



MINUTES

Community Development Committee

held at

Lithgow Library and Learning Centre
Meeting Room
157 Main Street Lithgow

on

Tuesday 13 May 2025

at 4:00 PM

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2. Present

Councillors - Cass Coleman Mayor, Clr, Eric Mahoney, Clr Elizabeth Fredericks

Members - Glenda Anthes, Tim Roberts (online), Reiden Bernsten, Rebekah Bernsten, Leanne Walding, Sarah Arnold, Rachel Young, Dennis Limbert, Carol Cropper, Emma Mason, Nathan Mas-Stephens, Shirley Gray,

Staff - Director People and Places, Director Finance and Governance, Manager Community & Culture, Events Coordinator

Presenters - Tracey Kane-White, Colleen (consumer representative), Monique Price – Nepean Blue Mountains Primary Health Network – Wentworth Healthcare

3. Apologies

Brett Groves, Joy Smith, Aunty Helen Riley, Karla Priestly, Jo Koleda, Ian Douglas – withdrawn due to illness

MOVED: Dennis Limbert. **SECONDED:** Shirley Gray

CARRIED

5. Confirmation of Minutes

ACTION:

That the Minutes of the 19 March 2025 Community Development Committee are confirmed and should be reported for endorsement to Council on 26 May 2025.

MOVED: Glenda Anthes **SECONDED:** Leanne Walding

CARRIED

5. Matters Arising from Previous Minutes

Leanne notes that the TOR should not limit the amount of people on the committee and suggests that the wording be changed to reflect a minimum number of members from represented groups.

MOVED: Glenda Anthes **SECONDED:** Leanne Walding

CARRIED

6. Presentations

Tracy Kane-White, Manager Stakeholder Engagement made a presentation to the committee on an **Overview of Nepean Blue Mountains Primary Health Network**

Cr Mahoney asked about capacity building with community service providers. Monique noted that the PHN 'Health Connectors' are one way that they address this.

Sarah Arnold noted that local supports for people with co-occurring circumstances like dementia and AOD dependency are limited. Monique noted that she could get back to the committee with more information on this.

Glenda Anthes asked why Lithgow is identified as the most disadvantaged group with the PHN. Tracey noted that this is indicated through health specific statistics and general demographic information.

Cr Coleman commented on the importance of have these conversations and noted that these types of presentations are very valuable.

Multiple comments regarding the Council's upcoming Health Dialogue. Cr Coleman suggested the possibility of running a community focused Health Expo after the Dialogue.

ACTION: That the presentation and discussion following be noted.

MOVED: Glenda Anthes **SECONDED:** Sarah Arnold

CARRIED

7. Disability Access and Inclusion

Disability Access and Inclusion has been incorporated into the standard agenda of Committee Development Committee meetings.

Council officers will utilise this item to report on projects of interest or matters for consultation with the Committee

Community & Culture Manager asked the committee if they would like some training on Disability Access and Inclusion. Leanne noted that there are no suitable local providers and that they should go to peak bodies for this.

ACTION: THAT the Committee note the adapted agenda, and that Community & Culture Manager organise further training opportunities for the committee.

MOVED: Leanne Walding **SECONDED:** Rachel Young

CARRIED

8. Staff Reports

8.1. Volunteer Policy (Draft)

Council is developing a new Volunteer Policy and is seeking the perspectives of the Community Development Committee on the first draft.

Community & Culture Manager noted that this is a policy, not a procedure. Some further refinement of specifics will occur at procedural level and will depend on the activities being undertaken. Noted that WWCC is included but this is because it is the only legislated requirement, there may be other requirements that will be managed through procedures. Individual departments of Council in addition to HR will manage onboarding specific to tasks being undertaken and risk management. Noted that the policy will be going to the council for feedback next.

Dennis Limbert noted that interaction with paid staff is a valuable opportunity for both parties and that it is also important to have clear distinctions between roles.

Cr Mahoney noted that many of our community members are retired, and they are a very valuable asset.

Leanne Walding suggested that Council speak to The Volunteering Centre for further guidance on policies and procedures.

ACTION:

THAT the Committee review the draft Volunteer Policy and send feedback via email to Community & Culture Manager

MOVED: Carol Cropper **SECONDED:** Emma Mason

CARRIED

8.2. Program Update

A report was given to provide members of the Community Development Committee an overview of key community programming and projects of the Community and Culture Department of Council, which includes Councils Library Services.

ACTION:

THAT the Community Development Committee receive and note the information provided in the report.

MOVED: Cr Fredricks **SECONDED:** Dennis Limbert

CARRIED

9. General Business

Sorry Day (May 26) and Reconciliation Week (May 27 to 3 June)

Noted that Headspace is leading a community event for Reconciliation at Emora Park, Bowenfels on 31st of May, from 3-5pm. Emma shares that headspace has funding to install a community mural at the park that Brett Groves will be leading/curating. Question was asked about anti-graffiti. Emma said they will be sealing it, Community & Culture Manager suggested Council could support by assisting with this.

NAIDOC Week planning for July 2025

Events Coordinator gave the committee some information regarding conversations with stakeholders on potential NAIDOC events and coordinated promotion on behalf of Council. Council approach for this year will be supporting a few small events taking place over the week and hosting the Flag Raising afternoon tea at Council Chambers. All events to be confirmed and announced.

Financial Assistance Program

Leanne Walding asked about the status of the Financial Assistance Grant program. Director Finance and Governance noted that the Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework is currently on public display and the budget, and this grant program are under review as part of this. Committee members are encouraged to make a submission.

Leanne noted that there are many small local orgs that rely on this grant program. Community & Culture Manager noted that more communication is necessary. The entire grants submission process will be reviewed and improved.

ACTION: Community & Culture Manager will release some communications regarding the

Financial Assistance Grants so that these orgs have more clarity.

8. Meeting Close

Next Meeting: 7th July 2025 at 180 Mort Street Lithgow Committee Room at 4:00pm.

There being no further business the Chairperson declared the meeting closed at 5:55pm.