

Minutes

Heritage Advisory Committee

Date: Wednesday, 01.03.2023

Venue: Richmond Town Hall Meeting Room 1

Councillors: - Cr Edward Crossland (EC) Chair,

Attendance: Graeme Butler (GB), Eleni Courvisanos (ECo), Greg Chenhall (GC), Ian Wight (IW), Kristianna Scheffel (KS), Leo John Showell (LS), Malcolm MacDonald (MM), Robert Crawford (RC), Richa Swarup (RS) - Principal Advisor City Heritage, CoY.

<u>Apologies</u>: Cr Bridgid O'Brien (BOB), Cr Michael Glynatsis, Alexis Arrowsmith (AAr), Jeffrey Atkinson (JA), Kirsteen Thomson (KT), Ursula Chandler (UC).

diverse

vibrant

exciting

inclusive

1. Acknowledgement, Welcome and Apologies

RS started the meeting with the committee acknowledging the Statement of Recognition of Wurundjeri Land.

HAC noted apologies (as stated above).

IW chaired until EC was available.

Action

No action required.

2. Minutes of the previous HAC meeting 19.12.2022 and actions arising

HAC unanimously adopted the minutes of the previous HAC meeting of 19.12.2022.

Actions arising:

It was noted that a HAC delegates' report has not been submitted for the previous meeting of 19.12.2023. HAC discussed the urgency of that report as it had included HAC advice regarding the priority actions for 2023 and onwards and recommendations to the Council on other matters.

HAC further recommended that it is important that a HAC delegate presents a motion in the next Council meeting in relations to the HAC's recommendations for item 4 of the previous meeting (19.12.2022) which included the following:

- a. provide funding in the budget year 2023-24 to implement priority actions as noted in the meeting's minutes (19.12.2023).
- b. continue the funding for Heritage Officer (Indigenous Heritage) in coming years as an ongoing position.
- c. allow the unused funds in this year from Heritage Officer (Indigenous Heritage) position for appointing another heritage officer/consultant on a short-term basis, this year and in the coming year, until the position is filled.

Action

That

- HAC Delegates' report for the previous meeting be submitted to the Council.
- A motion through HAC Delegate is presented to Council regarding the matters of funding in the budget year 2023-24 (noted in the minutes of the previous meeting).
- AA and GB provide an email note with specific issues and examples to RS regarding their concerns for the planning proposal

1

Regarding action for item 5 of the previous meeting on planning proposal and assessment process HAC noted that AA and GB still need to provide details to RS.

and assessment process

3. The National Trust Update

ECo provided an update on the current focus of the National Trust on the following topics:

- Climate Action Plan
- Reconciliation Action Plan
- Advocacy Tool Kit
- Heritage Trees
- Victorian Heritage Services Directory of trades professional
- Heritage Festival

HAC appreciated the work The National Trust is doing in above areas. HAC also noted that providing a link to Victorian Heritage Services Directory of trades people on Yarra's website is an action in Heritage Strategy.

Action

That

- ECo send link to Victorian Heritage Services Directory of trades people to RS by email.
- RS get that link included on the heritage page of Council website.

4. Opportunity for promotion of Yarra's heritage through Australian Heritage Festival in future

HAC discussed the current focus of the heritage festival. RS informed that she has submitted a proposal to the National Trust to promote Yarra's Heritage Walks as a part of this year's festival theme "Shared Stories". There are currently 9 heritage walks on City of Yarra's website.

HAC further discussed the opportunity to promote Yarra's heritage by regular participation and promotion through the Australian Heritage Festival. HAC noted that this would be a part of the implementation of Action 26 of the Heritage Strategy and would help achieve one of the goals of the Heritage Strategy which includes:

"YCC diversifies its means of promoting heritage to ensure the widest reach within the community."

HAC recommended that RS prepare a budget bid for seeking regular funding of a small amount \$3,000 - \$5,000 for promotion of heritage through projects or event partnerships with the historical societies during heritage festival.

Action

That RS submit a budget bid in the next year to source a regular amount for Yarra's regular participation in the Australian Heritage Festival.

5. Brunswick Street Heritage Walk

GC mentioned that one of the well known and a very senior members of Yarra's (Fitzroy) community, Louse Elliot, has been working on this walk. He also informed that this is Part 1 of the Walk and Louse has also been preparing a Part 2 of the walk.

HAC discussed following aspects:

- An opportunity to make the walk shorter.
- An opportunity to reduce the text.
- Opportunity for including a QR code link which can provide a link to a source of detailed information.

Actions

That

- GB go through the Walk and provide his observations to RS and other members.
- That RS ensure that an acknowledgement to Louise Elliot is included in the final

Opportunity to include Victorian Heritage Database as a graphic design of the walk. source for further information. Need for fact checking and editing. RS informed that this text has been reduced to 205 words. Cutting down information further for this walk may not be possible. However, this can be followed up for other walks. GB agreed to for a quick editing. HAC recommended that: The walk can also acknowledge the extensive research work undertaken by Louise Elliot. 6. Heritage Strategy implementation <u>Action</u> In view of the discussion on item 2 relating to Heritage Strategy this No actions were noted. item was not discussed further. 7. Updates **Action** RS provided following updates: No actions were noted. WHMP: Officers have provided a briefing to the Councillors on the revised draft World Heritage Management plan and its various parts. Council would not be making any submission being a part of the Steering Committee for the World Heritage Management Plan. However, the Steering Committee may discuss different viewpoints internally as a part of the committee work. WHEA Strategy Plan: Council has already made a submission during the earlier exhibition of WHEA Strategy Plan. Maddocks during the Heritage Council Victoria's Hearing Process will represent council. Council's submission will be updated to include additional aspects related to the new WHMP and if needed in response to the other submissions. GAS Works Site: Development Victoria are currently preparing a Conservation Management Plan for the Valve House and would be designing heritage interpretation sign/s. Council had last year agreed to provide names and contact details of two of the community representatives to Development Victoria. Details of Terry Nott - a former member of the HAC) and Glen McCallum have been provided to Development Victoria in relation to heritage interpretation signs. • GB enquired about the new location of the Porter Cabin. RS informed that the shed has been relocated to Fairfield Park.

8. Other matters

Action

Based on the discussion on item 2 relating to planning proposal and assessment process ECo suggested that it would be useful if a chart is provided explaining the various points in the life of an application approval when a heritage advisers advice is provided to the community or sought by Council.

That RS follow up the matter with the relevant department of the Council.

HAC requested that the relevant section of the Council provide such a process chart to HAC in its next meeting. This should include heritage advice being provided to a developer (or affected party) or to a council officer in processing a development application, and when a developer first contact Council.

department of the Council.

Such a chart should show the steps (including heritage advice) during the application assessment and how it is captured in the reports presented to the Council's decision-making committee and how heritage is represented in the VCAT.

9. Future Meeting Dates

RS informed that a tentative schedule of future meeting dates has been provided to her by the Councillors' Support unit which has been circulated to HAC members.

Action

That HAC members inform their unavailability during specific periods to RS.