

Confirmed Meeting Minutes

Date: 1 August 2023	Time: 5.30 – 7.00pm	Venue: City Hall Chambers
Meeting Objective: To provide advice and guidance on the development of strategies, and identification of challenges and opportunities, in relation to cultural planning, arts and cultural opportunities, community pride and local identity, and community involvement which encourages a sense of belonging within the LGA.		

1 Welcome

Councillor Duncan acknowledged the Awabakal and Worimi peoples and welcomed attendees to the meeting.

1.1 Attendees

Members

Cr Carol Duncan	– Councillor Member (Chair)
Cr Margaret Wood	– Councillor Member
Cr Jenny Barrie	– Councillor Member
Dr Shane Bransdon	– Community Member
Anna Hombsch	– Community Member
Janice Musumeci	– Community Member (through Teams)

Guests

Lynn Duffy	– Acting Executive Director Creative & Community Services, City of Newcastle (CN), (Committee Facilitator)
Helen Payne	– Executive Assistant (CN), (Committee Secretary)
Julie Baird	– Director Museum Archive Libraries & Learning (CN)
Lauretta Morton OAM	– Director Newcastle Art Gallery (CN)
Leonie Wallace	– Acting Executive Manager Civic Services
Petria Jukes	- Community Planning & Development Manager (CN)
Adrian Burnett	– New Annual Senior Producer & Curator (CN)
Zephie Cerny	– Octopod
Dr Jamie MacKee	– Newcastle Pride
Sami Zakhil	– Mosaic Multicultural Connections

Apologies

Cr Nuatali Nelmes	– Lord Mayor
Dr Ann Hardy	- University of Newcastle, Stakeholder Member
Delia O'Hara	- Executive Manager Civic Services (CN)
Jasmine Fletcher	– Community Member
Katerina Skoumbas	- Independent Producer

1.2 Declaration and Conflicts of Interest

1.2 Nil.

2 Confirmation of Previous Minutes

2.1 Minutes of the meeting held 4 April 2023 were endorsed.

3 Count Us In 2023

Petria Jukes presented to the Committee on the Count Us In (CUI) Festival which runs for 21 days from 4-24 September 2023. Councillor Wood provided an overview of CUI, noting its inception four years ago and its expansion over time. Some key events such as training opportunities and flagship events were highlighted.

Objectives:

- Work in partnership with people with lived experience of disability to guide the overarching aim of the event in 2023.
- Facilitate a series of events and activities that showcase genuine inclusion of people with disability in the community.
- Facilitate a series of events and activities that build capacity of the wider community to be inclusive and accessible into the future.

Program

- Launch on 9 August.
- Over 30 events and activities.
- Diversity – Families, Children, Young Adults, Business Community.
- Strong training and awareness raising activities.
- Specific events to overlap with New Annual attract arts and cultural audience to be part of CUI.
- Campaign to raise awareness to gear up after launch.

4 New Annual

Adrian Burnett updated the Committee on the New Annual Program and second program launch. Further information available at <https://www.newannual.com/>

5 Mosaic Multicultural Connections

Sami Zakhil from Mosaic Multicultural Connections (previously Northern Settlement Services) was introduced and provided a brief background including his move from Afghanistan where he worked extensively with youth work before moving to Australia in 2019. Sami now leads two youth programs for Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) communities both school aged 12 to 18 and 18 to 28 year olds. Many of these young people live in Wallsend/Jesmond and appreciate the various activities planned.

Sami has had an incredible journey outside of his local work for Mosaic as a Global Youth Peace Ambassador at [International Youth Society](#) and won awards fulfilling many leadership and spokesperson roles.

6 NSW Government – Arts, Cultural & Creative Industries Policy

The NSW Government is calling on artists and other creative industries practitioners across the state to help craft the first-ever Arts, Culture and Creative Industries Policy for NSW. A Town Hall Forum was organised by the State Government held at Fort Scratchley on Monday 24 July.

Submissions are open until 31 August and information is available at [Shaping policy for the arts and cultural sector | Have your say NSW](#)

Anna Hombsch suggested touching base with Ballarat, Bendigo and Shepperton Councils in Victoria who have successfully attracted tourism and arts to their cities.

7 Growing the Culture – a CCAC check in

Suggestions for others to be included in this group are:

Miromaa Aboriginal Language and Technology Centre - Daryn McKenny
Murrook Culture Centre, Museum Gallery Director - Nicole Chaffey

8 General Business

- 8.1 Hamilton Business Association (HBA) have a contract with Art Thinking to manage art installations on the city owned projector asset on the Municipal Building at James St Plaza.

The HBA are looking for artists with art that can be projected onto the ANZ wall each month as a way to activate this space at night. So far this year they have had the following:

- Curious Legends – Spirits of Newy
- Wh!p Collective – We Are
- Mario Minichiello
- Dr Christian Thompson – Dead Tongue

Upcoming they are hoping to continue to collaborate with Peter Johnson and NAG, Wesley Mission and Newcastle Pride to end Sept.

If anyone on the Committee has connections that may have suitable art to be projected for a four week period shared on social media (Hello Hamilton) please contact Janice via janicemusumeci@bigpond.com to connect.

Cr Duncan congratulated the HBA on the recent two night noodle markets.

8.2 DEAD TONGUE by Dr Christian Thompson AO - Closing Weekend Celebration

Lauretta Morton OAM provided the invitation below regarding the Art Gallery's offsite program DEAD TONGUE by Dr Christian Thompson AO.

Join us at James Street Plaza, Hamilton to celebrate the final weekend of the project on Saturday 26 August from 6:00pm.

Newcastle Art Gallery is proud to be collaborating with local artist Wanjun Carpenter to host an evening of First Nations performance and music.

Register your interest [here](#) to receive event information and artist announcements to your inbox.

Learn more about the project [here](#).

8.3 Acknowledgement and thank-you

Cr Duncan thanked Lynn Duffy for her extensive work on the Committee over the last 18 months and advised Alissa Jones will return to her substantive role of Executive Director Creative & Community Services on 14 August which includes the role of Committee Facilitator.

9 Closing

Meeting closed at 7.05pm

Next meeting: 5.30pm Monday 6 November 2023, City Hall Chamber