

# Arts Advisory Committee Minutes



**Date:** Monday 17 June 2019  
**Time:** 7pm to 8.30pm  
**Venue:** Nillumbik Shire Council, Civic Drive, Greensborough  
**Chair:** Cr Jane Ashton  
**Minute taker:** Sarah Hammond (Acting Team Leader, Arts and Cultural Development)

## Order of business

### 1. Welcome

**Attendance:** Cr Jane Ashton, Brian Gilkes, Blaise van Hecke, Eugene Howard, Matt Blackwood, Ute Leiner

**Officers:** Michelle Zemancheff (Coordinator, Arts and Cultural Development), Sarah Hammond (Acting Team Leader, Arts & Cultural Development), Kirstie McKenzie (Grants Officer)

**Apologies:** Cr Karen Egan, Dennis Coard, Gillian Essex, Kylie Lethbridge (Executive Manager, Economic Development & Tourism)

### 2. Conflict of interest and Assembly of Councillor Form

None reported. Assembly of Councillor Form lodged with Governance 18 June 2019.

### 3. Minutes from previous meeting

That the minutes of the meeting held on 18 March 2019 are confirmed as a true and accurate record:

**Moved:** Blaise van Hecke

**Seconded:** Brian Gilkes

## Business items

## Details

## Action

### 4. Matters arising

The SWOT analysis of the implementation of the Arts & Cultural Plan over the 2018 calendar year was distributed.

### 5. Arts & Cultural Plan implementation update

**5.1. Council Reports (Art Collection, Public Art, Feasibility Study)** will go to Ordinary Council Meeting 25 June 2019 for endorsement of the draft policies/study for public exhibition via *Participate Nillumbik* for 3 weeks ahead of the Future Nillumbik Committee meeting on 13 August 2019.

**5.2. The Queen of the Shire** has been reinstalled.

**5.3. Eltham Library Community Gallery** and Gallery Gigs are going well. There has been an uplift of

Officers to advise Committee when *Participate Nillumbik* is live.

Committee to promote this opportunity and to provide their own feedback.

Committee to nominate to speak to the *Participate Nillumbik* submissions at Future Nillumbik meeting 13 August 2019.

energy in the gallery. Applications for the 2020 exhibition program will open on 1 July.

Committee to promote opportunity.

**5.4. Nillumbik Digital Agora** – an update on this program with information on the selected artists and dates for each installation was circulated. Committee support requested for volunteer roles.

Committee to confirm availability for volunteer roles.

**6. Nillumbik Prize Contemporary Art 2019 debrief**

There was general consensus that the 2019 Nillumbik Prize was highly successful. It was of a higher standard and more diverse thanks to the national format and the increased prize money. The new format provides better opportunities for artists and is good for the whole community. It was noted that the opening event attracted visitors from regional Victoria and interstate as well as a large local crowd.

Officers to provide feedback to Curator & Creative Industries Officer.

**7. Arts and Cultural Grants panel assessment**

The Committee considered all annual grant applications, having already submitted their assessments via SmartyGrants. Given the high number of applications (a 400% increase up on the previous 2 years), priority was given to applications that supported the delivery of the Arts & Cultural Plan 2018-2022 and rated highly in satisfying the assessment criteria. \$40,000 was allocated across the 3 streams of Performing Arts, Community Arts & Literary Arts, supporting 10 grant projects.

Officers to prepare Council Reports

**4. Other Business**

Michelle Zemancheff (Coordinator Arts & Cultural Development) advised committee members of her resignation effective 5 July 2019. The Committee thanked Michelle for all her fine work over the last eight years.

**5. Next Meeting**

Monday, 29 July 7pm.

**6. Close: 8.40pm**

**Nillumbik Community Fund  
Annual Arts and Culture Grant Recommendations 2019-20  
Arts Advisory Committee, 17 June 2019**

**COMMUNITY ARTS CATEGORY**

|  | Project Title   | Brief Project Description   | Recommended |
|--|---|---|-------------|
| St Andrews Community Centre Inc  | Activation of Wadambuk Gallery                                      | Seed funding to enable the establishment of a curatorial program at Wadambuk Art Gallery.   | \$ 4,990.00 |
| <p>Committee Notes: Goal of grant project is to create a sustainable gallery space/program. Aligns with Arts &amp; Cultural Plan and Council Plan. Meets grant criteria. Good opportunities for local artists and community. This grant will fund basic essentials vitally needed to activate this space effectively - curatorial knowledge/skills, gallery equipment, materials and promotional supplies. Without the grant it is likely that the gallery will not flourish. Condition of grant: OH&amp;S equipment must be given priority before all other purchases.</p>  |   |   |             |
| Jasmine Corbett AUSPICED by Textile Artist Community Arts Space  | Treasured Scraps  | A sustainable textiles community art project designed to explore and encourage ways of re-using, extending, re-purposing and repairing our everyday textile items through the creation of collaborative artworks. | \$ 3,990.00 |
| <p>Committee Notes: Innovative sustainable textiles project. Great ethic for Nillumbik to promote. Change of culture through community art/craft. An interesting project that should generate strong meaningful (relational) community conversations. Offers community an opportunity to share the stories and histories about their treasured scraps, while also allowing for a re-think around our textiles and their end use. Applicant has strong links to Nillumbik and is supported by a group of other textile artists. Something new and different for Nillumbik. Intergenerational project. Budget reasonable. Location - Shire Wide Project a possibility. Arts team will help support this project to ensure good community engagement and promotion is achieved.</p> |   |   |             |
| Paradoxa Collective AUSPICED by Smiths Gully Landcare Inc  | Paradoxa Collective and Friends: Walking Talking Listening Learning | A community cultural development project that combines environmental and historical/cultural fieldwork in Panton Hill Bushland Reserves to gain knowledge and develop a collaborative community artwork.          | \$ 5,000.00 |
| <p>Committee Notes: Strong application. Nice synergy between art, community and the environment. Good planning and partnerships. Group has worked hard to think about community aspects and benefits. Grant allocated to artist fees to deliver project but In Kind contribution is significant. Good potential and opportunities. Note: This project is augmented by a larger environmental project which has funding (Friends of Bunjil Reserve Food, Fibre and Medicine Garden's revegetation and rehabilitation sessions) - this arts/community development project enhances and adds to the environmental one. Applicants are highly regarded local artists passionate about their local environment. Panton Hill Location.</p>   |   |   |             |

**LITERARY ARTS CATEGORY**

| Applicant  | Project Title   | Brief Project Description  | Recommended |
|--|-----------------|--|-------------|
| Courthouse Poetry AUSPICED by Melbourne Poets Union  | Eltham Readings | The bi-monthly Eltham Readings replace the Eltham Courthouse Poetry Readings with a featured poet and open mic sessions at a new location (Living & Learning, Eltham), and synchronized with Poetry@Chrissy Hills. | \$ 2,649.00 |
| <p>Committee Notes: New applicant for a long standing event. Local community members willing to take over the organisation and delivery of the Courthouse Poetry Readings - to be relaunched as Eltham Readings. New venue at Eltham Living &amp; Learning. New lease of life. Hugely reduced budget - Courthouse Readings has received approx. \$7000 PA previously plus Council support in the form of flyer design, event listings, promotion etc. This is a much better deal for Council, particularly as it will be delivered now by local people with connections to other community groups. New partnership with Eltham Living &amp; Learning and synchronised readings with Poetry@Chrissy Hills (alternate months). Partnership with Melbourne Poets Union.</p> |                 |  |             |

## LITERARY ARTS CATEGORY - continued

| Applicant  | Project Title             | Brief Project Description   | Recommended |
|--|---------------------------|---|-------------|
| Poetry@Chrissy Hills AUSPICED by Christmas Hills Mechanics' Institute Hall   | Poetry@Chrissy Hills      | A bi-monthly poetry program aimed at enriching the cultural life of Christmas Hills by bringing poetry into the area in a lively and interactive way. These bi-monthly poetry sessions are synchronized with the new Eltham Readings.   | \$ 720.00   |
| Committee Notes: Strong application - meets all criteria, strongly aligns with Council plans. Minimal contribution required from Council to enable this program to run. Supports positive ageing and has many great mental health and social isolation benefits. Good partnership with Christmas Hills Mechanics Institute and local organisations who help to promote this event, and 2019/20 program aligns with the new Courthouse Poetry Readings program so that these readings will run each alternate month. Community contribution in kind is significant. These events bring in featured poets from all over Victoria and celebrate the creative endeavours of local people during the Open Mic section. Audience numbers are growing. Unanimous recommendation to fund this project. |                           |   |             |
| Catherine Padmore AUSPICED by La Trobe University  | Hurstbridge Heart Writing | A literary festival celebrating and enriching the region's rich literary heritage. Located at the Hurstbridge Community Hub, it will bring together renowned authors from Nillumbik and beyond to share insights into their practices with the community. The concept of history will be a central theme. The festival's goal: to celebrate, inspire and connect. | \$ 5,000.00 |
| Committee Notes: Strong well planned project with good support from partners and auspice. Solid budget. Applicant is a local writer auspiced by La Trobe University where she lectures in creative writing. Many opportunities - could perhaps be tied in to the Nillumbik Prize for Contemporary Writing and YPRL Book Lovers Festival. Programming will cater to adults and children, residents and visitors, with speakers representing a broad range of historical interests.  |                           |   |             |

## PERFORMING ARTS CATEGORY

| Applicant  | Project Title                                 | Brief Project Description  | Recommended |
|--|---|--|-------------|
| Theatre 451 Inc  | The Wife (working title)                      | <i>The Wife</i> is a contemporary theatre work that explores issues experienced by women who find themselves in the unexpected role of carer for partners who have experienced neurological damage, and examines their treatment in the health care system. Co-funded by Regional Arts Victoria and scheduled to coincide with International Women's Day 2020. | \$ 5,000.00 |
| Committee Notes: New original play written by local playwright and director, Lisa Inman. Regional Arts Victoria (RAV) funding confirmed. Theatre 451 has a track record of producing professional contemporary Australian theatre in Nillumbik. Not active for last 2 + years due to inability to secure permanent rehearsal and performance space but will use space in St. Andrews for this production. Well-presented grant application, meets all criteria and priorities of this grant program. Skilled team. Strong partnerships. Solid budget. Funding from RAV confirmed. Planned to be presented as an International Women's Day event which brings with it opportunities for Council.  |   |  |             |
| In The Park Productions Inc  | William Shakespeare's, Much Ado About Nothing | Outdoor and family-friendly Shakespeare in the Park events to be performed in Eltham & Diamond Creek in February 2020. The 2020 production is William Shakespeare's quick witted and delightful comedy, Much Ado About Nothing. An opportunity for community to share an evening of theatre, food and fellowship.  | \$ 5,000.00 |
| Committee Notes: Strong application. Ticks all the boxes in terms of goals of Arts & Cultural Plan, Council Plan and Health & Wellbeing Plan plus grant criteria and priorities. This will be the 3rd year of Shakespeare in the Park held in Eltham and Diamond Creek. Excellent event management from the organising team, local volunteer base increasing and local partnerships are strong. This event is growing and draws both local residents and visitors to Nillumbik. Fully funded by A&C annual grant 2017/18 but would benefit from Arts & Cultural Development team support before possibly moving over to Festivals & Events funding. Applicant has been a good partner for Nillumbik and relationship is still growing. 2020 production linked into local school's curriculum. Note: AAC requests that a 5 minute original play by a local playwright be suggested for inclusion in the 2020 program. |   |  |             |

**PERFORMING ARTS CATEGORY - continued**

| Applicant  | Project Title  | Brief Project Description  | Recommended |
|--|--|--|-------------|
| Gregory Fideler, Individual artist<br>AUSPICED by Nillumbik Tourism & Business Association   | Comedy In Nillumbik  | A project to foster the performance of stand-up comedy in Nillumbik. A shire-wide project.   | \$ 5,000.00 |
| <p>Committee Notes: New stand-up comedy events for Nillumbik organised by professional stand-up comedian Greg Fideler. Good application. Something different and exciting. Partnerships with local businesses and Nillumbik Business Assoc. Applicant has worked hard to think about how this projects fits with NCF guidelines and how it could work in Nillumbik. Solid budget, good IK contribution. This is seeding funding for a new initiative. Performance venues to be confirmed - Eltham entertainment district and also at various locations throughout Nillumbik and the Diamond Valley area. Potential to collaborate with Eltham Arts Council monthly comedy nights in Hurstbridge.</p> |  |  |             |
| The Boite Vic Inc  | Eltham World Harmonies:<br>Music, Poetry and local artists | Community-based multicultural concert program featuring international and local musicians, poets, and other performance artists. Collaborations and partnerships with Eltham refugees, Welcome to Eltham, Montmorency Refugee Support Group, the U3A Poetry and Writing groups and U3A French language groups. Presented at St. Margaret's Church, Eltham. | \$ 2,651.00 |
| <p>Committee Notes: Long standing event with potential for greater audiences and promotion. Draws local crowd and visitors to Nillumbik. Multicultural music and expanding program to include literature and conversation. Good partnerships. A small amount of Creative Vic funding allocated to this project. To offer partial funding to cover performance fees rather than admin costs. Condition: grant must be allocated to the musicians/performers and promotion not admin fees.</p>   |  |  |             |

|                                |                 |
|--------------------------------|-----------------|
| <b>GRANT POOL:</b>             | <b>\$40,000</b> |
| <b>RECOMMENDED ALLOCATIONS</b> |                 |
| Community Arts:                | \$13,980        |
| Performing Arts:               | \$17,651        |
| Literary Arts:                 | \$ 8,369        |
| <b>Total:</b>                  | <b>\$40,000</b> |

**Total recommended funding: \$ 40,000.00**

# Environment and Sustainability Advisory Committee Minutes



**Date:** Wednesday 10 July 2019  
**Time:** 7.00pm – 9.00pm  
**Venue:** Council Chambers, Civic Centre, Greensborough  
**Chair:** Lisa Pittle  
**Minute taker:** Yasmin Green

## 1. Welcome

Present: Alan Thatcher, John Brenan, David Turner, Narelle Campbell, Tom Fisher, John Huf, Lisa Pittle, Yasmin Green

Apologies: Stephen Hadley, Areej Hashmi-Weyman, Cr Jane Ashton, Cr Grant Brooker

## 2. Conflict of interest

Conflict of interest provisions are contained in section 80C of the *Local Government Act 1989*, the Councillor's Governance Code, the Employee Code of Conduct and the Volunteer Handbook.

## 3. Confirmation of minutes

Confirmation of the minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 26 June 2019

Moved – Tom Fisher

Seconded – John Brenan

## 4. Draft Green Wedge Management Plan

The Committee discussed their responses to the Draft Green Wedge Management Plan

- The group shared their responses to the Draft Green Wedge Management Plan; observations, comments and issues included:
  - Many generalisations with no attachment to actions/ limited tracking and accountability of actions
  - Minimal referencing
  - Reliance on external funding to support the implementation of the Plan
  - High-level issues with difficult to map actions
  - Roles and responsibilities in relation to accountability
  - Bushfire being defined as 'the' biggest risk – should it perhaps focus on a group of significant risks?
  - Unresolved issues including 'the right to farm'

- Lisa provided the group with a copy of the 'Agreed way of working – ESAC meeting minutes 20 September 2017' to assist in facilitating an ESAC response to the Draft Green Wedge Management Plan
- The group agreed that a 'process' for feedback need to be agreed upon
- The group agreed that the template provided on the Participate Nillumbik website was not an appropriate tool for ESACs response
- The following structure for the group response was suggested–
  - Things we like
  - Things we are concerned about
  - Emphasis
  - Accounting, tracking and resourcing
  - Editing and format issues
- The group agreed with this structure (the groups response is attached)
- The group agreed that Tom, Narelle, Alan and John Huf would meet to consolidate the groups responses before presenting the response at a meeting scheduled for Wednesday 31 July 2019.

#### **5. Feedback on ESAC priorities (15 min)**

Deferred.

- a. Green Wedge Management Plan – Narelle Campbell, Tom Fisher, John Huf and Alan Thatcher
- b. Energy/Climate Change - David Turner and Tom Fisher
- c. Biodiversity – Stephen Hadley and Alan Thatcher
- d. Sustainable Water Management – Areej Hahsmi-Weyman

#### **6. Opportunity to share information about community environment and sustainability initiatives (10 min)**

Deferred

#### **7. Other business (10 min)**

Nil

#### **8. Meeting dates 2019**

Wednesday 31 July 2019 – Draft GWMP Response

Wednesday 21 August 2019 – Renewable energy

Wednesday 16 October 2019

Wednesday 11 December 2019