



## **Record of Discussion**

Reflect Reconciliation Advisory Committee Meeting, 9am Friday 28 October 2022,  
JC Rose Room, Council Chambers

### **1. Declaration of Opening of Meeting**

Shire President, Cr. Omodei declared the meeting open at 9:00am

**2. Acknowledgement of Country** delivered by Shire President, Cr. Omodei  
The Shire of Manjimup respectfully acknowledges the Noongar people as the Traditional Custodians of the lands in which we work throughout the region and we pay our respects to their Elders, past, present and emerging.

### **3. Attendance / Apologies**

#### **ATTENDANCE:**

Cr. P. Omodei (Chair)  
Cr. Cliff Winfield (Council Representative)  
G. Ipsen Cutts (Shire of Manjimup)  
S. Kelly (ATSI Community Stakeholder)  
S. Griffiths (ATSI Community Stakeholder)  
K. May (ATSI Community Stakeholder)  
F. Sinclair (Community Representative)  
V. Dei-Tos (Shire of Manjimup – Proxy and Note Taker)

#### **APOLOGIES:**

W. Eiby (Community Representative)

#### **ABSENT:**

B. Cornwall (A&TSI Community Stakeholder)  
W. Herdigan (ATSI Community Stakeholder)

**GUESTS:** Nil

### **4. Declaration of Interest - Nil**

### **5. Confirmation of Minutes**

Minutes of 9 September 2022 Meeting are a true and correct record.

Moved: S. Griffiths                      Seconded: K. May

## **6. Business Arising from Previous Minutes**

Council received Committee's submission of Noongar names - Djidi-djidi, Koolbardi and Dwanart - for laneways in Manjimup. Submission will form part of public consultation for ultimate consideration by Council.

Ms Ipsen Cutts was absent at last meeting and wished to address several issues discussed and included in the Record for that Meeting:

### Round Table Comments – Wayne Herdigan – Support for Indigenous Youth

- The Shire is not seeking to appoint an Aboriginal Liaison Officer. The intent was to hire a Reconciliation Project Officer, funded from the Department of Community Services budget, to assist in implementing the objectives of the Shire's Reconciliation Action Plan.
- The position has been twice advertised with no suitable applicants.
- The position is being restructured with the potential to offer it as a full-time traineeship.
- The Department of Community Services has sought Indigenous Traineeship funding on two occasions. The first was unsuccessful and the second is yet to be announced.
- Discussions around identifying State Government positions for Indigenous youth are outside the scope of the RAP Advisory Committee's Terms of Reference.

### Round Table Comments – Suzanne Kelly – Entry Statement

- New Southern Forests and Valleys signage will include a banner across the bottom that could include Town/Shire-specific wording. However, only one sign has been funded and the Shire has four major towns.
- Ms Kelly suggested a separate sign in a wrought iron cut-out style, potentially with the image of a Manjin (Yanget) Reed.
  - Ms Ipsen Cutts advised that it could be included as part of the Icons Trail which should also highlight the area's Indigenous heritage.
    - Icons Trail sculptures cost \$15,000 each. Funds are being set aside in the Shire's Heritage Reserve annually. Once the savings reach \$100,000, the Shire will seek matching Federal funds so that additional sculptures can be added to the Trail.
- The eventual location of any entry statement signage will be important.
  - Mr Winfield suggested it could be attached to the uprights of the timber arch.

### Round Table – Fiona Sinclair – Cultural Tourism in the Shire

Ms Ipsen Cutts advised that feedback had been provided to Australia South West that the new Destination Management Plan left the Shire of Manjimup poorly represented in relation to cultural tourism.

She noted that if there were local Noongar People interested in developing an Indigenous cultural tourism start-up in the region, it would be supported. To date, there has been little interest from the community so the Shire had focussed, instead, on visual activities promoting Noongar Culture.

#### Round Table - Wendy Eiby – Australia Day – Changes

Ms Ipsen Cutts clarified that the separation of the Citizen of the Year awards would be conducted outside of the Shire's annual Australia Day celebrations in 2024.

### **7. General Business / New Matters**

#### · **New Matters**

##### Expanding Membership of RAP Advisory Committee

Mr Winfield queried whether other members of the local Indigenous community could be invited to join the Advisory Committee?

Ms Ipsen Cutts agreed to investigate whether there are positions vacant and report outcome at next meeting.

Moved: Cliff Winfield                      Seconded: Gail Ipsen Cutts

##### Tourism Information Boards at Manjin Park

Information on the four tourism boards at Manjin Park is dated and does not reflect a true or contemporary understanding of the Indigenous story of the area. The need to update it provides a good opportunity to review the kind of information to be provided to visitors at that location.

- One of the four boards will provide a general introduction to the Shire while the remainder will focus cultural and natural heritage information with a focus on telling a more enriched cultural story of Indigenous People in the area.
- The upgrade will be funded from the Department of Community Services budget and will include hiring someone with the appropriate knowledge and skills to ensure a professional final product.
- Further feedback from Advisory Committee members over coming weeks would be welcome. Consultation with DBCA may also be useful.

#### · **RAP Project Updates**

- Projects are ongoing and will continue to be reviewed at future meetings. Updates on specific projects included in Round Table discussions.

#### · **Round Table:**

Vanda Dei-Tos

- Provided update on three major library activities.

- Feedback on the recent The Manjimup Library and Art Gallery's *Bush Bounty* workshop has been very positive. Presenter, Dale Tilbrook, gave an interesting presentation on the historical, traditional and contemporary Noongar uses of various plants, fruits and nuts for nutritional and medicinal purposes. Some 21 attendees participated including a small group of East Manjimup (upper) Primary School students.
- Eighteen artists have registered to participate in *Noongar Seasons: Nature in Transition* project. A number have asked to submit two works. The expectation is to have about 28 paintings in total to draw on for the street banners and to feature in an exhibition. The first two paintings arrived yesterday.
- The workshop with Menang Gnudju Elder, Carol Pettersen has been postponed until early 2023.

#### Katrice May

- Jakob Quinney was awarded the Vivienne Karahoutis Indigenous Award at the Manjimup Senior High School (MSHS) Graduation night on Thursday 27 October.
- Follow the Dream activities are scheduled for Tuesday's and Thursday's, to assist Indigenous students to catch up on schoolwork or practice for ATAR and OLNA
- MSHS students have been invited to attend:
  - a 'taste' of UWA on 22 November in Perth.
  - A 'taste' at a university in Sydney.
  - Koomal Dreaming excursion at King Jarrah Park
  - Bunbury Senior High School Careers and Cultural activities event
- Ideally, in 2023, MSHS is seeking to host Indigenous-related activities involving students, parents and teachers on a monthly basis not just during NAIDOC Week.

#### Fiona Sinclair

- The successful *Reclaim the Void* weaving workshop will be offered to all schools in the Shire.
- Southern Forest Arts is discussing having inter-school art activities with local schools culminating in a possible *Connecting to Country*-themed event at the Sandra Donovan Shell in 2023-2024. Similar events could be staged in subsequent years.
  - This project is not yet funded; however, schools have confirmed their interest in participating.

#### Susan Griffiths

- Working with Northcliffe District High School to prepare signage reflecting Noongar names local to the area for posting around the school.

#### Cliff Winfield

- Advised that he has 12 Indigenous-themed interpretive panels (originally developed for the Minninup Pool in Collie) that could be useful in the project to update the tourism information boards at Manjin Park.

#### Suzanne Kelly

- In response to the Chair's suggestion that a representative from the Karri Karrak Corporation should present at a future RAP and/or Council meeting, Ms Kelly advised that this was more likely in mid-2023. Currently, the Corporation was working through legislative arrangements ahead of the first meeting of the Cultural Advice Committee in December.

#### Gail Ipsen Cutts

#### Biddi Virtual Trail and Reconnection Vision

Working with Sue Kelly on this project to capture and celebrate Noongar heritage within our region. It will show the intersections within and connections to surrounding regions and encourage similar projects in other regions to connect to our story. This country is one where many tribes and language groups intersected and travelled - the aim is to show these trails as a virtual experience celebrating and exploring the following themes:

- connections
- research the stories
- identify the significant and cultural sites
- reimagining how Noongar people travelled through and used the land across the seasons - One location is Dombacup State Forest - Silcrete Sand Quarry at Northcliffe (spears were straightened here with fire pits)
- Cultural and Oral recordings
- Capturing unique language - dialect - Bibbulmun, Minang and Kaniyang as well as Murrum story
- burial sites – significant sites
- what the area names are and meanings

#### SCOPE and CONSULTATION

- Seek Permissions - Karri Karrak Elders; SWALS; Historians like Len Collard; and local custodians.
- Location - Large 'map' with seasonal gardens surrounding it - story telling and trading routes and lines and intersections - a visual story.
- Submit an ILA Federal Grant for May 2023

## Tourism

An arts proposal has been launched that will include lead-in events to the WA Bicentenary such as Perth Festival shows held in regional areas.

Albany is preparing for its Bicentenary in 2026 with a wide range of events planned including many that will focus on telling the story of the regions First Nation People.

- Already, Albany has approximately 68 locations with Noongar names / dual names.
- An interesting note is that it is also the only town in Western Australia with the statue of a Noongar Elder in its main street.

## 8. Meeting Closed – 10.00am

9. **Next Meeting:** **24 February 2023**  
2023 Meeting Dates: 28 April, 30 June 25 August and 27 October

## Action Items

Ms Ipsen Cutts to investigate whether there are positions vacant and report outcome at next meeting.