



MINUTES

Environmental Advisory Committee

held at

Council Administration Centre
Committee Room
180 Mort Street, Lithgow

on

Wednesday 11 June 2025

at 4:00 PM

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1. Acknowledgement of Country

Lithgow City Council acknowledges Wiradjuri Elders past and present of the Wiradjuri nation - the original custodians of the land on which the Lithgow's communities reside. The Council also extends our respects to our neighbouring nations.

2. Present

Mayor Cass Coleman, Cllr Eric Mahony, Julie Favell, Trish Kidd, Jackie Altair, Susan Gregory, David Peters, Sharon Riley (Phone)

3. Apologies

Cllr Steve Ring

4. Confirmation of Minutes

The minutes were presented and endorsed at the Council meeting of 28 April 2025.

MOVED: Julie Favell

SECONDED: David Peters

CARRIED

5. Declaration of Interest

Nil.

6. Matters Arising from Previous Minutes

Indigenous Rangers Program –

Sharon Riley (Mingaan Wiradjuri Aboriginal Corporation) gave a verbal update.

Program funded by National Indigenous Program Grant, up to 60 rangers throughout the program. Program length is 4 years including this current financial year.

Rangers will be a fee for service. The program covers Lithgow, Oberon and Mudgee LGAs.

Projects include fire training, cultural burns, conservation land management and scientific research.

Provisions for higher education and further training for the rangers included.

Platypus water quality project - five sites researching Platypus habitat and animal health. More information will be available on Mingaans new website, which is due to be live at the end of 2025.

7. Committee Items

7.1. Updates to the Renewed Hassans Walls Plan of Management

Hassan Walls Plan of Management is currently being drafted by Gondwana consulting, they are working with Council to update the management actions to reflect current conditions and review the existing plan.

Council is updating all of the relevant Crown Reserve Plan of Managements, Hassans Walls Reserve is the priority to be completed.

Question raised about Portland Common - this reserve is Crown Land managed in trust to a community group who are the Crown Manager. Enquiries about this reserve should be directed to Crown Lands.

Mayor Coleman will enquire with Crown Lands NSW through the Joint Organisation on community trusts for CL reserve management..

ACTION: Invite Crown Lands to present on community trusts.

ACTION / RECOMMENDATION

That Council note the minutes and administration actions.

MOVED: Julie Favell

SECONDED: Susan Gregory

CARRIED

7.2. Fees for Events & Licensing

Currently there is no formal percentage of event licensing fees that go to managing reserves as the current revenue from these fees is insignificant.

Council has allocated some SRV budget to Natural Area Management Projects in addition to the creation of the full time permanent NAMO role.

In addition to these internal funds, Council is seeking external funding from grants such as the Crown Reserve Improvement Fund.

ACTION: That the Committee promote community education on Council compliance processes in reserve management and how public can report illegal activity such as vegetation clearing. Consideration should be given into the use of signage stating the rules around event licensing within Reserves.

ACTION / RECOMMENDATION

That Council note the minutes and administration actions.

MOVED: Julie Favell

SECONDED: David Peters

CARRIED

7.3. LEGs Indian Myna Project Update

Council is working with LEG to find a feasible location for an aviary and euthanasia station. The Natural Area Management Officer will provide an update at the next meeting.

ACTION / RECOMMENDATION

That Council notes the update on the LEGs Indian Myna Project.

MOVED: Trish Kidd

SECONDED: Julie Favell

CARRIED

8. General Business

Hassans Walls Crown Reserve Improvement Fund Grant Application

Hassans Walls Crown Reserve Improvement Fund Grant Application – has been approved however there is an issue with the application that will still be worked through. It is unclear if Council will receive the full funds for the application at this time.

Issue ongoing, update will be given next meeting.

ACTION: Potential funding from Blue Mountains Planetary Health program to be investigated by Ailis.

Hyde Park Crown Reserve Improvement Fund Grant Application

Hyde Park Crown Reserve Improvement Fund Grant Application was not successful.

Roadside Vegetation Management Plan

David Peters - Motion for committee to review Roadside Vegetation Management Plan.

ACTION: Circulate current policies relating to roadside vegetation management to committee members and open for comment next session. The Infrastructure team will be asked to represent next meeting. The matter will also be brought before the Infrastructure committee.

Clarence to Wallerawang Pipeline Proposal

Presentation to be given to next meeting by the Water and Waste Water team.

Community Nursery

New phytophthora test method has been developed and Community Nursery is being accredited in the method and will be testing their product.

Indigenous Rangers Program

IRP has access to potential funding through their partnership with the federal National Indigenous Australians Agency (NIAA) for fire management.

ACTION / RECOMMENDATION

That Council note the minutes and administration actions.

MOVED: Julie Favell

SECONDED: David Peters

CARRIED

9. Meeting Close

Next Meeting: Wednesday 13 August 2025 - 4:00pm - Committee Room

There being no further business the Chairperson declared the meeting closed at 5.30pm..