



Blue Mountains Heritage Advisory Committee: Minutes

Date:	Thursday 5 December 2019	Time:	1pm to 4pm
Location:	Grose and Megalong Rooms, 2 Civic Place, Katoomba		
Chair:	Kim Barrett (Councillor Van Der Kley was unable to attend due to bush fire activity in the Blue Mountains and Councillor Brown arrived late due to car trouble. The meeting was therefore Chaired by Kim Barrett)	Deputy Chair:	Cr Kerry Brown
Present:	<u>Committee Members:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cr Kerry Brown (arrived at 2:29pm) • Juliana Swatko • Elizabeth Saxton • Suzanne Mitchell • Ruth Longdin • Ron Powell • Kevin Smith • John Low • Elizabeth Burgess • Jan Koperberg • Rod Stowe • David Payne • Ross Ingram 	Observers:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kim Barrett, BMCC Manager City Planning • Sara Reilly, BMCC Senior Heritage Planner • Gary Parsons, BMCC Economy Place & Infrastructure Director • Christo Aitken, BMCC Heritage Advisor • Tamwyn Daley, BMCC Systems Management Officer • Senthil Kasiannan, BMCC Heritage Advisor • Rachelle Schubert, BMCC Administration Officer
Apologies	Committee Members (absent): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cr Van der Kley • Will Langevad • Korrily Twomey • Gay Hendriksen • Bernie Fehon • Mark Jarvis • Phillip Hammon 		
TRIM File:	F05752 – 19/283668		

Speaker	Comments	Actions:
Item 1 – Meeting Commencement		
Chair	Kim Barrett opened the meeting at 1.12pm.	
Item 2 – Acknowledgement of Country		
Item 3 – Welcome and Apologies		
Chair	Kim Barrett welcomed the newly appointed members to the committee, gave an overview of the committee's role and her background in archaeology and planning.	
Item 4 – Confirmation of Previous Minutes		
Chair	<p>The Heritage Advisory Committee confirmed the minutes from the previous meeting, subject to the following amendment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The date of the Heritage forum should reflect May 16 and 17 2020. <p>Moved by Ron Powell and seconded by Kevin Smith.</p>	
Item 5 – Declaration of any Conflicts of Interest		
Chair	No declarations were made.	
Item 6 – New & Existing Member Introductions		
ALL	Committee members and observers advised of their backgrounds by way of introduction	
Item 7 – Update from Director on Council heritage assets		
Gary Parsons	<p>Gary Parsons provided an overview of the following assets:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Katoomba Falls Kiosk: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The asset is currently vacant. A draft Conservation Management Plan prepared by GML Heritage, along with a Schedule of Conservation Works have been received. Hazardous Material Survey and Structural Survey reports have been received with no alarming inclusions. Currently preparing a Request for Quotation for works including the removal of hazardous materials and “squaring” up of the building, prior to investigation of potential uses for the building. 	

Speaker	Comments	Actions:
	<p>The Heritage Advisory Committee discussed:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Ruth Longdin noted the submission made to include Katoomba Falls Kiosk in the Cliff Top Walk, and suggested potential interest of National Parks and Wildlife Service to purchase or lease the building. Gary Parsons noted that selling would not be an option given the location on a Crown Reserve, however consideration would be given to this submission and notes that current installation of underhand rail lighting would lend itself to this idea. Kevin Smith queried the budget, with Gary Parsons advising that the budget was attributed to the Building Better Regions fund and has been matched dollar for dollar by council with a rough estimate of 750-800K. On behalf of Phillip Hammond, Ron Powell queried the length of time between completion and next use of the building, suggesting that active use keeps the building in better condition. Gary Parsons advised that suitable interim uses were being investigated. Suzanne Mitchell requested the report from GML Heritage. Kim Barrett queried whether a DA was required. Christo Aitken advised one or two aspects may raise a potential DA issue however most can be done through minor works. Kim Barrett then noted public notification for minor works is not required if not a DA. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> ACTION: Gary parsons to confirm receipt of the submission regarding leasing the Kiosk to National Parks and Wildlife Service as part of the Cliff Top Walks. COMPLETE <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Advice from Gary: Council has not received a submission from NPWS in relation to their use / lease of the Katoomba Falls Kiosk. Contact has been made with BM NPWS Director David Crust to confirm if NPWS have any interest in the future use of the structure.</i> ACTION: Gary Parsons to provide CMP report from GML to Committee members. COMPLETE ACTION: Gary to provide details of minor works not notified at the next meeting. COMPLETE <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Advice from Gary: Katoomba Falls 'minor works' not to be notified are as follows;</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Removal of all asbestos from the building and relining and replacement of ceiling insulation</i> <i>Relocation of main Electrical Distribution Board</i> <i>Repainting internally and minor external repair work to enable painting. (GML have</i>

Speaker	Comments	Actions:
		<p><i>developed a schedule of paint colours)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Connection of the sewer to the Kiosk (subject to Part 5 approval and AHIP)</i> ○ <i>AHIP approval in process.</i>
	<p>2. 170-174 Leura Mall known also as Wayzgoose café</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Council report proposed for November meeting on the future of the property was delayed until the February 2020 meeting so as to include further work on risk assessments for the options. • The organisational redesign has been positive and there is now a dedicated Property Manager, Tan Vo. • Interim options will also be put to Council to ensure a strong solution for the property. <p>The Heritage Advisory Committee discussed:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. As a Member the Leura Village Association, Ron Powell noted the issue of heritage interpretation for Leura itself, noted the benefit of raising knowledge of the building's significance, and suggested that the Heritage Advisory Committee could provide input. Ruth Longdin suggested that Katoomba also may warrant this study. Christo Aitken noted that John Millgate, from Sydney, is a long distant relation and that there is possible capacity to find local family. b. Suzanne Mitchell queried whether the previously approved plans for the building were shelved. Kim Barrett advised that the Local Planning Panel approved the design subject to conditions. Gary Parsons noted that Council is working through the schedule of conservation works as per the approved DA; further, Council is not proposing to change the conditions and is currently working toward a construction certificate. Kim Barrett noted that the conditions cannot fundamentally change the approved plans. 	<p>4. ACTION: Gary Parsons to provide Wayzgoose approved conditions, and any subsequent revisions, to the Committee. COMPLETE</p>

Speaker	Comments	Actions:
	<p>3. Solitary Restaurant</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> At the November 2019 meeting, Council received a report to approve a new 20 year (4x 5 year) lease that has since been taken up by the current lessee with negotiations currently being finalised. Council has undertaken minor works with consent including getting the building water tight, timber and roof works, formalisation of the cool room and under pinning of slabs. <p>The Heritage Advisory Committee discussed:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Ruth Longdin noted that the building would have been less substantial than the kiosk, and Gary Parsons agreed that the building was more temporary in the nature of its construction. Gary Parsons noted the lessee's interest in investing into the property as well as their awareness of its heritage significance, as per meetings with both himself and Christo Aitken. Suzanne Mitchell queried the existence of a Conservation management Plan, and Gary Parsons advised that the current lessee has commissioned one. Suzanne Mitchell queried whether Council has a list of recommended firms. Kim Barrett and Gary Parsons noted that they can provide a list of reputable firms but cannot make recommendations due to probity issues, however noted that further direction from the Department of Planning may be beneficial. Suzanne Mitchell queried the date for the reopening of the building, and Gary Parsons agreed to confirm the program. <p>Gary Parsons left the meeting, however the Heritage Advisory Committee noted his invitation to future meetings. Kim Barrett advised that Kirrilly Twomey, who is responsible for heritage areas in parks and memorials, would also be invited to future meetings.</p>	<p>5. ACTION: Provide the Committee with Solitary opening date and program. COMPLETE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Advice from Gary: Solitary restaurant do not yet have a date for their official reopening as they are finalising their DA. They have been taking selected bookings for small functions.</i> <p>6. ACTION: Gary Parsons and Kirrilly Twomey to be included on HAC meeting invitations. COMPLETE</p>
Item 8 - HAC Priorities for 2020		
Kim Barrett	<p>Kim Barrett advised of the creation of a 2020 program for priorities of the Heritage Advisory Committee to allow for timeframes and appropriate resourcing, and requested Committee members to email through ideas.</p>	<p>7. ACTION: Members email Tamwyn any ideas of priorities for 2020. COMPLETE</p> <p>8. ACTION: Kim Barrett to create a draft program to bring to the next meeting. COMPLETE</p>

Speaker	Comments	Actions:
	<p>The Heritage Advisory Committee discussed:</p> <p>1. Heritage of Western Sydney app</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Sara Reilly provided an overview, noting its potential use as a platform to provide information to the Blue Mountains community and that thus far each council had created 20 sites. b. After recently joining, BMCC is looking to launch 20 sites, with input being requested from the Heritage Advisory Committee, noting that only publicly accessible sites will be included. c. Ron Powell suggested inclusion of a village rather than an individual site, and Sara Reilly noted that text is limited to 200 words per site. d. Suzanne Mitchell advised of the City of Sydney's free Culture Walks app which takes you around various parts of the city, and noted that distance and time might be a consideration. e. Sara Reilly noted that the HoWS app could potentially be launched at the Heritage Expo, and Ruth Longdin suggested that launching at the ICOMOS event in October 2020 could be an alternative. f. Christo Aitken noted a push to get a higher profile for the Old western Road and the need to write bare bones for a statement of significance, and that BMACHO has an existing trail that could be used as an existing guide for this. g. Ruth Longdin queried whether links could be included in the app. h. Ruth Longdin suggested a systematic approach to determining inclusion of sites in order to tell a complete story, and Sara Reilly agreed that assessing those sites against criteria would ensure the lists cohesiveness. i. John Low noted that Mt Victoria had launched an app for walks and that it had recorded stories, and suggested enquiries be made to other village associations as work may have already been undertaken. 	<p>9. ACTION: Sara Reilly to look into whether the inclusion of links in the app is possible. COMPLETE</p>
	<p>2. Varying levels of significance for walking tracks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Ruth Longdin noted that walking tracks owned by Council were listed as locally significant, however those same tracks if on NPWS land listed as being of state significance. Ruth stated that these tracks all warrant state heritage listing or at least consistent listing. Ruth suggests that the kiosk should have state heritage listing as part of a larger network of tracks and believes that all tracks owned by Blue Mountains City Council need a CMP. 	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> b. Christo Aitken noted that whilst mapping the walking tracks had progressed, there are issues with tracks crossing private property. c. Kim Barrett advised that walking tracks were part of the heritage review, however the public/private issue was unable to be resolved and so were separated, d. Ruth Longdin stated that she had come across this issue when providing advice to NPWS about the introduction of horse riding on already established state heritage listed NPWS tracks. It was one of the most problematic planning issues for them but they were able to resolve it. It takes time but should be rectified. e. Senthil Kasiannan noted that review of the walks' significance would not be an immediate priority for Heritage NSW, particularly given potential issues with ownership. f. Ruth Longdin suggested that the review would still be worthwhile given that a number of the walks were in poor condition and that listing could increase funding. <p>Clr Brown arrived at 2:29pm and agreed that Kim Barrett would continue to chair.</p>	
	<p>3. Memorials and small plaques</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. John Low noted the lack of policy or funding for the maintenance of small memorials and plaques, further noting that without such over time they become forgotten and neglected and so suggested the need to document small memorials. b. Kim Barrett advised that the Manager of Cultural Services was looking to create a register of public art and suggested a consolidated list inclusive of memorials and plaques, for which the Committee would be welcomed to provide input. c. Ruth Longdin suggested that a Conservation Management Strategy be prepared to prioritise threatened sites and Sara Reilly suggested that the Public memorials and Public Art Policy could be revised and updated. 	
	<p>4. Heritage factsheets</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Elizabeth Burgess queried the creation of heritage factsheets highlighting benefits and constraints for residential owners of heritage listed properties. b. Kim Barrett agreed that BMCC is now better resourced to provide that service to improve the reputation of heritage. c. Elizabeth Burgess also noted that this would inform owners of available grants. d. Ruth Longdin noted an article on the Heritage Network advised that properties within heritage listed areas increase in value. 	

Speaker	Comments	Actions:
	<p>5. Review</p> <p>a. Rod Stowe noted that during the Independent review into Community Consultation on Heritage matters, the Heritage Advisory Committee agreed to look at the schedule of works on heritage assets.</p>	<p>10. ACTION: bring this to the next meeting. Kim to discuss with Gary Parsons</p>
	<p>6. Climate Change</p> <p>a. Christo Aitken noted his recent attendance at an ICOMOS workshop on climate change and offered the Heritage Advisory Committee to become involved, possibly by forming a sub group.</p> <p>b. Cr Brown noted that gardens are part of heritage items and increasing difficulties in their management in the face of climate change.</p> <p>c. Ron Powell advised that it is possible to make applications to Sydney Water in order to not comply with water restrictions.</p> <p>d. Ruth Longdin noted her interest in being kept up to date on climate change information as well as the subgroup.</p>	
	<p>7. Working Groups</p> <p>a. Suzanne Mitchell requested that working groups be revisited.</p> <p>b. Kim Barrett advised that this would be the mechanism to achieve the priorities.</p>	<p>11. ACTION: Members email Tamwyn any ideas of priorities for 2020 COMPLETE</p> <p>12. ACTION: Kim Barrett to create a draft program to bring to the next meeting. COMPLETE</p>
Item 9 – Heritage Grants		
9.1 Blue Mountains Local Heritage Assistance Fund update		
Sara Reilly	<p>Sara Reilly gave a status update on the local heritage assistance fund, noting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 16 applications for EOI were received, including fencing, repairs to weatherboards, windowsills, sashes and frames, roofing, painting and restoration of minor building elements. • Criteria for being in the fund focused on minor works to property that contribute to streetscape and heritage conservation values. • Applications were predominantly from the large Heritage Conservation Areas, and were assessed in accordance with documents from the Office of Environment and Heritage. • Assessment led to the \$11,000 to be distributed across eight properties. • Varying amounts for funding were dependent on how much the owners were also willing to contribute. 	<p>13. ACTION: Sara Reilly to report back to HAC when works completed.</p>

Speaker	Comments	Actions:
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Signage will be installed in the property frontage indicating their part in the funding. • Works are to be completed by end March 2020 and will be inspected to ensure in accordance, with an update to be provided to the Heritage Advisory Committee upon completion. <p>The Heritage Advisory Committee discussed:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Ross Ingram queried whether this could form one of the panels, and Sara Reilly agreed that this was a good idea. b. Suzanne Mitchell queried the likelihood on funding being increased next year. c. Sara Reilly advised that the \$11,000 was over two years with BMCC matching that amount. d. Kevin Smith queried whether BMCC was looking at the funding, and Kim Barrett advised that BMCC would look at it after two years, noting that whilst Heritage NSW is currently re-establishing itself, BMCC would be advocating for increased funding. e. Ron Powell noted that it could be desirable for information about grants generally and in particular, the successful grants to form part of static display at the Heritage Forum. 	
Item 10 – General Business		
10.1 Document & Correspondence Management		
All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Committee members provided updated contact information to administration. • Kim Barrett proposed Objective Connect as a way of sharing information and files between Council and the committee. The added benefit being that all advice and research from the committee will automatically be saved into Councils record management system. The committee was happy to move forward with this program 	<p>14. ACTION: Tamwyn Daley to create and disseminate procedures for Objective Connect COMPLETE</p> <p>15. ACTION: Tamwyn Daley to determine if folders can be used on Objective Connect DONE</p>
10.2 Update on outcomes from Council meeting (Pulpit Hill, etc.)		
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Pulpit Hill report <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. The draft report was amended based on feedback from the Heritage Advisory Committee, which was then provided at the Council meeting on 26 November 2019 and unanimously supported. b. Council acknowledged that this is a starting point that will be expanded upon with the timeframe of 12-24 months, noting that this may be a project. 	<p>16. ACTION: Tamwyn Daley to send Report and enclosure to Committee DONE – Objective Connect</p>

Speaker	Comments	Actions:
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> c. Key point that QR codes will be included on signage. d. Ruth Longdin queried whether the historic path connecting the trees and grave site would be removed, further noting that she had met with RMS representative Paul Peters and that he was willing to discuss. e. Kim Barrett advised that Paul Peters did not mention it to her, although noted that there is a draft update to the 2012 Conservation management Plan provided to the Committee. f. The announcement to the duplication of the highway has a clear intersection with the site. g. Suzanne Mitchell queried whether the historic path was heritage listed and Kim Barrett advised that the site is locally listed as a whole. h. Kim Barrett noted that if the tree requires emergency attention as declared by the RMS, it overrides local heritage provisions. i. Ruth Longdin noted that heritage legislation generally was not strong enough. j. Ruth Longdin noted that if an error is made in initial research it is repeated as she sees in this case with the site not having been interpreted as a whole. k. Ruth Longdin queried the timeline for the highway, and Kim Barrett advised that clear coordinates had not been received, although BMCC has received 60 submissions on the Local Strategic Planning statement on the highway upgrade. l. Kim Barrett explained that Explorers Tree is a live issue and that BMCC is working with RMS, however noted the key issue is who will fund the movement of the tree if required, as well as possible temporary storage of the tree. m. The Heritage Advisory Committee discussed the history and significance of the tree. n. Kim Barrett advised that a conservator, a heritage engineer and a consultant from GML will be onsite this week, noting that there are many options although the Greater Western Highway would need to be closed which is the biggest challenge. 	<p>17. ACTION: Send draft Pulpit Hill CMP to the committee</p> <p>18. ACTION: Add CMP inaccurate information to the next agenda</p>
10.3	Lone Pine Memorial, Leura	
Clr Brown	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Clr Brown tabled an email concerning an ongoing battle concerning the installation of flagpoles on the memorial, and queried the appropriateness of this, particularly given the purpose of the memorial during events such as ANZAC Day and Remembrance Day. b. Suzanne Mitchell noted that research was undertaken three years ago. c. Rod Stowe noted that at a Remembrance Day service he attended, flagpoles were removed as they were deemed not compliant with BMCC requirements. 	<p>19. ACTION: Clr Brown to liaise with John Low regarding the installation of the flagpoles.</p>

Speaker	Comments	Actions:
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> d. John Low discussed the original lone pine and the planting of trees in memorial for soldiers who died in Europe, as well as the gates being original to the opening of the memorial. e. Ron Powell suggested temporary flagpole installation for services, although noted the question of whose responsibility it was then to store and assemble them. f. Kim Barrett advised that a temporary flagpole may be possible on a heritage item as long as the Heritage Impact Statement did not raise any issues as part of a development application should this be required. 	
Item 11 – Blue Mountains Heritage Forum		
Deputy Chair / Kim Barrett / Ron Powell	<p>Ron Powell made apologies for Phillip Hammond, Bernie Fehon and Mark Jarvis and introduced plans for the Heritage Forum proposed to coincide with Australian Heritage Festival in May 2020, noting that discussions today is to frame up what that would look like, and who would be responsible for what task.</p> <p>The Heritage Council Advisory Committee discussed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. The development of the concept for a heritage expo as a result of earlier workshops that considered the effectiveness of BMCC’s community engagement on matters of heritage. b. The steering committee to possibly hold fortnightly out of session meetings up to the next Heritage Advisory Committee meeting. c. The list of tasks tabled by Ron Powell. d. Possible locations, including Lithgow or Katoomba, noting that the dates coincide with the Ultra Trail Marathon in Katoomba, Mt Victoria, the Savoy Cinema e. The original decision was to focus on built heritage, branding and options for tours and lectures. f. Kim Barrett noted that in the previous meeting, the Heritage Advisory Committee agreed on a one day forum split into two half day sessions, and queried whether this was still the case. After further discussion, the Heritage Advisory Committee agreed to this in principle. g. Kim Barrett confirmed that as Council is hosting the event, it needs to be free and there cannot be a charge for tours. Should other venues wish to hold tours (such as the Carrington Hotel) this would have to be a separate event. h. Rod Stowe asked whether the Council would consider issuing a media release drawing attention to the expanded membership of the Committee and noting this represented the implementation of the first initiative arising from the review of 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 20. ACTION: Ron to disseminate the draft Heritage Forum program. COMPLETE 21. ACTION: Tamwyn to circulate the list of tasks. DONE 22. ACTION: Members to review the list, and advise of their preferences by return email to Tamwyn. 23. ACTION: BMCC to confirm the venue. 24. ACTION: Sara Reilly to arrange the children’s activity. 25. ACTION: Kim Barrett to send through a draft of Program A and Program B with sights that have worked well. 26. ACTION: Kim Barrett to arrange a media release advising of the new member appointments to the Heritage Advisory Committee, if not already done.

Speaker	Comments	Actions:
	community consultation on heritage matters. Kim Barrett indicated that she thought a release might already be in preparation but would check	
Chair	Next Meeting Date and Times – not discussed.	
Chair	Meeting closed at 4.38pm.	