

**MINUTES FROM THE BALRANALD SHIRE COUNCIL CULTURAL COMMITTEE MEETING HELD AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS OF BALRANALD ON MONDAY FEBRUARY 15th 2016 COMMENCING AT 5.05PM.**

**PRESENT:** Doreen Greenham (Chair), Margaret Butler, Jan Lawler, Cr Steve O'Halloran, Sue Balshaw, Elizabeth White and Cherie Murphy (minute taker).

**APOLOGIES:** Mayor Cr Leigh Byron, Bella Mannix, Linda Nelson, Robyn Davis, Ema Serevi

The minutes of the Meeting held on Monday November 16th 2015 were read and accepted.

**Moved** Sue Balshaw  
**Seconded** Margaret Butler

**BUSINESS ARISING:**

**Cake Stall**

Margaret Butler advised she has booked the Kiosk for Thursday 24 March.

This and other monies raised will go toward the purchase of a grand piano.

**Variety Concert - Music night**

Margaret Butler advised the Variety Concert date has been altered from April to 6 May 2016, as April clashed with too many things around town.

The money raised will go towards the purchase of a grand piano and she is hoping everyone will support these events / fundraisers.

Margaret is meeting with the Balranald Central School Principal, Mr Aaron Flagg on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> to discuss student / staff involvement. The Emcee is Mr John Curran and at this stage the artists performing are:

- Solos, including Mrs Doreen Greenham, Barry Hodgson
- "Finding Calm" duo consisting of Thomas Connellan and Carmen Woods
- Spoons players
- Recitations from Mrs June Spinks
- School Choir
- Sing Australia with Deniliquin Choir assisting
- Mime act

Margaret advised that she is waiting to hear if Kiandra Dalton, Chloe Calleja and the Fijian singing group will perform.

Margaret suggested, (after advice that a gold coin donation for entry is too cheap) that entry fees be \$10 / single or \$20 / family.

Committee agreed, saying that was fair.

Sue Balshaw queried if there would be refreshments; chips / drink at the event – if it goes for 3 or more hours there will be a need for something.

Margaret said at this stage, No, although would re-visit this later.

Margaret advised the committee that she would write to Council to secure the Theatre Royal and request a donation for waiving of the fee and assistance with advertising by way of design and printing of flyers / promotional materials.

Cr O'Halloran queried if Director Corporate and Community Development, Elizabeth White, was able to approve this via delegated authority.

Elizabeth advised that waiving of the fees for the Theatre Royal was above her approval limit; however, she didn't see a problem with flyers.

Margaret will ensure the letter goes to the March meeting of Council.

## **General Business**

**Jan Lawler** informed the committee that South West Arts have a project up and running "Threads of Our Community" and she has been in consultation with the Balranald sewing / knitting group, and school children groups (two groups – one on Thursday afternoons and the other afterschool) consisting of between 10 – 15 children creating a 'fibre' project to reflect the feeling of our community.

The project is set up as a travelling exhibition that will start at Deniliquin with pieces selected to be the most appropriate going to a national touring exhibition and then international exhibition.

The Gallery has secured a mosaic functional art grant of \$3,000 for a table tennis table that will have a mosaic top. It will be located at the Discovery Centre and should be complete by the second half of the year.

Jan has also advertised an Expression of Interest for a mosaic workshop to be held on weekends.

Jan is attending a South West Arts meeting in Wakool on 26<sup>th</sup> February.

Jan asked if there is a possibility the committee can start planning ideas / community workshop for an updated Cultural Plan for Balranald Shire and if Council could allocate some money in its budget for some smaller projects that won't cost a lot of money. Balranald Shire needs more visual and cultural events and projects.

Elizabeth advised that she would include \$5,000 (as an arbitrary figure) for discretionary funds for the committee for the new (2016/17) budget for approval of Council.

Jan said that there is a need for a long term cultural plan and a vision for our Shire. She would like to have the plan align with all community committees, saying that many

of these committees overlap or entwine with each other, such as Tourism and Cultural committees.

**Doreen Greenham** said that the Community Carols was a good night, and everyone seemed very happy with the evening.

**Cr O'Halloran** asked which portfolio the old Gaol falls under, as he believes this part of our culture is not being utilised enough.

Elizabeth advised that it falls under the Tourism portfolio at present as it is located within the Discovery Centre precinct.

Cr O'Halloran requested that Connie Mallet, Councils Tourism Coordinator sit on the Cultural committee and that this committee needs a clear understanding of what role it plays within Council.

Elizabeth suggested that Connie meet with and address the committee rather than join – she didn't want to co-opt Connie to the Committee as her workload is very large already.

Committee agreed to invite Connie to address the committee at a date and time it suits her, so as to gain a clear understanding of the Tourism Strategic Plan and how it aligns with the Cultural committee.

Elizabeth will ask Connie to attend the next meeting.

**Cherie Murphy** informed the committee that 2016 NSW Seniors Festival will run Friday 1 April to Sunday 10 April 2016 and Balranald Shire luncheon will be held on 5<sup>th</sup> April. Included in the day will be the short film festival (run in conjunction with South West Arts), trivia and a 'scategories' style of game and also lunch.

Youth week will be held from 8<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup> April. Balranald Shire is planning a coaching clinic on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> April at the Skate Park with BMX / Skateboard enthusiast Matt Spencer (who was previously booked to attend the skate park opening, but couldn't make it after the opening date was changed).

**NEXT MEETING:** The next Cultural Committee meeting will be held on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> April 2016 at 5pm.

**CLOSURE:** There being no further business the meeting was closed at 5.45pm.

**Recommendation:** That the report be received and noted.