</b>	7.00 – 8.45pm
<b>Venue:</b>	Panton Hill Living and Learning Centre
<b>Chair:</b>	Cr Karen Egan
<b>Minute Taker:</b>	Lydia Heap
<b>Committee Members:</b>	Bob West, Lee Hartman, Cathy Giles, Lydia Heap
<b>Other:</b>	Brad Tadday, Bridget Russell
<b>Apologies:</b>	Janice Crosswhite, Mark Hood

### Order of business

#### 1. Welcome and introductions

Observers are reminded their role is to observe only, unless called upon by the Chairperson to participate.

#### 2. Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people as the Traditional Owners of the Country on which Nillumbik is located, we pay our respects to Elders past, present and future, and extend that respect to all First Nations People. We respect the enduring strength of the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung and acknowledge that sovereignty was never ceded.

#### 3. Apologies

Janice Crosswhite, Mark Hood

#### 4. Conflict of Interest and Informal Meeting of Councillors Record

Conflict of interest provisions are contained in sections 126-131 of the *Local Government Act 2020*, the Councillor Code of Conduct, the Employee Code of Conduct and the Advisory Committee Members Code of Conduct.

An Informal Meeting of Councillors Record must be completed at the meeting in accordance with Item 19 of Council's Governance Rule - Meeting Procedure.

#### 5. Minutes of previous meeting

Confirmation of Minutes required for meeting held 20 June 2024. Moved Cathy, Accepted Lee

## 6. Completed Action Items

**(3) Janice offered to send a sympathy card for Susy Penrose on behalf of the Advisory Committee members.** Status unknown.

**(8b). To find out what the licencing fee would be per name/sign and if it is a one off, or an annual etc. Clarification if it is actual licencing or if it is payment for someone to do the research. Bridget.** Done by Brad. Clarified it is a one-off payment and is to help with the research on the names etc. Cost not yet determined, but would be an overall for the project, future names used in the project would also be a part of this. Would need a quote of the costings and what it covers and for how long it would last. Could get the signs ready and decided if we include the indigenous names or not.

**(9g). Cathy / Karen to organise a date for woody weed working bee with St Andrews Pony Club.** Peter Stuart, president of pony club. Have had one working bee on 3<sup>rd</sup> August, which included other projects too. Planning to schedule another working bee once the ground is wet. Mechanical methods are not much good compared to hand removal for the particular woody weeds. Peter to advise Brad of a date. Will probably be after caretaker period. Can arrange for contractors to help and to mulch remains. Or get the contractors to remove the bigger stuff beforehand. There is some funding from the Rivers to Ranges grant project.

**(9j) Brad to get contractors to prune Kunzea on Bulwidj trail.** Done twice. Once by Heath's team (Operations Centre) and once by Brad's (Environmental Works) contractor to increase visibility around corners. Trail much more usable and safe.

**(9k) Brad to organize an onsite meeting to discuss Bulwidj gully crossing trail re-design.** Brad and Mark met at the trail. Looking at possible realignments or solutions. From bike perspective better to go more to the boundary fence so allow the bikes to slow so they can see across the crossing to see oncoming users. From horse perspective, need the steps to be back. Same for walkers. Bikes come quite fast so end up bouncing and being out of control. Need to consider how to make bike riders take the correct path, simple signs directing cyclist v's walkers/horse riders. Would need to remove a couple of trees to make the diversion, so will need a permit for vegetation removal. Will confirm with users before creating the diversion.

## 7. Outstanding Action Items – N/A

## 8. Works update and planned works

- a. Threatened fauna monitoring and management – Orchids, Southern Toadlet, Brush-tailed Phascogale, Slender-tailed Dunnart.

**Orchids.** Planted orchids survived, are flowering and some naturally pollinated. Royal botanic gardens have been trying to catch the pollinators for one of their projects. Council has been asking for more information regarding how many of the native bees they intend to take.

**Southern Toadlet.** A lot of erosion happening in Chinaman's Gully, trying to get a grant to mitigate the erosion, caused by deer, also gully head erosion. Have fenced around the head cut and are getting some coir logs and jute matting to try to slow the water down and revegetate it. Did some planting with the Pantan Hill Primary School, 2 classes planted about 300 plants which will help to slow the water and create toadlet habitat.



**Phascogale** Not much happening with phascogale

**Slender tailed dunnart.** Setting up artificial habitat, in Yanggi and Bunjil (Southern Spur trail), and another site in centre of the reserve. Yirrip reserve shows signs of dunnarts (nest). Will set up more tiles in Yirrip. Jacky lizards around the tiles in Bunjil. Will do one monitoring event later in the year. Are hard to capture on camera.

- b. Deer control program – Bunjil. Finding out if there is interest from the private property surrounding it. Also looking at viability of doing deer control within the reserve. Don't want to do a lot of damage by dragging them out, but could leave carcasses in the more remote parts. May use carcasses to attract and control foxes. Fences in Chinaman's Gully seem to be working.
- c. Kunzea thinning through Bulwidj Trail and gully crossing solution. See previous. Will need to be monitored and thinned approximately yearly.

## 9. Interpretation Design Plan Implementation Working Group Update

- a. Interpretive signage for Wurundjeri Food, Fibre and Medicine Garden at Bunjil Reserve. See above, need a quote for indigenous names. Need a quote for the design of the signs. Needs a quote for the manufacturing and installation of the signs. Main sign would probably be located near the "troll bridge" (gully crossing). Trail is becoming overgrown so some are not using it as a loop. May need some pruning and brush-cutting to make it clearer. Will need some way-finding signs for the Food Fibre Medicine Garden, Wurundjeri Seasons Seating Circle, and the Listening Post. Will have a directional sign at the "totem pole" sign at the junction of the main trail.
- b. Listening posts. Community Partnership / Place and Events team have been project managing. Paradoxa only want the seven seasons area at the seating circle at the food, fibre and medicine garden, not other aspects of the reserve. The listening post will probably be at the second seating circle (main trail, past Bunjil's nest and the first orchid fence) and will have more about general reserve information (as per Interpretation Design Plan) and stories as discussed last meeting regarding scripts. Have sourced Robert Marshall's historic material and may incorporate it too.

## 10. Community Engagement

- a. Friends of Bunjil Reserve – Wurundjeri Food, Fibre and Medicine Garden, weeding and reveg maintenance.
- b. Panton Hill Primary School – engagement in activities in the reserves including planting in Chinaman's Gully Southern Toadlet site and the Wurundjeri Food, Fibre and Medicine Garden,
- c. Wimbi Planting Event. Father's Day. Had reasonable turn out for Father's Day (4 families from Panton Hill Primary and individuals from Smiths Gully Landcare and PHBRS AC. Got most of the plants in. Would be a good site to do further work.

## 11. Other Business

Neighbouring property to Bulwidj has sold (910 Kangaroo Ground - St Andrews Road)

12. **End of current Committee term December 2024** – Farewell. Brad distributed cards and vouchers to outgoing members. Membership of new committee will be advertised after the new Council is elected. Would be good to get another bike rider and people from the school.
13. **Meeting finished 8:45pm**