

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN HERITAGE COUNCIL

MINUTES

The 138th Meeting of the South Australian Heritage Council (the Council) was held on Level 10, 81 – 95 Waymouth Street, Adelaide on Thursday 6 July 2023.

Statement of Acknowledgement

The Chairperson acknowledged that the land that the Council members meet on today is the traditional lands for Kaurna people and that the Council respect their spiritual relationship with their country. The Chairperson also acknowledged the Kaurna people as the custodians of the Adelaide region and that their cultural and heritage beliefs are still as important to the living Kaurna people today.

Heritage Council: Chair: Ms Sandy Verschoor Members: Mr Stephen Schrapel, Mr Marcus Rolfe, Mr Gavin Leydon, Mrs Deborah Lindsay, Mr David Brooks and Ms Kate McDougall.

Secretariat: Mr David Hanna, Executive Officer, Heritage South Australia, Department for Environment and Water (DEW) and Ms Beverley Voigt, Manager, Heritage South Australia (DEW).

1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

Ms Verschoor welcomed all to the 138th meeting of the South Australian Heritage Council (the Council).

Apologies were received from Ms Eleanor Walters and Ms Jan Ferguson.

Ms Verschoor noted it is NAIDOC Week and encouraged all to attend a walk on Friday 7th July from 12:30pm.

2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA AND DECLARATION OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Agenda

The agenda was adopted with the addition of one item to be discussed under In-Camera.

Declarations of conflict of interest

Mrs Lindsay and Mr Rolfe noted they had a conflict of interest in relation to the additional In-Camera item and would depart the meeting for discussion on that matter.

3 PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES

Council considered the minutes of the 15 June 2023 meeting.

Mr Hanna thanked Mrs Lindsay for a clarification to a sentence under Item 7.2, first sentence on page seven. The draft minutes have been changed to "The place is not considered to meet criterion c) as any potential archaeological remains associated with the church and former buildings are unlikely to contribute meaningfully to our understanding of the State's history."

Council approved the minutes subject to the above change.

RESOLUTION:

The South Australian Heritage Council:

- **Approved** the minutes of the 15 June 2023 meeting as per above.

4. ACTION ITEMS

The Council noted the status of action items.

Council discussed the possibility of Mr Donovan Rypkema visiting Adelaide in late August 2023 to present at a Heritage Forum and a meeting with the Deputy Premier.

RESOLUTION

The South Australian Heritage Council:

- **Noted** the status of the action list.

5. IN CAMERA DISCUSSION

The Council had an in-camera discussion pursuant to section 7 (6) of the *Heritage Places Act 1993*.

The following text was approved for release at Council's 15 August 2025 meeting.

5.1A – Draft Report to Minister

Mr Leonard Blazeby, Heritage SA was welcomed to the meeting. Mr Blazeby noted that the draft report he has prepared emanates from a letter the Minister sent to the Heritage Council on 29 May asking it to provide a report on the issue of State Heritage Places laying idle. The request is for the report to provide background knowledge on how widespread the issue is within South Australia, some policy and legislative recommendations and reference to how the issue is managed interstate and overseas.

Ms Verschoor thanked Mr Blazeby for preparing a draft and asked Council members for comment. The following is a summary of the discussion:

OFFICIAL

- Mr Rolfe spoke to adaptive reuse matters within the Planning Building issues section of the draft report. He spoke about concessions on car parking for heritage places, land use matters and adaptive reuse.
- Embodied energy and the building industry. Agreed this will be further expressed in the report.
- Incentives for heritage use provided by other jurisdictions (including Heritage Advisory Services)
- Ms Verschoor discussed the use of heritage buildings for other purposes such as the Arts citing the example of the Edinburgh Festival. There is an opportunity to bring different government portfolios together through the use of heritage buildings.
- Heritage Tourism Strategy / Arts Strategy / Climate Change Strategy – example of portfolios that could be combined through heritage building activation.
- Council queried the vacancy rate of heritage buildings owned by the Department for Environment and Water and it was agreed that this would be included within the report.
- The use of the word “issue” to be replaced with a more positive word such as “opportunity”
- Mr Schrapel noted that the Architectural studios hold talks on these sort of matters through the Universities. There may be an opportunity for the Heritage community to support this work? It was noted that adaptive reuse is becoming a popular topic for students.

RESOLUTIONS:

The South Australian Heritage Council:

- **Discussed** the Draft Report.
- **Noted** a revised draft will be considered out of session by 24 July 2023.
- **Noted** that the report will be finalised and sent to the Minister by early August.

5.1B SA Heritage Council Strategic Workplan and Budget for 2023/24

Council discussed a proposed action plan for 2023-24 and made the following comments:

- Alignment of Heritage Places Theme – Gap analysis project.

OFFICIAL

- Discussed Heritage Tourism Action Plan. Agreed the Council ought to continue to advocate for the Heritage Tourism Action Plan through its own Action Plan. Council to consider priority actions from the Heritage Tourism Action Plan it can advocate for.
- Add to Action Plan: “Support and promote delivery of Heritage Tourism Grants”.
- Include “Advocate for an adaptive re-use code amendment”
- Item 7.1b – move to “Protect”
- Adaptive Reuse Code Amendment – move to Conserve
- Story Telling Communication Plan – look to implement in 2024

Action: Update to be provided by Heritage SA on the status of the Heritage Tourism Strategy at Council’s October 2023 meeting.

Action: Ms Verschoor to follow up with Mr Craig Holden, State Planning Commission re a meeting.

Action: Mr Hanna to provide updated Marketing and Communication Strategy to Council’s October 2023 meeting.

Council agreed that the revised Action Plan would be updated and provided back to it for endorsement.

Council discussed proposed budget expenditure for 2023/24 and approved the following projects:

- Print the Thematic Guideline (\$15,000)
- Heritage Forum with Donovan Rypkema (\$5,000)
- Blue Plaques for new State Heritage Places (\$10,000)
- 20th Century Survey (\$50,000 this financial year as a contribution towards the total cost)

It was agreed that the remaining projects suggested to Council in the agenda paper would be more fully considered at the next Strategic meeting.

RESOLUTIONS:

The South Australian Heritage Council:

- **Discussed** and **Provided Comment** on the revised Action Plan for 2023-24.
- **Discussed** and **Approved** projects to be funded by SAHC in 2023-24.
- **Noted** the Heritage SA 2023-24 annual work plan.

5.1C – Results of Self-Evaluation Exercise

Mr Hanna noted Council conducted a self-evaluation activity in February 2023. Council were asked to note the results and discuss any areas for improvement. Mr Hanna indicated that the majority of matters received a score of 3 or 4, being the scores that demonstrate the issue is being met.

Matters that scored 1 (No Evidence) or 2 (Some Evidence) by any Council member have been listed for consideration.

It was requested that Council be provided a list of its Policies / Procedures and Guidelines at its October 2023 meeting with a guide of when each will be reviewed. Action: Mr Hanna to organise.

Action: Council agreed to conduct its self-evaluation annually and this would be next done in February 2024.

Council members asked to be provided updated cultural awareness training as required.

Council indicated it would review its Instrument of Delegated Authority on an annual basis. Action: Mr Hanna to add it to the forward agenda program.

RESOLUTIONS:

The South Australian Heritage Council:

- **Discussed** and **Noted** the results of its Self-Evaluation exercise
- **Noted** that it would conduct a self-evaluation exercise annually in February.

5.1D Port Adelaide Sailing Club nomination - request to address Council

Mrs Lindsay and Mr Rolfe departed the meeting at this point due to their declared conflicts of interest.

Mr Hanna noted that the Port Adelaide Sailing Club had been nominated for State Heritage consideration and that Council would consider this at its 17 August 2023 meeting.

It was noted that Mrs Lindsay, in her capacity as an employee of DASH Architects, had made a request for her architectural firm, DASH Architects, to present a submission on behalf of the owner of the Port Adelaide Sailing Club at the 17 August 2023 meeting.

Ms Verschoor discussed this request with Council. Council agreed that it would adhere to the public consultation requirements as per the *Heritage Places Act 1993* and nothing further. Therefore, there will be no opportunity for submissions to be heard when it

OFFICIAL

considers the Port Adelaide Sailing Club nomination for either Provisional Entry or rejection.

Submissions will only be considered as part of the formal legislative consultation process IF the Port Adelaide Sailing Club is Provisionally Entered as a State Heritage Place.

Action: Mr Hanna to advise DASH Architects they will not have the opportunity to be heard by Council at its 17 August 2023 meeting as per above.

Council discussed its ability to deliberate on nominations put to it in-confidence.

Action: Council requested Crown Law advice on whether it can deliberate on Provisional Entry decisions in confidence in relation to Section 7 (6) of the *Heritage Places Act 1993*?

RESOLUTIONS:

The South Australian Heritage Council:

- **Agreed** that consultation would occur as per the express provisions of the *Heritage Places Act 1993*.
- **Requested** Crown Law advice on whether it can deliberate on Provisional Entry decisions in confidence under Section 7 (6) of the *Heritage Places Act 1993*.

6 ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION / DECISION**6.1 Better Heritage Information – Draft Procedure and Letters**

It was noted that Mrs Lindsay and Mr Rolfe returned to the meeting at this point.

Mr Hanna noted that a draft procedure in relation to the Better Heritage Information reports has been prepared for Council's approval. It has been prepared under the provisions of Section 14 (6) of the *Heritage Places Act 1993* – "The Council may include other information in the Register, or hold other information in association with the Register, as the Council thinks fit."

Council were asked to consider two draft template letters to "interested parties" – one to be sent at the beginning of the process and one to be sent after the report had been approved.

Council approved the Procedure and both letters subject to one change being to reword the first sentence of the first letter to read positively.

Action: Update draft letter as per above recommendation.

RESOLUTIONS:

The South Australian Heritage Council:

- **Approved** the Procedure – Better Heritage Information Reports.
- **Noted** the draft letter template to owners upon inception of work.
- **Approved** the draft letter template to owners upon completion of the Better Heritage Information Report.

6.2 Aboriginal Consultation Guidelines

Mr Hanna noted that Council endorsed the Aboriginal Consultation Guidelines at its meeting subject to incorporation of IAP2 Spectrum engagement text.

Particular amendments reflected in the change of the Guideline include:

- Clarity of the purpose of the Guideline.
- Greater clarity of the level of engagement and who is engaged in the assessment process
- Reference only to “consult” (as per IAP2 spectrum)
- A focus of the promise on representative organisations like Native Title Corporations, Claimant groups and the State body/s,
- Clearer tests for the assessor to apply to trigger the early engagement
- Higher threshold triggers for the Councils role where involve/collaborate with First Nations is a necessary part of assessment
- Add to the S17 process with inform / consult commitments around notifying and inviting First Nation / Aboriginal people via relevant forums/channels, i.e. enable better access to the S17 framework, the same as other stakeholders have.
- Separate the procedural detail from the Guideline

Mr Hanna noted that at Council’s 4 November 2021 meeting, Council indicated it would prefer to use the term “Aboriginal” rather than “First Nations” as the more appropriate term to use in South Australia on most occasions. Suggested that the Guideline be called “Aboriginal Consultation Guidelines” throughout.

Council discussed and endorsed the revised Guideline: Aboriginal Consultation on the Listing process.

RESOLUTIONS:

The South Australian Heritage Council:

- **NOTED** the advice provided by Council member, Mr Rob Donaldson, on the ‘Guideline: Consultation with First Nations on the listing process’.
- **APPROVED** the ‘Guideline: Aboriginal Consultation on the listing process’.

6.3 Annual Report 2022/2023

Mr Hanna noted that the Council is required to prepare an annual report on its operations at the end of each financial year for the Minister responsible for the *Heritage Places Act 1993* to table in the Parliament of South Australia.

A draft Annual Report for 2022/2023 has been prepared for Council's consideration.

Council endorsed the report subject to an update of the "Functions, Objectives and Deliverables" section on page 6 to be consistent with previous Annual Reports.

RESOLUTIONS:

The South Australian Heritage Council:

- **Approved** the South Australian Heritage Council's Annual Report for 2022-23, subject to the change requested;
- **Noted** that, subject to the requested change, and the addition of the Foreword, the Annual Report will be signed by the Council's Chair and submitted to the Minister for Climate, Environment and Water.

6.4 Heritage Standards for State Heritage Areas

Mr Michael Queale, Heritage South Australia was welcomed to the meeting. Mr Queale noted that the Heritage Standards are published in accordance with the *Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act 2016* (the PDI Act) and the Planning and Design Code (the Code). They are a supplementary tool of the Code and are directly referenced in the Code's State Heritage Area (SHA) Overlay

The draft Heritage Standards for the Burra, Moonta Mines, Mintaro and Hahndorf SHAs are now ready for public consultation.

It is proposed that public consultation through the YourSAy website will be conducted from Monday 10 July 2023 to Friday 18 August 2023.

After the engagement period closes, stakeholders will be updated with a summary of the consultation feedback via an engagement report published on the DEW and YourSAy websites.

The CE can prepare and publish the Heritage Standard.

Mr Queale discussed the benefits of not being over prescriptive with photographs and diagrams within the Heritage Standards. Mr Queale noted that the Standards represent a minimum design outcome.

The Council members provided the following comments:

- Check that the format of each of the Standards is consistent with one another.

OFFICIAL

- Suggested that footnotes be provided at the base of each page, noting that long academic footnotes are not necessary.
- Appendix A – Definition section to be provided in each one.

Mr Queale thanked individual Council members for their comments and noted that Aboriginal people's comments are still to be provided.

Mr Rolfe commented that the system of providing a Standard for owners to adhere to and supporting Heritage SA staff in their review of Development Applications appears to be working well.

RESOLUTIONS:

The South Australian Heritage Council:

- **Noted** that the public consultation period for the Burra, Moonta Mines, Mintaro and Hahndorf State Heritage Area Heritage Standards will be open from 10 July – 18 August 2023.
- **Noted** that submissions from members, collectively or individually are welcome and will be considered in the finalisation of the Heritage Standard for each area.

7 BETTER HERITAGE INFORMATION

Dr Thomas Mackay, Heritage Assessment Officer with Heritage SA was welcomed to the meeting.

It was noted that work on the three Better Heritage Information (BHI) Summary of State Heritage Place (SSHP) reports presented at this meeting had been finalised prior to the Council's request to contact owners at the beginning of the process. As such a letter has not yet been sent to the owners of these three places. All owners, from now on, will be contacted prior to the preparation of BHI SSHP commencing for their SHP.

There are 30 SHPs located within the District Council of Robe, only one has a statement of significance, with 14 having been identified by the Conservation Team as requiring Better Heritage Information due to past Development Application considerations. Consequently, Robe as a locality has been selected for preparation of these reports.

Gaol Ruins and Obelisk were entered in the South Australian Heritage Register on 24 July 1980, and Cemetery – Robe was entered in the Register on 8 November 1984. All three under the provisions of the *South Australian Heritage Act 1978*.

Robe Gaol

Council approved the report for Robe Gaol.

Robe Obelisk

Council approved the report for Robe Gaol.

Robe Cemetery

Mr Hanna noted that Ms Ferguson, an apology at today's meeting, had asked previously whether it was specifically known whether Chinese immigrants were buried at the Robe Cemetery? Dr Mackay indicated that it was not known and therefore the generic term "immigrants" is used in the Robe Gaol report.

Mrs McDougall suggested that instead of "Cemetery – Robe" it be referenced as "Robe Cemetery" throughout the report.

Mr Mackay noted there are unmarked graves outside of walled section, however the focus of the report is within the area known to be the State Heritage Place.

Council requested that the site details diagram that has lines representing parcel boundaries and areas of heritage significance, currently in pink and red colours, be changed so that it is easier to differentiate one from another. It was also suggested that if it is printed in black and white, one line be dashes and the other solid so they can be differentiated.

Council approved the report for Robe Cemetery subject to the above.

RESOLUTIONS:

The South Australian Heritage Council:

- **Approved** BHI SSHP Gaol Ruins, 3 Obelisk Road, Robe (CR 6128/656 D92419 A300, Hundred of Waterhouse)
- **Approved** BHI SSHP Obelisk, Cape Dombey, Robe (CR 6128/656 H441800 S592 Hundred of Waterhouse)
- **Approved** BHI SSHP Cemetery – Robe, Burr Street, Robe (CT 45/10 H441800 S590 Hundred of Waterhouse)

ITEMS FOR NOTING**8.1 Correspondence**

Ms Verschoor noted the letter received from Clare and Gilbert Valleys Council in relation to the conservation of the Former Clare Town Hall. Council agreed it would write to the Minister about this matter.

Action: Mr Hanna to draft a letter for the Chairperson's consideration.

RESOLUTION:

The South Australian Heritage Council:

- **Noted** the correspondence sent and received since the last meeting.

9 Any Other Business

Nil.

CLOSE OF MEETING

Ms Verschoor closed the meeting at 1:15pm.

Ms Sandy Verschoor
Chair

Date: