

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN HERITAGE COUNCIL

MINUTES

The 85th Meeting of the South Australian Heritage Council (the Council) was held on Thursday 19 April 2018 in the Conference Room, Level 7, 81-95 Waymouth Street.

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 Jan Ferguson OAM, Ms Robyn Taylor, Mr Jason Schulz, Ms Wendy Cornell, Professor Alison Mackinnon and Ms Ali Ben Kahn.

Apologies: Mrs Deborah Lindsay.

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

Guests: Mr Matt Johnson, Group Executive Director, Economic and Sustainable Development, DEW, Dr Louise Bird, Assessment Officer, Heritage South Australia, DEW and Mr Michael Queale, Architect, Heritage South Australia, DEW.

1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

The Chair welcomed all present and noted the apology of Mrs Deborah Lindsay.

It was noted that this was the first meeting of the newly appointed Council and that the three vacancies that remain on Council are in the process of being filled. Each Council member introduced themselves.

It was noted that voting on decisions of Council will occur if there is not general consensus on a particular motion.

2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA AND DECLARATION OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

The agenda was adopted without amendment.

It was noted that Item 7.5 would be discussed earlier in the agenda to accommodate Mr Queale, Heritage South Australia.

Mr Schulz declared conflicts of interest in relation to Item 7.4 Loveday Internment Camp – direction for assessment and Item 8.3 Continuing Business Matters of Council in relation to the Adelaide Showgrounds assessment.

Ms McDougall declared a perceived conflict of interest in relation to Item 7.4 Loveday Internment Camp given she surveyed the site many years ago while in the employ of Berri Barmera Council.

3. CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES

It was noted that the minutes of 21 February 2018 had been approved out of session by the previous members of the South Australian Heritage Council.

RESOLUTION:

The South Australian Heritage Council:

- **Noted** the approved minutes of 21 February 2018.

4. ACTION ITEMS

Ms Voigt discussed progress against actions outstanding.

RESOLUTION:

The South Australian Heritage Council:

- **Noted** progress of the action items.

5. GOVERNANCE

5.1 KEY MATTERS FOR NEW COUNCIL MEMBERS

Ms Voigt flagged that the July meeting of Council will be a workshop to develop its Strategic Plan. Council members discussed the idea of providing a communique to the Minister after each meeting as well as a press release. Council agreed that these would be good initiatives.

Council agreed that it would be appropriate for the Chair to meet with the Minister on a regular basis and also the Minister responsible for administering the Development Act.

It was agreed that a position on heritage and development matters is required before meeting with the Minister responsible for planning.

Ms Voigt discussed the Heritage Tourism Alliance and noted there is scope for Heritage Council members to become members of the Alliance.

ACTION: Council members to discuss filling vacancies on Heritage Tourism Alliance at its June meeting.

RESOLUTION:

The South Australian Heritage Council:

- **Noted** the matters for new Council members.
- **Agreed** to send a communique to the Minister following each meeting.
- **Agreed** to draft a press release following each meeting.

6. IN CAMERA DISCUSSION

6.1 Council discussion

Mr Conlon noted that Council can choose to have a short in camera discussion without the presence of the public or staff if it sees the need, therefore this will be a standing item on the agenda.

Council had a short in camera discussion.

7 ITEMS FOR DECISION / DISCUSSION

7.1 GOVERNMENT BUILT HERITAGE

The State Government's built heritage policy states that it will implement a comprehensive plan to rejuvenate our built heritage, ensuring it is protected and preserved for future generations. The policy identifies eight key initiatives:

1. Provide a one-off capital contribution of \$500,000 to the redevelopment of Ayers House by the National Trust.
2. Establish a Heritage Grant Fund. *Council indicated they were very supportive and encourage longer term funding arrangements.*
3. Make adaptive re-use easier. *Council can possibly have influence through mechanisms to achieve red tape reduction for owners / developers.*
4. Transfer titles of regional heritage properties to the National Trust. *Action: Council members requested a list of the properties being transferred to the National Trust.*
5. Development of a Heritage Tourism Strategy. *Council is very supportive of the development of a heritage tourism strategy for South Australia.*
6. Preserve important heritage buildings on Glenthorne Farm. *Council welcomes the commitment to care for the heritage listed buildings.*
7. Review role of the South Australian Heritage Council. *Council welcomes a review of its role and looks forward to discussing this with the Minister.*
8. Work with the National Trust. *Council is keen to engage with the National Trust regularly. Noted that the Chair of the Council has already met with the President and Chief Executive of the National Trust. Noted that Council is also keen to work closely with other heritage organisations such as History Trust and History Council.*

Action: Provide the list of properties transferred to National Trust to the Council members.

RESOLUTION:

The South Australian Heritage Council:

- **Noted** the built heritage policy and associated policies of the State Government
- **Discussed** the role of the Council in advancing the heritage agenda given the current impetus of the Government.

7.2 CELEBRATING 40 YEARS OF HERITAGE PROTECTION IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA

It was noted that Friday 6 July 2018 marks the 40th anniversary of heritage protection (through legislation) in South Australia. The *South Australian Heritage Act 1978* came into operation on 6 July 1978.

Council discussed options for speakers at the event to be held on 29 June 2018 at the Adelaide Town Hall. Possible speakers could include the Hon David Wotton, Ms Judith Brine, the Hon John Hill as well as possibly a panel of speakers including some younger people.

It was noted that Minister Speirs has been invited to attend.

It was suggested that a tour of State Heritage listed buildings could somehow be incorporated into the program to be developed in the months ahead.

Ms Ferguson discussed the heritage significance of the outback town of Beltana and indicated that the town hall will be reopened soon. It was suggested that Beltana could incorporate the 40 year anniversary of heritage protection into the hall opening.

It was noted that a working group had been established and it will meet again soon to further the organisation of this event.

RESOLUTION:

The South Australian Heritage Council:

- **Discussed** the 40th anniversary event and provided further ideas for consideration by the working group.

7.3 8TH HERITAGE TRENDS REPORT – STRUCTURE FOR REVIEW

It was noted that one of the functions of the Council is to provide advice to the Minister on matters relating to the trends, shortcomings and opportunities with respect to heritage protection at the State and local level and, insofar as may be relevant, at the National level.

Heritage South Australia provided a proposed draft structure for Council's comment.

It was noted that this report is much more comprehensive than Council's communique. The communique will only be a punchy one-pager focussing on issues raised at the particular meeting.

Council agreed that it wanted to ensure the heritage protection report included the issues raised with them by the outgoing Council.

It was noted that the report should be succinct and not overwhelm the Minister with a mountain of information. It is important that the key issues are highlighted in the report.

Council members indicated the report must include:

- Heritage Tourism opportunities,
- Assessing the economic value of heritage (broad look),
- Engagement of the community,
- Heritage education (including students particularly at high school level),
- Red tape reform and expanding the listing process,
- Re-introduction of the heritage advisers program,
- Promotion of heritage as an asset that needs government investment; and
- Legislative reform.

Action: Heritage South Australia to draft the 8th Report on Heritage Protection and provide to the June meeting of Council.

RESOLUTION:

The South Australian Heritage Council:

- **Provided** comment on the Structure of the 8th Heritage Protection Report, and
- **Noted** that a final draft will be provided to Council at its next meeting.

7.4 LOVEDAY INTERNMENT CAMP – DIRECTION FOR ASSESSMENT

Dr Louise Bird was welcomed to the meeting.

Dr Bird noted that the detention cell block located at the western end of Camp 14, Loveday Internment Camp, Loveday near Barmera in the Riverland was nominated on 9 April 2015. The heritage assessment and subsequent report were prepared by DASH Architects and historian Dr Peter Bell. Dash Architects made a number of attempts to gain access to the site, without success. They were, however, able to visit the area where they viewed various camp buildings from the road and met with local resident Rosemary Gower. Ms Gower has been researching Loveday over the past 30 years and conducts tours of the Loveday Internment Camp complex.

Due to their inability to gain access to the cell block at the western end of Camp 14 to assess its integrity and compare it to other structures from the original camp, DASH Architects made some recommendations about how to best proceed with the assessment.

Dr Bird noted that a site visit is required prior to Council forming an opinion of whether a place should be provisionally entered in the Heritage Register or not. It was noted that Right of Entry by an authorised officer is an option but can be a lengthy process and is only used as a last resort.

The heritage assessment of the cell block at the western end of Camp 14 indicates that the nominated place may have State heritage qualities and a full comparative assessment could be undertaken as part of a desk top analysis.

Unlike Camp 14 where the only remaining visible structures are the two cell blocks including the nominated place, the Headquarters retain a number of structures and the footings or foundations of a number of others. The Headquarters site, however, did not house internees, but rather army personnel and operated as the administrative centre for the camp. Consequently, the heritage values of the remaining structures of the Loveday Internment Complex require further consideration.

Council agreed that Heritage South Australia should undertake a desk top study of the Loveday Internment Complex to explore whether there is sufficient information to make a recommendation on what, if anything, would be eligible for listing.

Council recommended that Heritage South Australia engage with the Berri Barmera Council in the first instance, as they may be able to help organise a site visit.

Given that there are a number of structures on the site, Council requested that Heritage South Australia consider whether there is any merit in assessing the place as a State Heritage Area as opposed to a place.

Once the heritage qualities of the Loveday Internment Camp are more fully understood, Heritage South Australia will recommend to Council whether or not a full assessment of the Camp is necessary and/or if the cell block at the western end of Camp 14 should be provisionally entered onto the Register or the nomination rejected by Council.

RESOLUTION:

The South Australian Heritage Council:

- **Endorsed** a request for Heritage South Australia to prepare a desktop assessment to determine the heritage significance of the remaining structure/buildings at the Loveday Internment Camp complex.

7.5 PLANNING, DEVELOPMENT AND INFRASTRUCTURE ACT - UPDATE

Mr Michael Queale was welcomed to the meeting.

Mr Queale noted that the Planning, Development and Infrastructure (PDI) Act was established in 2016 and the new supporting framework for South Australia's planning system is currently in development.

Noted that most parts of the Development Act are still operational while the PDI Act comes into operation.

It is anticipated that the PDI Act will be fully operational by 2020 as South Australia's integrated planning act. The aim of the PDI Act is to replace the Development Act.

Proposed changes

There are a series of State Planning Policies under the Act. There is a heritage policy.

Each local council will refer to the Planning Design Code (there will be, however, scope for regional variations such as coast, regional, heritage areas). Noted there will be a heritage overlay which will help people clearly understand the statutory requirements for heritage listed places.

State Planning Commission – there is an opportunity to create expert groups/ advisors for areas such as heritage.

Accredited Professionals – this initiative will accredit planners and building certifiers. The PDI system will allow proponents to use council or consultant planners, similar to the current building certifier arrangements.

The South Australian Planning Commission has recently issued the 'Blueprint for South Australia's Planning and Design Code - Introductory Paper' for comment.

The Blueprint document outlines the process and intentions behind the Planning and Design Code (PDC). The PDC will be a single planning code and will replace the State's 72 existing Development Plans.

Four Policy Discussion Papers will be prepared. These papers will include 'Conservation Areas'- which will be used as part of proposed stakeholder and community engagement discussions. The Policy Discussion Papers will cover:

- Integrated Movement Systems (roads and public transport);
- Natural Resources and Management;
- People and Neighbourhoods ('Culture and Heritage' SPP referenced here)
- Productive Economy. ('Adaptive Reuse' SPP referenced here)

There will be clear design guidelines within the 'People and Neighbourhoods' Discussion Paper, through the associated Conversation Area process. The 'Productive Economy' Discussion Paper may also provide an opportunity to comment on the issues relating to the adaptive reuse of heritage listed buildings.

Heritage South Australia is recommending 'exemptions' for scheduled minor and 'like-for-like' works, as a possible way of reducing red tape and complications/ costs for State heritage place owners. It has been advised that the definition of heritage will not be changed.

Council members discussed the following matters:

- Opportunity to give the Heritage Minister the power to list a State Heritage Area (currently with the Planning Minister).
- Need to be clear about the distinction between Heritage and Character.
- Concern that outback areas of South Australia, not covered by a local council and covering 70% of the State, are not being consulted through the process.
- Noted the current Local Heritage listing assessment process is not flexible enough to deal quickly with nominations.
- Mindful of the position of the outgoing Council on the Expert Panel on Planning Reform recommendation to have one piece of heritage legislation for listing.
- Noted that Local Heritage policy has no capacity to create Local Heritage Areas.
- That heritage development referral will always fall into "needs to be assessed" criteria.
- Noted that DPTI have very few resources to address these topics.
- Noted that the main public perception is that there is too much red tape for heritage listed properties.
- Noted that up to 75% of State heritage referred Development Applications are responded to within the mandatory eight week response period. Other DAs take longer due to complex issues and/ or poor documentation/ design outcomes.
- The current support of local heritage advisers should not be underestimated. It is vital to talk to owners locally.
- Discussed the draft letter of reply to DPTI and provided comment on the minimum competencies required of accredited professionals.

ACTION: Council members to be provided with heritage and planning reform recommendations of the past.

ACTION: Heritage South Australia to revise draft letter based on comments of Council and provide to Council members via email for final approval.

RESOLUTION:

The South Australian Heritage Council:

- **Approved** the basic thrust of the draft letter; and
- **Resolved** to provide final comment on draft letter of reply to DPTI out of session.

8 ITEMS FOR NOTING

8.1 STATEMENT OF KEY HERITAGE ISSUES FROM OUTGOING COUNCIL

Mr Conlon noted that members had received advice from the outgoing Council and thanked them for it.

It was noted that this advice will be incorporated into the 8th Report on Heritage Protection.

RESOLUTION:

The South Australian Heritage Council:

- **Noted** the advice provided by the outgoing Council.

8.2 CHAIR'S REPORT

Historic Houses Association Conference

The Chair and the Manager attended the Historic Houses Association Conference in Sydney in early April 2018. A report prepared by Ms Voigt was included in the members' agenda package.

The Historic Houses Association supports owners and promotes public interest in historic houses and properties throughout Australia.

Noted that State Heritage owners across the country do not feel like they are consulted with.

Noted that Historic Houses are looking at creating a South Australian representative.

RESOLUTION:

The South Australian Heritage Council:

- **Noted** the report provided by the Chairperson

8.3 CONTINUING BUSINESS MATTERS OF COUNCIL

Ms Voigt noted that there are two listing matters and one compliance issue, which were the business of the outgoing Council, and that incoming Council members need to be aware of and consider, if and when required.

These places are:

- 1) Brompton Gasworks
- 2) Bell's Plumbers Shop
- 3) Adelaide Showground

Council noted they are waiting on a determination by the Minister re Brompton Gasworks given that he has been requested to consider removing the provisional entry in the public interest.

With regard to the Adelaide Showground, it was noted there are five places within the showground that are being assessed for provisional entry consideration. Council agreed to invite the Royal Agricultural & Horticultural Society of South Australia Inc. to address the Council meeting in June.

ACTION: Heritage South Australia to advise the Royal Agricultural and Horticultural Society of South Australia Inc they can attend the June 2018 meeting of the Council to address the Council.

ACTION: Heritage South Australia to provide the assessment reports to the Royal Agricultural and Horticulture Society of South Australia, prior to the Society attending the June 2018 meeting.

RESOLUTION:

The South Australian Heritage Council:

- **Noted** that the Council is under direction not to confirm the provisional entry of Brompton Gasworks until the Minister has had an opportunity to consider the matter in the public interest;
- **Noted** the briefing on future actions proposed for the conservation of Bell's Plumbers Shop, 15 Payneham Road, College Park;
- **Noted** the update on the Adelaide Showground listing;
- **Endorsed** the Royal Agricultural and Horticulture Society of South Australia attending the June 2018 meeting of the Council to discuss their support and concerns for the listing of the five nominated places; and
- **Endorsed** the request to provide the assessment reports to the Royal Agricultural and Horticulture Society of South Australia, prior to the Society attending the June 2018 meeting.
- **Approved** the process of making available assessment reports to owners at they are prepared and considered by Council as part of the provisional entry consideration as part of open and transparent decision making

8.4 HERITAGE SNAPS PHOTO COMPETITION

Following the success of the Sea Pixels competition, Heritage South Australia is running another photographic competition in 2018 entitled 'Heritage SnAps'. The objective of this competition is to again engage the South Australian community, but this time to promote our State Heritage Places. Through promotion, this competition has been linked to the 40 year celebration of heritage protection.

Noted that the competition is open to 13 July 2018 and there will be an event to announce the winners on Friday 31 August at a venue to be determined.

RESOLUTION:

The South Australian Heritage Council:

- **Noted** the briefing about the Heritage SnAps photo competition.

8.5 CORRESPONDENCE

Noted.

RESOLUTION:

The South Australian Heritage Council:

- Noted the correspondence in and out since the last meeting of the Council.

8.6 REPORTING ON DELEGATIONS

Noted.

RESOLUTION:

The South Australian Heritage Council:

- Noted the report provided on the exercise of delegations.

9 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Communique

Noted that the executive officer will draft a communique for the Chair's approval.

CLOSE OF MEETING

The Chair closed the meeting at 13:45pm.



Mr Keith Conlon
Chair

Date:

10/6/18

