

PRESENT

Members:

Clr Roberts (Chairperson)
Jo Davidson
Vana Ford
Jenny Hooper
Jenny Hutchison
Heather Rawson
Krissa Wilkinson
Suzie West
Lesley Atkinson

Other Attendees:

Nil.

The meeting opened at 4.00pm.

01 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

The Acknowledgement of Country was delivered.

02 APOLOGIES

CONSENSUS:

That the apologies received from Clr Griffiths, Rod Howard, Sheree Munday and Kelly O'Brien be confirmed.

03 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

CONSENSUS:

That the Minutes of the Arts & Cultural Development Committee Meeting held on 24 April 2012 be confirmed.

04 DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

There were no disclosures of interest presented.

05 BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

Arts & Cultural Development Committee (ACDC) members indicated that they wished to discuss PlayRites and AquaSculpture13 from the previous minutes or 24 April 2012. The Chairperson requested that these items be discussed in the General Business section of the Agenda and Committee members agreed.

06 INTRODUCTION OF NEW CHAIRPERSON COUNCILLOR ADAM ROBERTS

The new Chairperson of the ACDC (Clr Adam Roberts) was introduced to Committee members by the Director of Community & Cultural Services (Lesley Atkinson).

Clr Roberts provided a summary of his personal and professional interests and indicated that he was keen to look at where the ACDC sits within the bigger picture of cultural development. He also provided an overview of the direction the newly elected Council is taking, noting that the Councillors were currently looking at all activities of Council, how they were being done and the financial aspects of this.

Clr Roberts also advised that he is the Chairperson of the Glasshouse Portfolio and with this role in mind he felt it is important to have a connection with the ACDC. He encouraged Committee members to make a submission to Council regarding the Glasshouse strategic direction which is currently on public exhibition and closes 18 April 2013.

CONSENSUS

1. That the direction that the new Council is taking be received and noted.
 2. That Committee members be encouraged to submit a written submission on the strategic direction of the Glasshouse prior to the closing date which is 18 April 2013.
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07 PURPOSE AND FUTURE OF ARTS & CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

A wide ranging discussion was held with Committee members contributing their ideas and opportunities for the future of the ACDC. A list is provided below:

1. There should be more regular meetings (ie monthly).
 2. Meetings should be held in the Gallery which is a more creative space than Council Headquarters.
 3. The Committee needed to be more representative of the whole community and all art forms.
 4. Committee members should have a broad cultural focus, not just be focused on their
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- own special interests.
5. The Committee should support “grass roots cultural development” activities in the Port Macquarie-Hastings community.
 6. Perhaps each Committee member could invite another interested person to the meeting to assist.
 7. The Committee should work closely with the Glasshouse and be the connector between the Glasshouse and the community.
 8. A potential role of the Committee is to create linkages between young children and public art.
 9. Review the Charter.
 10. Use the Committee to develop a community arts network.
 11. Why is there not a Mayoral Cultural Fund, in the same way there is a Mayoral Sporting Fund?

CONSENSUS:

That the Committee participate in the discussion on the purpose of the Committee, terms of reference, membership, length of membership and future of the Committee.

08 COMMUNITY CONSULTATION REGARDING THE STRATEGIC DIRECTION OF THE GLASSHOUSE

This matter was brought forward and discussed with Agenda Item 06 above.

CONSENSUS:

That the Committee receive and note the discussion of the strategic direction of the Glasshouse.

09 GENERAL BUSINESS

09.01 AquaSculpture13:

The Chairperson has discussed the AquaSculpture13 event with the Mayor, General Manager and Director of Community & Cultural Development and at this stage, a determination has not been made as to whether the event will happen in 2013. Councillors are close to adopting the 2013/14 budget and this is determine whether there are sufficient funds to hold the event in 2013.

Jenny Hutchinson advised that if the event is not going ahead that a statement needs to go:

- On the AquaSculpture Website
- To all schools in the PMHC area
- To all ACDC members for them to forward to their contacts
- To the Artists database from the 2011 event

Statement provided by Cllr Roberts:

“Council has supported an event called AquaSculpture since 2003 which is a water themed outdoor project that has been held on Town Green every two years.

The newly elected Councillors are currently reviewing all of the operations and programs of Council in aid of creating their four year Delivery Program and upcoming financial year Operational Plan.

Council staff have made the decision not to run the AquaSculpture13 event and await Councillor plans, direction and resource allocations for Council’s involvement in Community and Cultural Development before committing to supporting this event in the future.

Community members are encouraged to participate in the upcoming opportunities to provide feedback on the Delivery Program and Operational Plan when they go on exhibition in the coming weeks.”

She also advised that some of the members have devised an event for 2013 that could be pulled together reasonably quickly and at a minimal cost.

CONSENSUS:

1. That the AquaSculpture 13 event not be held, and
2. That a statement advising that AS13 is not going ahead be sent to:
 - To all schools in the PMHC area
 - To all ACDC members for them to forward to their contacts
 - To all artists that participated in the AS11 event
 - Noted on the AquaSculpture Website
 - Via a media release
3. That once Councillor plans, directions and resource allocation for Council’s Community & Cultural Development, a determination be made on whether to hold any future AquaSculpture events.

09.02 PlayRites:

The Committee has advised that the draft budget has an allocated amount of funds in it to hold this event in 2013, however, this needs to be confirmed once the budget has been finalised and adopted by Council.

CONSENSUS:

1. That the PlayRites event not be held in 2013.
2. That once Councillor plans, directions and resource allocation for Council’s Community & Cultural Development, a determination be made on whether to hold any future PlayRites events.

The meeting closed at 5.40pm.