

Date: 17 June 2019	Time: 7:30 - 9:00am	Venue: Venue: Fort Scratchley Function Centre
Meeting No: 7	Committee Meeting	

Attendance *[alphabetically]*

Committee Members:

Cr Matthew Byrne - CN
 Cheryl Kitchener – Department of Aboriginal Affairs NSW (arrived 7:55am)
 Daryn McKenny- Miromaa ALTC
 Luke Russell - Wylaa Buuranliyn
 Robert Russell - Awabakal LALC
 Andrew Smith - Worimi LALC
 Cr Emma White - CN

CN staff attendees:

Ashlee Abbot - Manager Corporate and Community Planning
 David Clarke – Director Governance
 Lillian Eastwood - Guraki Facilitator
 Brett Smith - Director Strategy and Engagement

Other attendees:

Maureen Bates-McKay - Senior Project Officer Aboriginal Languages, Geographical Names Board of NSW
 Susan Fritz - Statutory Officer, Geographical Names Board of NSW
 Saretta Fielding - Artist / Managing Director, Saretta Art & Design

Apologies:

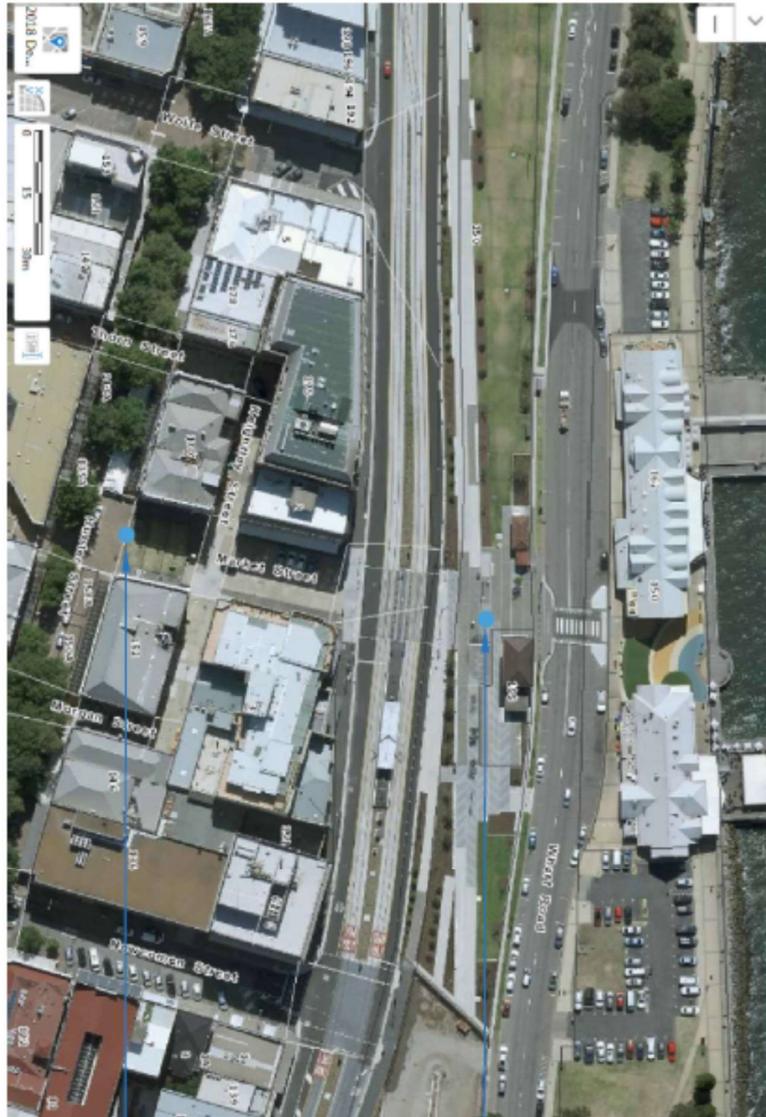
Maree Edwards - Community Representative
 Cherie Johnson - Community Representative
 Angela Pearce - Community Representative
 Cr Peta Winney-Baartz, CN
 Fiona Leatham – Director People and Culture, CN

Meeting Item	Action, Responsibility
1. Open meeting Meeting opened at 7:50am. Welcome Brett Smith and Ashlee Abbot.	R Russell
2. Acknowledgement Rob Russell provided Acknowledgement of Country.	R Russell
3. Apologies Apologies as noted above.	For noting by all
4. Declaration of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interest No declarations or conflict of interest noted.	For noting by all
5. Adoption of Previous Minutes 5.1 Minutes – 10 December 2018 Corrections – Item 6.2 typographical error: ‘resigning’ to ‘re-signing’; Item 7.1 typographical error: ‘plague’ to ‘plaque’. Moved by Cr M Byrne; Seconded by L Russell; Accepted. 5.2 Discussion Notes – 18 March 2019 Corrections – Item 7.1 name reference to James Cook’s title: delete Captain; Item 7.2 typographical error: ‘involve’ to ‘involved’. Moved by Cr M Byrne; Seconded by L Russell; Accepted.	For noting by all Meeting inquorate. Discussion notes in lieu of minutes tabled.

<p>6. Business Arising from the Minutes 6.1 Recognition of the 20th Anniversary of the Guraki Committee L Eastwood advised that Council seeks further advice from the Committee in setting a new date, determining function type and venue, and suggestions for recognition of Guraki's achievements.</p> <p><i>Comments from Members:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Resolved there should be no re-sign of Council's Commitment Statement in the form of a new document. The Committee however would like the original document to be displayed at the event if possible or presented in some format on the evening. Proposed a date in October 2019 outside federal and state parliamentary sitting days, allowing for invitations to be extended to Local Members. Invitations to be forwarded to the original signatories (or families) on the Commitment Statement, and to past members (i.e. Aboriginal representatives, former Councillors and Council staff). A number of venues were considered. Newcastle Museum was deemed as being suitable for the occasion. Event to be more than just a commemoration. It should allow for a conversation throughout the evening that showcases past achievements and considers the future aspirations of local Aboriginal communities and Council relations. This is an opportunity to have a voice in determining a strong future. Present a digital chronological timeline of the Committee's achievements. 	<p>L Eastwood</p> <p>For noting by all</p>
<p>7. Items 7.1 Mulubinba: Application to NSW GNB L Eastwood advised that an invitation was extended to NSW GNB to meet with the Committee to have a conversation on processes and requirements for place naming. Background to this request aligns to site activation opportunities linked to Encounters 2020 (tabled meeting 18 March 2019, Item 7.1).</p> <p>L Eastwood proposed the gazettal of the Aboriginal name for Newcastle, Mulubinba. The Initial research of this naming and community workshops were conducted during the original project to dual name eight geographical features at Newcastle.</p> <p>Potential locations for a suitable site were suggested within the streetscape plan for the Newcastle East End development. These locations could support installation of signage, artwork, landscape design, or augmented reality experiences to tell the story of place. (Site diagram, attachment A).</p> <p>M Bates-McKay has been seconded to GNB and is consulting Aboriginal communities about place naming opportunities. GNB has developed a brochure explaining the process of reawakening Aboriginal placenames (attachment B). For full explanation of the Act and GNB processes go to www.gnb.nsw.gov.au.</p> <p>S Fritz advised that GNB is not the subject matter experts. GNB relies on direction from local communities and would support their advice and recommendations. GNB may compile a list of placenames that are known and in use that could sit on its website. This list would not go through the process that officially assigns names but would require the support and endorsement of Aboriginal communities, plus review of any</p>	<p>Maureen Bates-McKay Susan Fritz NSW GNB</p>

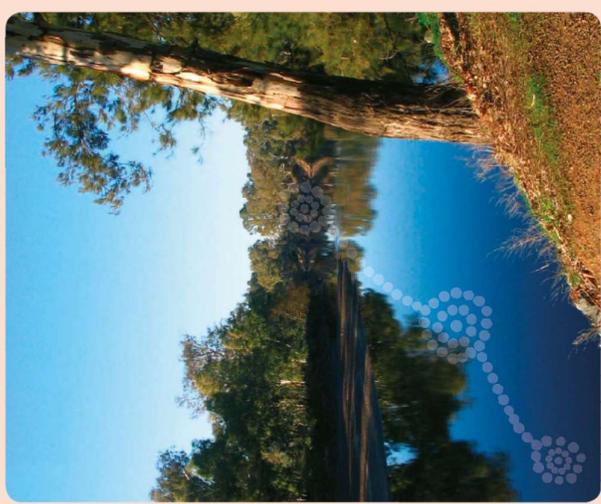
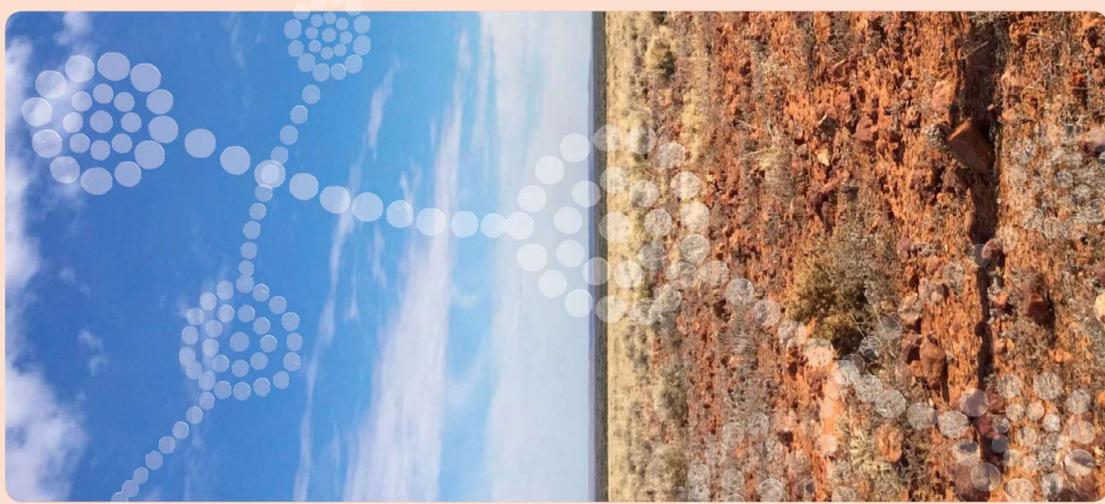
<p>sensitive information and ethics. A new system for the geographical register is also being developed to enable better functionality and data storage.</p> <p>GNB considers that the designated value for historical areas may support the Mulubinba naming. Currently, historical area locations are required to be attached to an address, however GNB are working on the refinement of these values to better reflect the Aboriginal notion of place. This work could better reflect the context, intangible values and meaning of a placename, in this case - the place of seaferns.</p> <p><i>Comments from Members:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disagreement on the use of the first recorded spelling of the word and pronunciation. Aboriginal language around Australia has strict rules on using roman symbols. We don't speak language enough and rely on the written word as the guide or cue to the pronunciation. There is no wrong or right way to spell words, but the simplest form is to write words in the way they should be spoken and that should allow for most users to come close to the correct pronunciations. • The use of roman symbols is an adaptation of the spoken word to reflect modern times. Mulubinba is not the traditional or definitive name for Newcastle. The word mulubinba would not have been known as it is today, as a place called Newcastle. Its literal meaning is broken down as mulu – seafern, bin – plural, and ba – place of. Mulubinba refers to the plant itself, that there is more than one, and is found in / around the harbour. The knowledge and context of the word doesn't travel with it. It gets lost and / or becomes something else. • Placenames are for the whole community and requires whole of community to reclaim local languages. • It is possible that community may have a change of opinion about how to record the written word for placenames since the gazettal of the eight dual names. It is also possible that we end up with the same outcome or many different opinions. • Need to liaise with Miromaa to support the reintroduction of language locally and to work through any challenges. 	
<p>8. Other Business</p> <p>8.1 Aboriginal Design Concept for Stewart Ave Fit-Out</p> <p>S Fielding presented a draft concept for the building's interior design. Designs ideas include local associations to places that are presented as connecting pathways, using the notion of Aboriginal songlines. The idea of a digital acknowledgement display in the community reception area is being suggested. A sanctuary garden on the rooftop will also convey the overarching themes of wetlands, industrial, community and beach spaces. The final draft report will be presented to Council.</p> <p><i>Comments from Members:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The use of the term <i>First Nations</i> for local Aboriginal community groups is contentious. Language is important when referencing who we are and our connections to culture, story, and land. We need to shape our own terms to reflect who we are i.e. descendants of the original custodians. • We no longer live a traditional lifestyle but continue to pass on cultural knowledge and story. Elements that make up our stories should be conveyed correctly, and our communities should be consulted regularly on the use of our cultural information. 	<p>S Fielding</p> <p>For noting by all, at this point the meeting became inquorate. Discussion only.</p>

Attachment A – Market Street Site Map



Market Street Terrace
Coordinates:
-32.926958, 151.781083

Market Street Lawn Option
Coordinates:
-32.926117, 151.781324



MORE INFORMATION

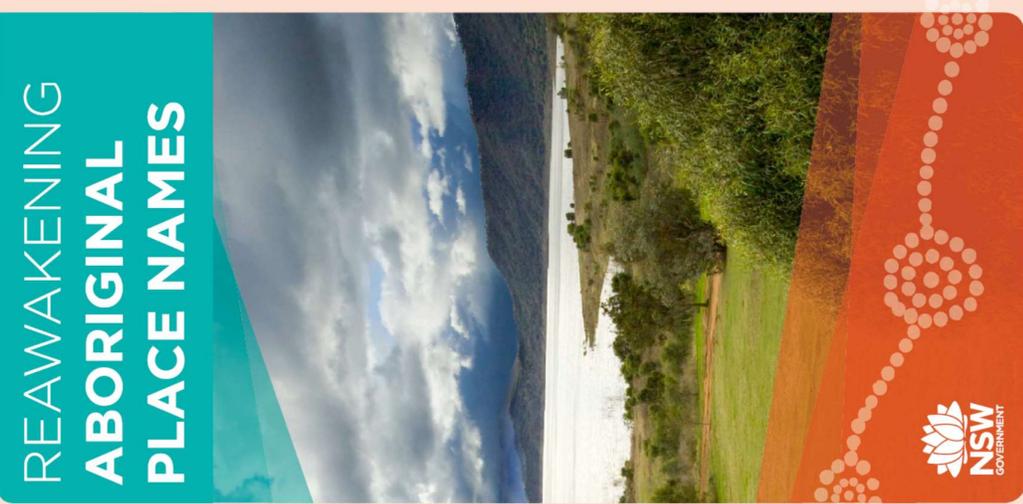
Further information about the NSW place naming policy and process can be found on www.gnb.nsw.gov.au

Geographical Names Board

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REAWAKENING ABORIGINAL PLACE NAMES



REAWAKENING ABORIGINAL PLACE NAMES

The Geographical Names Board is committed to reawakening Aboriginal place names in New South Wales.

Anyone can make a proposal to the Geographical Names Board to restore and recognise an Aboriginal place name and have it officially assigned under the *Geographical Names Act 1966*.

Through place naming, communities have the opportunity to unlock past stories, preserve traditions and provide a sense of belonging and identity.

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS

Aboriginal place names supports recognition and revival of Aboriginal languages. It will help reawaken culture, history and create markers in our landscape.

Assigning a place name under the *Geographical Names Act 1966* does not impact other legislation or change rights or responsibilities.



WHAT CAN BE NAMED

The Geographical Names Board can assign names for geographical features.

Examples of features that can be named include:

- rivers and creeks
- mountains, hills, peaks and valleys
- lakes, lagoons, swamps and water holes
- beaches, bays and islands
- ridges, points and peninsulas

WHAT CAN'T BE NAMED

The Geographical Names Board does not have the authority to name facilities, such as bridges or buildings and is not the road naming authority.

DUAL NAMES

Where a feature has a non-Aboriginal name, an Aboriginal name can be assigned. This will sit alongside the non-Aboriginal name, each part having equal status.

Dual naming does not apply to towns, roads, localities or other administrative based areas such as a reserve or state forest.

HOW CAN YOU HELP

If you know of an Aboriginal place name that is not on record, or is incorrect, then you can send a place name application form to the Geographical Names Board available from its website.

www.gnb.nsw.gov.au

PLACE NAMING PROCESS

You will need to:

- Consult with Local Aboriginal Land Council and community
- Provide confirmation of endorsement
- Provide documentary or oral evidence of the Aboriginal name

What happens next?

- Once an application is received, it is considered by the Geographical Names Board
- If endorsed, it is advertised for public comment
- Any objections are reviewed
- Final decision is made

When made official, place names can be added to maps and the NSW Geographical Names Register which preserves the name and its story.