



Central Coast Council

Review Committee – Current Library Building

Held in the Council Chamber
2 Hely Street, Wyong

27 February 2025

MINUTES

Attendance

Members

Councillor Trent McWaide
Councillor Margot Castles
Councillor Jane Smith
Councillor Kyle MacGregor
Councillor Kyla Daniels
Councillor Rachel Stanton

Status

Apology
Present
Present
Present
Present
Present (Remotely)

Staff

Melanie Smith, Director Community and Recreation Services
Boris Bolgoff, Director Infrastructure
Michael Ross, Unit Procurement and Project Management
Shannon Turkington, Unit Manager Strategic Planning
Samantha Cummins, Unit Manager Libraries and Education
Steve Coleman, Unit Manager Facilities and Asset Management
Briony Stiles, Civic Support Team Leader
Tess McGown, Civic Support Officer

Status

Present
Present
Present
Present
Present
Present
Present
Present

NOTES

In the absence of the Chairperson, Councillor Castles chaired the meeting and declared the meeting open at 6.02pm

REPORTS

1.1 Introduction: Welcome, Acknowledgement of Country, and Apologies

6:02 pm

The Chair read an Acknowledgement of Country statement.

Councillor McWaide is recorded as an apology for tonight's meeting.

A MOTION was *MOVED* by Councillor SMITH and *SECONDED* by Councillor MACGREGOR:

That the Committee approves the request by Councillor Stanton to attend the Review Committee – Current Library Building Meeting on 27 February 2025 at 6.00pm by audio-visual link because she is unable to attend in person due to carers duties.

UNANIMOUS

CARRIED

6:03pm Chairperson Councillor Castles noted that Cr Stanton had not yet joined the meeting

1.2 Disclosures of Interest

6:06 pm

Councillor K Daniels declared a non pecuniary, non significant interest in this item under the Local Government Act as she has spoken to Kim from RYSS. She will participate in the discussion and voting on the item.

Councillor M Castles declared a non pecuniary, non significant interest in this item under the Local Government Act as has spoken with RYSS and Peter Rae who has made a submission. She will participate in the discussion and voting on the item

A MOTION was *MOVED* by Councillor DANIELS and *SECONDED* by Councillor MACGREGOR:

That Committee members and staff disclose any conflicts of interest in matters under consideration at this meeting.

UNANIMOUS

CARRIED

1.3 Confirmation of Minutes of Previous Meeting

6:09 pm

A MOTION was *MOVED* by Councillor MACGREGOR and *SECONDED* by Councillor DANIELS:

That the Committee defer confirmation of minutes to the next meeting.

UNANIMOUS

CARRIED

COUNCILLOR STANTON JOINED THE MEETING REMOTELY VIA AV LINK AT 6:11PM

1.4 Community Engagement Plan

6:12 pm

A MOTION TO MOVE THE RECOMMENDATION was *MOVED* by Councillor SMITH and *SECONDED* by Councillor MACGREGOR:

That the Committee receives the draft Community Engagement Plan, and recommends to Council to undertake Community Engagement.

6:12 PM

A MOTION was *MOVED* by Councillor DANIELS

That the matter be laid on the table

UNANIMOUS

CARRIED

1.5 Submissions Received

6:41 pm

Cr Castles tabled the document titled "3,500 people can't be wrong" (Attachment 1) and the attached petition hyperlink: [Stop the Demolition of the Gosford Library Building](#)

A MOTION was *MOVED* by Councillor DANIELS and *SECONDED* by Councillor SMITH:

That the Committee notes the submissions received regarding the current library building since the Committee convened.

UNANIMOUS

CARRIED

1.6 Gosford Library - Suggested Alternative Uses

6:50 pm

A MOTION was *MOVED* by Councillor MACGREGOR and *SECONDED* by Councillor SMITH:

That the Committee notes the information provided in the report regarding the suggested alternate uses for the Gosford Library building.

UNANIMOUS

CARRIED

1.7 General Business and Review Action Log

7:04 pm

That Council adjourns the meeting at 7:07pm for a period of 5 minutes was *MOVED* by Councillor MACGREGOR and *SECONDED* by Councillor DANIELS:

UNANIMOUS

CARRIED

That Council resumes the meeting at 7:12pm was *MOVED* by Councillor DANIELS and *SECONDED* by Councillor MACGREGOR:

UNANIMOUS

CARRIED

7:12pm

The Committee reviewed the Heads of Consideration and the Action Log.

7:26 pm

A MOTION WAS *MOVED* by Councillor MACGREGOR and *SECONDED* by Councillor DANIELS:

- 1 Endorses a community consultation process regarding the future of the existing Gosford Library to be conducted in April and May 2025.***
- 2 Reconvene after the conclusion of community consultation, and the feedback has been analysed, to review the outcomes and discuss potential next steps.***
- 3 Not disband until it has reviewed a consultation report and provided recommendations to Council on the future of the existing Gosford Library building which is anticipated to be around July/August 2025.***

- 4 ***That the committee considers further reports may be required to support the decision making process.***
- 5 ***Notes that there is an active resolution that the existing library not be demolished.***

UNANIMOUS

CARRIED

1.4 Community Engagement Plan

7:35 PM

A MOTION WAS MOVED BY COUNCILLOR DANIELS AND SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR SMITH:

That the item 1.4 Community Engagement Plan be lifted from the table

UNANIMOUS

CARRIED

7:36pm

A MOTION was *MOVED* by Councillor MACGREGOR and *SECONDED* by Councillor SMITH:

That the Committee

- 1 ***Receives the draft Community Engagement Plan and supports the plan in principal***
- 2 ***Requests staff circulate draft materials for the committees considerations***
- 3 ***Provides further information about conducting the survey internally rather than a third party including costing and timeframes***
- 4 ***Recommends to Council to undertake Community Engagement***

UNANIMOUS

CARRIED

The Meeting concluded at 7.45pm.

The next meeting is to be confirmed and will be held at Wyong Council Chambers.

REVIEW COMMITTEE – CURRENT LIBRARY BUILDING – ACTION LOG				
Item	Meeting Date	Action	Responsible Officer	Status
1.3 Existing Gosford Library Building Review Panel - Progress Report One (1)	21/05/2025	Provide members with detail on the purpose of relocating the power for Kibble Park as opposed to leaving it in the library building and advise of inclusions of the quote for \$35,000.	Unit Manager Procurement and Project Management	Completed
1.3 Existing Gosford Library Building Review Panel - Progress Report One (1)	21/01/2025	Provide members with clear outline/definition of term 'Change of use'.	Unit Manager Strategic Planning	Completed
1.3 Existing Gosford Library Building Review Panel - Progress Report One (1)	21/01/2025	Provide members with detailed report on power and demolishing including full scope of works.	Director Infrastructure Services	To be provided prior to the next meeting
1.3 Existing Gosford Library Building Review Panel - Progress Report One (1)	21/01/2025	Members to discuss potential usage of existing building and bring ideas to the Director of Community and Recreation Services and Director of Infrastructure by Friday 24 January 2025.	Members	Completed
1.3 Existing Gosford Library Building Review Panel - Progress Report One (1)	21/01/2025	Provide members with historical leasing figures and uses of the Fun Haus building.	Director Community and Recreation Services	Completed
1.4 General Business	21/01/2025	Provide members the Kibble Park Place Plan including the public consultations.	Director Community and Recreation Services	Completed

REVIEW COMMITTEE – CURRENT LIBRARY BUILDING – ACTION LOG				
1.4 General Business	21/01/2025	Invite Central Coast Historian Merrill Jackson, the National Trust of Australia, and the Australian Institute of Architects to the next meeting.	Director Community and Recreation Services	Completed
1.6 Gosford Library - Heritage Value and Environmental Impact	12/02/2025	Provide members with a further report with the detail of the design of the building.	Unit Manager Strategic Planning	Ongoing
1.7 Other Compliance/ Constraints	12/02/2025	Provide the LEP definitions of Class of Land use and the building code to members.	Unit Manager Strategic Planning	Will be provided prior to the next meeting
1.8 General Business	12/02/2025	Members to send all emails and correspondence from public via ZIP file to Director CRS to collate, prior to COB Monday 17 February 2025.	Members	Completed
1.8 General Business	12/2/2025	That a community consultation plan be brought back to the next meeting.	Director Community and Recreation Services	Completed, Stage 2 to be circulated
1.8 General Business	12/2/2025	Publish notification on the website, pending confirmation of Council that the next meeting will be held at Council Chambers in Wyong.	Director Corporate Services	Completed
1.4 Community Engagement Plan	27/02/2025	Provide timeframes of contract for demolishing the building	Unit Manager Procurement and Project Management	

Attachment 1 – ‘3,500 people can’t be wrong’

OPEN LETTER
TO CENTRAL COAST COUNCIL
3500 PEOPLE CAN’T BE WRONG
DON’T CUT THE HEART OUT OF OUR PARK
KEEP AND REUSE THE GOSFORD LIBRARY BUILDING

The undersigned groups add their support to the 3500 people who have signed a petition to save the library building in Kibble Park. More people are signing the petition every day. We all know the community needs social infrastructure more than it needs a concrete amphitheatre. You will be cutting the heart out of Kibble Park if you demolish one of the most significant cultural buildings left in Gosford.

The NSW Government Architect (GA) recognised the value of the ‘Sydney School Nuts and Berries’ mid-century Library Building and said it could be used as a future town hall or community centre to help breathe some daily life into Gosford. It’s called adaptive reuse, and the GA understood its importance. Council needs to understand it too.

The library building is listed on the Australian Institute of Architects’ significant buildings in NSW. It is pending National Trust listing for its heritage significance. It should be urgently included on our local heritage inventory. The building has been loved by generations of residents. The council’s consultant’s report said the building is in very good shape.

EVERYBODY KNOWS IT IS WORTH KEEPING and could be a future jewel of Gosford. But while our council was under administration, staff and the administrator decided to demolish the building – without community consultation. Thankfully our new councillors have had the foresight to review that resolution. The below signatories call upon the Central Coast Council to imagine a lively ground floor café complemented by meeting spaces, a performance space, exhibition spaces.

We request that council retains the current library building and works with community to transform it into the vibrant, unique community hub Gosford deserves. The building can become essential social infrastructure, open for the use and enjoyment of all kinds of community groups. The adaptive reuse of the Gosford Library building will be an effective way to revitalise the city’s heart. It will complement the new library and give residents and visitors another reason to visit Gosford. If Central Coast Council is serious about revitalising Gosford, please be innovative and forward thinking: **Keep, adapt and reuse the Gosford Library Building.**

Yours sincerely,

Central Coast Community Better Planning Group
Regional Youth Support Services (RYSS)
Community Environment Network
Australian Conservation Foundation Central Coast
Ourimbah Region Residents Association
Coast Environmental Alliance

Springfield Residents Association
Kariong Progress Association
Copacabana Community Association
Davistown Progress Association
Central Coast Family History Society
Central Coast Activists Collective