

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN HERITAGE COUNCIL

MINUTES

The 93rd Meeting of the South Australian Heritage Council (the Council) was held on Thursday 14 February 2019 in Meeting Rooms 10.5 & 10.6, Level 10, 81 – 95 Waymouth Street, Adelaide.

Statement of Acknowledgement

We acknowledge this land that we meet on today is the traditional lands for Kaurna people and that we respect their spiritual relationship with their country. We also acknowledge 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.

PRESENT

South Australian Heritage Council: Chair: Mr Keith Conlon Members: Ms Kate McDougall, Ms Robyn Taylor, Mr Jason Schulz, Mr David Stevenson, Mr Marcus Rolfe and Mrs Deborah Lindsay.

Apologies: Ms Jan Ferguson OAM, Professor Alison Mackinnon and Mr Michael Constantine.

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

The Chair welcomed all present.

It was noted that Ms Jan Ferguson OAM, Professor Alison Mackinnon and Mr Michael Constantine were apologies.

2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA AND DECLARATION OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

The agenda was adopted without amendment.

There were no declarations of conflicts of interest.

3. PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES

Council considered the draft minutes of 6 December 2018 and approved them with the following amendments:

- Item 6 – 'Ms Taylor' instead of 'Mrs Taylor'
- Item 6.1 – the draft reads that Ms Taylor left the room twice for this discussion. Correct.
- Item 6.4 – capital G for the word 'gallipoli'.

- Item 7.1, paragraph 1 – correct the spelling of 'South Australia'.
- Item 7.4, page 9 – correct the sentence regarding the government dockyard.

4. IN CAMERA DISCUSSION

The Council had a short confidential discussion under Section 7 (6) of the *Heritage Places Act 1993*.

5. ACTION ITEMS

Ms Voigt noted progress against the outstanding actions.

6. FOR DISCUSSION / DECISION

6.1 Significance Analysis

Mrs Anna Pope was welcomed to the meeting.

Mrs Pope said that understanding the level of significance of heritage places is a complex process, and ensuring that assessment and analysis is carried out in a consistent and reliable manner presents challenges.

A Significance Analysis approach has been developed by Heritage South Australia as a tool, using a numerical system, to help understand the level of significance of places nominated for the Register and to help guide the assessment process and support decision making. In particular, the Significance Analysis is proposed to help to clarify whether places are more likely to have State Heritage qualities or local heritage qualities.

Mrs Pope said this tool has not been designed to replace the assessment process, but rather to support it.

The Significance Analysis is based on the State Heritage Criteria and several examples were provided in the Council paper.

It was noted that no other jurisdiction uses numbers as a way of analysing significance and therefore this is breaking new ground. Mrs Pope said that England uses a quantitative tool in relation to places at risk.

The following matters were raised in discussion:

- If this tool was undertaken as well as the normal assessment process – it could have merit and be a good cross check.
- Suggested that Heritage South Australia investigate whether using the 'average' of scores is the best approach.
- Concern raised about using a quantitative tool as part of a qualitative process.

- Concern raised about the tools use in analysing State listing versus Local listing thresholds given there are different criteria for listing State and Local.

Council agreed that the tool needs further testing.

Agreed that if Heritage South Australia were to use the tool, it should not be used as a basis for the Council's decision making and therefore should not be presented in the Council papers. It could serve a good purpose as a cross checking tool for assessment officers.

Noted that South Australia still has work to do to identify its historical themes. What sets South Australia apart from other states, and what themes do we want represented through listing of places in South Australia?

RESOLUTIONS:

The South Australian Heritage Council:

1. **Discussed** the proposed Significance Analysis process and how it could be used for future heritage assessment processes.
2. **Noted** that Heritage South Australia will do further testing and seek Council's feedback at a later date.

6.2 Activating Heritage

Council welcomed Ms Linda Lacey and Ms Francesca Stopin of Heritage South Australia.

Ms Lacey has been employed in DEW to coordinate the preparation of a Heritage Tourism Strategy for South Australia.

Ms Stopin has been employed to drive any policy and legislative reform to meet the government's election commitments for activating our built heritage and supporting those owners who contribute to the care of heritage in this state.

DEW Restructure

Ms Voigt circulated the DEW restructure chart for Council's information. It was noted that Mr Conlon had already had a discussion with Mr Matt Johnson, DEW, about elevating the South Australian Heritage Council to have its own box on the chart.

Council agreed that it appears Heritage has been diluted in the new draft structure of DEW and would like to see the Heritage Council profile raised with its own box on the structure.

Ms Voigt noted that DEW presented to the Minister in 2018 regarding heritage and election commitments. As well as discussing the election commitments, DEW took the opportunity to discuss other important heritage initiative including tax incentives, revolving fund, catalyst towns, one statute for heritage listing, the heritage advisory service, government owned heritage and maritime heritage.

Ms Voigt noted that 2036 is the 200th anniversary of European settlement in South Australia. There is an opportunity to use this as a catalyst for heritage celebrations.

Heritage Grants Program

Mrs Pope noted that the Heritage Grants Program is now open for applicants to the middle of March 2019.

DEW will allocate \$500,000 of grant funds by 30 June 2020. To date, DEW has received many applications and the first round will be oversubscribed.

Ms Kate McDougall agreed to be the Council representative on the assessment panel.

Noted that DEW has created a Register of Trades to help people access professional advice / trades to undertake work.

Government owned State Heritage places

Thirteen properties have now been transferred from the Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure (DPTI) as well as two staff are moving to DEW. \$1.8m program to provide grant assessment to people doing conservation work on government properties.

Heritage Tourism Strategy

Ms Lacey noted that the development of a Heritage Tourism Strategy is an election commitment. Its about activating heritage assets throughout South Australia. Noted that it will be especially relevant to our regional areas. The Heritage sector can take advantage of the growth of the tourism sector in South Australia. A high level taskforce will help further the Heritage Tourism Strategy.

DEW has been involved in the State Tourism Conference in a substantial way in the nature tourism scene in the last few years and it would be good for heritage tourism to also be discussed.

A challenge for heritage is not to be seen just as a supplement but also a drawcard in its own right.

Noted that Council is keen to have a heritage keynote speaker at the Tourism Industry Council of South Australia conference.

RESOLUTION

The South Australian Heritage Council:

- **Noted** the presentation on Activating Heritage provided by Department for Environment and Water.
- **Endorsed** the nomination of Ms Kate McDougall to be the Council's representative on the assessment panel.

6.3 National Trust Heritage Tourism Conference

Dr Darren Peacock, Chief Executive of the National Trust of South Australia was welcomed to the meeting.

The National Trust is convening its inaugural Australian Heritage Tourism Conference and it will be held here in Adelaide. Heritage tourism is more important as a contributor to other themes as a drawcard for a tourist experience, but it's about getting that recognised.

It was noted the National Trust held a summit in Burra in 2018. South Australia is leading the way in the policy field but we have some work to do in practice.

Minister Speirs has agreed to attend Day One of the Conference. The Conference will involve a field day as well. Mr Conlon indicated he will happily lead a session on Day Two of the conference.

Council noted that we need to maintain our heritage to ensure tourists still want to come and value the experience.

It was noted that ecotourism is now a niche market and we are striving for similar recognition for heritage tourism. There was discussion about how to market the heritage tourism brand.

Dr Peacock said that the National Trust talks about being the 'custodian of the story'. This is what heritage tourism is about - a transfer of knowledge and experience through visiting a place.

The date for the National Trust Conference is 30 and 31 May 2019. The TICSA Conference will be held on the preceding two days - 28 and 29 May. Venue yet to be determined.

Dr Peacock encouraged Council members to attend.

RESOLUTION

The South Australian Heritage Council:

- **Noted** the information provided by Dr Peacock regarding the National Trust's Heritage Tourism Conference.

6.4 Heritage Council Strategic Plan - workshop

Ms Beverley Voigt led discussions on the Strategic Plan.

It was noted that the Council had agreed on its areas for priority action at its October 2018 meeting. Council discussed the best way to express its priorities. The Council agreed it would like to move away from the layout of the Strategic Plan presented by Program Logic.

Members noted the readability of a layout offered by Mr Stevenson.

Council agreed that its plan would be guided by the three key pillars of 'Conserving, Protecting and Promoting'. There would then be a series of Objectives under each pillar. Each Objective will have numbered actions associated with them and then added success measures.

Council discussed the following matters in relation to its Strategic Plan:

- Heritage Incentives
- Regulatory Reform
- Heritage Tourism.
- Preparation of a Trends, Shortcomings and Opportunities document for the Minister.
- Chair of the Heritage Council meets with Minister regularly.
- Review of the Heritage Places Act 1993.
- Develop a positive relationship with the State Planning Commission.

Action: Agreed that Mr Stevenson, Mr Rolfe and Ms Voigt would meet out of session to further the work on the Council's Strategic Plan for 2019-2021.

RESOLUTION

The South Australian Heritage Council:

- **AGREED** that a small working group of Council will convene to progress the Council's Strategic Plan.

7 ITEMS FOR NOTING

7.1 Update from Chairperson

Mr Conlon provided a paper to Council members outlining his work in the heritage space since the last meeting.

Mr Conlon indicated he and Ms Voigt met with representatives of Cedar Woods to discuss Shed 26, New Port. Cedar Woods indicated they would need \$8m to create an opportunity for adaptive reuse rather than demolition of the building. Mr Conlon

Noted that the idea of Heritage Awards has been raised by National Trust and that Dr Peacock is going to write to Mr Conlon about this.

Mr Conlon has a booking for an Edmund Wright Trail walk as part of History Month.

Mr Conlon discussed with Ms Ferguson the desirability of reducing the density and length of papers provided by DEW to the Council.

RESOLUTION

The South Australian Heritage Council:

- **NOTED** the report provided by the Chairperson, Mr Keith Conlon.

7.2 Report from DEW

- Council noted the report provided by DEW.

RESOLUTION

The South Australian Heritage Council:

- **Noted** the report provided by DEW.

7.3 Curtilage of State Heritage Places

Council noted the advice in relation to listing curtilage pertaining to State Heritage Places.

RESOLUTION

The South Australian Heritage Council:

- **Noted** the advice provided in relation to curtilage of State Heritage Places.

7.4 Reporting on Delegations

Noted.

RESOLUTION

The South Australian Heritage Council:

- **Noted** the delegations report.

8 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Nil.

CLOSE OF MEETING

Mr Conlon closed the meeting at 1:30pm.



Mr Keith Conlon

Chair

Date:

8/4/19