

**REPORT OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL HERITAGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
(373.42)**

Held on Wednesday 8 August 2001

Meeting No EH/01/08 commenced at 9.10 am.

ATTENDANCE

Present: Clr Geoff Preece (Chair)
Mr Ian Bowie - until 10.30 am
Mrs Joan Dent - from 11 am
Mr Paul Dignam
Mrs Joan Fenton
Mrs Marian French
Mrs Beryl Strom
Ms Tracy Sharp (Planner)
Ms Lyn Morris (Heritage Officer)
Mr Geoff Potter (Gosford City Library)

Apologies: Mrs Elaine Fry
Mr Stan Fry
Mrs Marigold Lawrence

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Committee members were invited to declare any interests they might have in respect to the business of this meeting. There were no declarations.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Minutes of Meeting No EH/00/07 held 11 July 2001 were confirmed. [J Dent / M French]

BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES**EH.041 KINCUMBER COMMUNITY CENTRE / BURNS FAMILY HOUSE**

This item was brought forward to allow Tracey Sell of Kincumber After School Care, one of the user groups of the Kincumber Community Centre, to address the meeting.

Tracey Sell explained the security problems being encountered at the Centre and the measures that her group would like to implement (as itemised in the memo received at last meeting). Some Committee members had since inspected the building.

The Committee agreed that from a heritage aspect, it could not support the screening-in of the verandahs with lattice or similar material, as proposed, particularly on the front and sides of the building. It was thought that perhaps a fence and gate (of pool-type materials) might help solve the problem.

Tracey Sell was aware of the Committee's recommendations in July and agreed that the security issue is bigger than this building. Lyn Morris offered to contact Ric Cohen of Council's Maintenance Unit to discuss the matter.

THE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS [M French / G Preece] that the information be noted.

EH.011 DA 9564 - THE FERRYMASTERS COTTAGE, WAGSTAFFE

Clr Preece reported that, at last night's meeting, Council resolved to commence Class 5 - Criminal Proceedings in the Land & Environment Court against the owners and any other associated party for demolishing the Cottage on Wednesday 1 August. Council also resolved to advise the Heritage Council and seek their advice and support. The Committee noted and strongly supported these actions.

Ian Bowie thought that the Court might require the owner to do an archaeological reconnaissance of the site and provide other documentation. He expressed concern that Council is proceeding very slowly towards a legal instrument with appropriate provisions for protecting heritage items. Tracy Sharp responded that the existing heritage list is well protected, even if items are listed only in the DCP. An LEP will be prepared in due course for the additional items in Stage II of the heritage review, using current model provisions of the NSW Heritage Council. Copies of these provisions were distributed to Committee members.

Beryl Strom tabled a copy of Sections 160 and 161 of the NSW Heritage Act regarding restrictions on development of land, where an owner is convicted of an offence against the Heritage Act involving the demolition, damaging or despoliation of a heritage item.

She suggested that such action would be a great deterrent if it could be applied under Council's planning instruments. Agreed.

Paul Dignam suggested and it was agreed that before any future development is permitted, a site-specific DCP should be prepared in respect to the building footprint, height, material etc.

THE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS that:

- A The information be noted and Council be advised that its resolutions of August 7 following demolition of The Ferrymasters Cottage at Wagstaffe are fully supported by Council's Heritage Committee. [B Strom / J Dent]
- B Consideration be given to including in Council's planning instruments, clauses similar to Clauses 160 and 161 of the NSW Heritage Act which effectively sterilise a site for a number of years where a demolition offence has occurred. [B Strom / I Bowie]
- C Consideration be given to the preparation of a site-specific DCP for the site before any future development is permitted. [P Dignam / M French]
- D A Draft LEP with appropriate provisions be prepared as a matter of urgency for items in Stage II of the Heritage Review. [I Bowie / G Potter]

EH.001 FINANCIAL STATEMENT - HERITAGE FUND

Small Grants Lyn Morris reported on discussions with the owner of the old mill ruins at Mill Creek, who is having trouble finding a suitable stonemason for the job.

Also, she advised she is preparing a new spreadsheet on the heritage fund, for the new financial year. Copies will be available at next meeting.

THE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS [I Bowie / J Dent] that the information be noted.

EH.002 HERITAGE REVIEW

Stage I Lyn Morris advised that she understands the report is with the Director and it is to be referred to a Strategy / Policy Forum of Council in October.

Stage II Lyn Morris advised that Suters Architects said they would have the completed report to her for today but she has not yet sighted it. Perhaps Stage II also will be referred to the Strategy / Policy Forum in October and the Committee felt this was a logical procedure.

It was noted that we are still awaiting the consultants' advice regarding their assessment of some items as having "regional significance" which is a term not in use by the Heritage Office.

THE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS [M French / G Potter] that the information be noted.

EH.003 MANASSEH FROST'S HOUSE, KINCUMBER

The Chairman advised that Mr Peter Jessop addressed last night's meeting of Council in regard to this item in the Committee's minutes of July 11. He stated that the last paragraph was wrong as the Church had in fact responded to Mrs French's letter. Mrs French tabled the letter, since received, and it was noted that the letter was dated July 10 - only one day before the Committee's meeting, hence not received by 9 am on July 11.

THE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS [B Strom / J Dent] that the information be noted.

EH.004 GEORGE DOWNES COTTAGE (HERITAGE ITEM NO 68)

The Committee noted that Council adopted its recommendation for a report (to Council) from the Manager - Property Services regarding the recent lease of the property.

A memo from Verna Holland of Property Services was tabled and received. The memo states that the Property Services had not been made aware of any request to lease the property to a community group, but the Committee believes this is the obvious intention if one refers to the objectives of the Plan of Management. Also, the objectives do not allow for lease of the cottage as a residence, although the Committee had said such a lease might be appropriate if restricted public access were to be provided as a condition of the lease.

Verna Holland's memo advises that the cottage has been rented under a residential lease for 12 months and in order to lease the property to a Community Group at the expiry of the current lease, it will be necessary to have a plan of subdivision to attach to a commercial lease. Tracy Sharp will query the need for a subdivision as the Plan of Management applies to the entire lot: Lot 1 DP 5253250.

THE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS [P Dignam/ J Dent] that the information be noted.

EH.005 HELYS GRAVE

Soon after the last meeting, Lyn Morris received the awaited 'photograph' of Frederick Hely from Joan Fenton. Geoff Potter offered to check out the copyright provisions.

Paul Dignam, Marian French and Beryl Strom tabled photographs of interpretive notices from various places, made from metal and incorporating photos and maps. The Committee agreed to revert to this idea for a notice at Hely's Grave and Beryl Strom offered to make a mock-up for next meeting.

THE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS [B Strom / L Morris] that the information be noted.

EH.006 GOODAYWANG RESERVE

Geoff Potter and Joan Dent will talk with Ian Rhodes of Council's Recreation Section and give him a copy of Dr Varman's report, as soon as a meeting can be arranged.

THE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS [G Potter / J Dent] that the information be noted.

EH.008 HERITAGE EDUCATION

Beryl Strom tabled copies of her "Historic Walks" around Woy Woy and Gosford and the Committee agreed it would be appropriate for these to be printed as part of its series. Mrs Strom will check that the information is still correct as the leaflets were written in 1989 and 1992.

It was noted that Geoff Potter is continuing to collect material for a leaflet on Wyoming, to assist the Helys Grave project.

Lyn Morris will send some copies of existing leaflets to Information Centres around the City. Previously she had been asked to send them only to schools.

THE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS [J Dent / L Morris] that the information be noted.

EH.009 (OLD) CHRIST CHURCH, GOSFORD

Some additional comments on the Draft Conservation Management Plan had been received from Committee members, and will be sent later today to the consultant Hector Abrahams of Clive Lucas, Stapleton & Partners.

THE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS [P Dignam / B Strom] that the information be noted.

EH.032 DA 11455 - SEAWALL AT WAGSTAFFE

It was noted that Council has adopted the Committee's recommendation that urgent consideration be given to repairing the seawall fronting the public reserve at Wagstaffe, adjacent to Lot 134 of the Santoy Estate.

THE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS [B Strom / M French] that the information be noted.

EH.043 STATE OF ENVIRONMENT REPORT 2000

Nothing to report as yet regarding the Committee's resolution to invite the Darkinjung Land Council and the National Parks & Wildlife Service to nominate Aboriginal sites for potential listing in Council's Heritage LEP/DCP.

THE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS [M French / L Morris] that the information be noted.

EH.025 "BOORA BOORA", KINCUMBER

Lyn Morris tabled a copy of a letter from the NSW Heritage Office to Malone Campbell-Allen Architects, advising that the Heritage Council has refused the current subdivision proposed by the owners, on the grounds that it is not sympathetic to the retention of the heritage significance of the place relating to maintaining its setting in the landscape and its rural qualities.

However, the Heritage Council is willing to consider a subdivision proposal which follows a line across the northern section of Lot 5 in the vicinity of Mors cottage. Certain conditions are cited and the proposal of the Heritage Council is not unlike that suggested by the Committee at its meeting on 11 April 2001.

It should be noted that no development application has been lodged with Council. The proposed subdivision with the Heritage Council is a potential subdivision to alter the boundaries of the PCO. If the Heritage Council agrees to the subdivision, the owners will have to lodge a development application with Council for consideration and determination.

THE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS [J Fenton / P Dignam] that the information be noted.

LATE MATTERS

EH.044 ANGLICAN CHURCH, TERRIGAL - PROPOSED HERITAGE ITEM

Lyn Morris tabled a copy of a Notice of Motion by Councillor Brooks which was adopted by Council at its meeting on 24 July 2001:

“Suters Architects, the consultants undertaking Stage II of the Heritage Review, be asked to include the Anglican Church in Kurrawyba Avenue Terrigal on the list of items they are currently assessing for heritage significance.”

The Committee felt that it may be too late to include the item as Stage II has just been completed. However, the item could be considered subsequently and separately as any item can be. Lyn Morris will check whether Cllr Brooks is referring to the original timber church building (now used for Sunday School purposes) or the later brick building on the site.

THE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS [L Morris / G Potter] that the information be noted.

EH.045 ST PAUL'S CHURCH, KINCUMBER

Marian French advised she had been approached by the Rector of St Paul's regarding a proposal by the RTA to remove some of the church land, presumably to enlarge the adjacent roundabout.

It was noted that some of the church property had already been acquired for road widening purposes some years ago. This had resulted in removal of some of the memorial trees and depletion of the setting of the historic building.

It was also noted that Avoca Drive, through Kincumber, was once 'Church Street' and led in a direct line to the church. The importance of St Pauls as the focus of the early Village of Kincumber could be lost with further diminution of the land adjacent to the building.

The Committee suggested to Marian French that the Rector might talk with Geoff Potter. Beryl Strom will provide an early file on the previous acquisition by RTA.

THE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS [P Dignam / J Fenton] that the information be noted.

NEXT MEETING **Date:** Wednesday 12 September 2001
 Time: 9.00 am
 Venue: 1st floor Committee Room

CLOSE OF BUSINESS

The meeting closed at 11.20 am.

SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS**A The information be noted**

EH.041	KINCUMBER COMMUNITY CENTRE / BURNS FAMILY HOUSE
EH.001	FINANCIAL STATEMENT - HERITAGE FUND
EH.002	HERITAGE REVIEW
EH.003	MANASSEH FROST'S HOUSE, KINCUMBER
EH.004	GEORGE DOWNES COTTAGE
EH.005	HELYS GRAVE
EH.006	GOODAYWANG RESERVE
EH.008	HERITAGE EDUCATION
EH.009	(OLD) CHRIST CHURCH, GOSFORD
EH.032	DA 11455 - SEAWALL AT WAGSTAFFE
EH.043	STATE OF ENVIRONMENT REPORT 2000
EH.025	"BOORA BOORA", KINCUMBER
EH.044	ANGLICAN CHURCH, TERRIGAL - PROPOSED HERITAGE ITEM
EH.045	ST PAUL'S CHURCH, KINCUMBER

B For the action of Council**EH.011 DA 9564 - THE FERRYMASTERS COTTAGE, WAGSTAFFE**

THE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS that:

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