



Aboriginal Consultative Committee Meeting

Thursday 8 December 2022

2.00pm

Council Chambers

209 Comur Street, Yass

ABORIGINAL CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

NOTICE OF MEETING

Dear Committee Member,

A meeting of the Aboriginal Consultative Committee will be held in Council Chambers 209 Comur Street, Yass, on Thursday 8 December 2022, commencing at **2.00pm**

AGENDA

Page No.

Acknowledgement of Country

1. Apologies

2. Declaration of Conflict of Interest

3. Confirmation of Minutes

Minutes of Aboriginal Consultative Committee Meeting held on 6 October 2022

4. Staff Reports

4.1 Aboriginal Flag at Yass Soldiers Memorial Hall7

5. Items for Discussion

5.2 Ideas for NAIDOC Celebrations

5.3 Aboriginal Community Expo

6. Next Meeting – 27 April 2023

Close of Meeting Time

Cr Kim Turner

CHAIR

Committee Members: Crs K Turner and M Reid, C Cronan, R King, K Denny and S Shea



Minutes of the Aboriginal Consultative Committee Meeting

Thursday 6 October 2022

3.00pm

Council Chambers

209 Comur Street, Yass

Table of Contents

1.	Apologies	2
2.	Declaration of Conflict of Interest.....	2
3.	Confirmation of Minutes.....	2
4.	Presentation.....	2
5.	Staff Reports.....	2
4.1	Acknowledgement of Country on Council's Email Signature and Letterhead	2
4.2	Aboriginal Flag at Yass Soldiers Memorial Hall	3
6.	Next Meeting.....	3

Minutes of the Aboriginal Consultative Committee Meeting held on 6 October 2022

Present

Cr M Reid, Cr K Turner, C Cronan, K Denny, R King, S Shey

Also Present

C Berry – General Manager, L Safranek – Director Corporate & Community, H Sparkes – Acting Manager Community

1. Apologies

Nil

2. Declaration of Conflict of Interest

3. Confirmation of Minutes

COMMITTEE DECISION

That the minutes of the Aboriginal Consultative Committee Meeting held on 30 June 2022 be taken as read and confirmed.

4. Presentation

5. Staff Reports

4.1 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY ON COUNCIL'S EMAIL SIGNATURE AND LETTERHEAD

SUMMARY

To consider the options for an Acknowledgement of Country statement on Council's email signature and letterhead.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

That Council works in partnership with Local Land Council and members of the Aboriginal Consultative Committee to create a unique banner and sticker with a unique to country Acknowledgement of Country, including use of a local artist.

4.2 ABORIGINAL FLAG AT YASS SOLDIERS MEMORIAL HALL

SUMMARY

To present a report on a proposal to permanently fly the Aboriginal Flag at Memorial Hall, Yass in recognition of our first Australians.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

That Council facilitate a representative of the Yass RSL Sub-branch, Aboriginal Consultative Committee, and Local Land Services to come together to discuss the flying of the Aboriginal Flag at the Yass Memorial Hall in early November 2022.

6. Next Meeting

Thursday 8 December 2022, at 2.00pm in Council Chambers, 209 Comur Street, Yass

The meeting closed at 4.24pm

4.1 ABORIGINAL FLAG AT YASS SOLDIERS MEMORIAL HALL

SUMMARY

This report outlines the approval by Council at its November 2022 Meeting in relation to consultation undertaken with stakeholders in relation to the flying of the Aboriginal Flag.

RECOMMENDATION

That the report on the Aboriginal Flag at Yass Soldiers Memorial Hall be noted.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil

REPORT

Staff undertook consultation with the Aboriginal Consultative Committee who determined that Council facilitate a meeting with a representative of the Yass RSL Sub-branch, Aboriginal Consultative Committee, and Onerwal Local Aboriginal Land Services to come together to discuss wording for a survey in relation to the permanent flying of the Aboriginal Flag.

Meetings were held on 4 and 11 November 2022 with the President of the Yass RSL Sub-branch, Steve Neuhaus, CEO of the Onerwal Aboriginal Land Service, Sonia Shea, and a representative of the Aboriginal Consultative Committee, Cindy Cronan. These meetings were held in a conciliatory nature, with all parties looking for a way forward on this matter.

It was determined at these meetings by those present were representing the major stakeholders in this matter and that the proposed survey would only inflame the matter.

Following discussions, it was proposed to seek Council support to resolve this issue by taking down the Aboriginal Flag from the Yass Soldiers Memorial Hall to enable the Yass RSL Sub-branch to lower the NSW State flag in a formal ceremony, then to raise the Aboriginal Flag by representatives of the Aboriginal Community with a formal ceremony. This would provide the appropriate dignity for both flags.

It was also agreed to request Council to include two new flag poles on the verandah of the Yass Soldiers Memorial Hall as part of the ongoing renovations. It was acknowledged that this could take up to 5 years to complete. It is proposed that the two poles would fly both the Australian National Flag and the Aboriginal Flag. Alternatively, it may be better to add an additional two flag poles adjacent to the cenotaph to avoid any problems with flag flying protocols which indicate that the Australian Flag must be the most prominent flag.

At its meeting in November 2022 Council resolved:

That the permanent flying of the Aboriginal Flag be resolved by:

- 1. Taking down the Aboriginal Flag and placing up the New South Wales flag, to then enable a formal ceremony to lower the NSW flag and raise the Aboriginal flag by the Yass RSL Sub-branch and the Yass Aboriginal Community.*
- 2. Installing additional flag poles at the Yass Soldiers Memorial Hall and the cenotaph in Comur Street to allow the Australian National Flag and the Aboriginal Flag to be permanently flown in accordance with the protocols in the Department of Prime Minister & Cabinet publication Australian Flags 2022 as part of the proposed renovations.*

It was determined during the consultation that the formal ceremonies should be held on 12 December 2022, to coincide with an Aboriginal Community Expo being held at the Yass Memorial Hall on that day. Arrangements are being made by the Yass RSL Sub-Branch to formally lower the NSW State flag at 10am, and the Onerwal Aboriginal Land Council is organising a formal ceremony for the raising of the Aboriginal Flag immediately following.

ATTACHMENTS: Nil