

## 12.5 Cultural Development Committee

REPORT BY THE MANAGER, COMMUNITY SERVICES  
TO 20 FEBRUARY 2019 ORDINARY MEETING  
GOV400067, REC800019

### RECOMMENDATION

#### That Council:

1. **receive the report by the Manager, Community Services on the Cultural Development Committee; and**
2. **note the minutes of the Cultural Development Committee convened on 5 December 2018.**

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### Executive summary

The Cultural Development Committee meets to discuss and provide advice to Council on matters concerning arts and culture across the region, including the commissioning, selection, maintenance and de-accessioning of items forming Council's art collection.

### Disclosure of Interest

Nil.

### Detailed report

The Cultural Development Committee continues to discuss a range of options for a future regional art gallery, including its theme or focus and what types of exhibitions and spaces the Committee would like to see within the facility.

The Committee considered a donation of a painting of Cudgegong Valley to Council and, having regard to Council's Art Collection Policy, are of the opinion that it is not recommended that Council accept this offer. This has been noted in the minutes. The Committee, instead, recommends that it be suggested to the donor that the painting be more appropriately gifted to the Colonial Inn Museum in Mudgee.

### Community Plan implications

<b>Theme</b>	<b>Looking After Our Community</b>
Goal	Meet the diverse needs of the community and create a sense of belonging
Strategy	Support arts and cultural development across the Region

### Strategic implications

#### Council Strategies

Not applicable.

**Council Policies**

The Mid-Western Regional Council Art Collection policy provides a set policy for Council's art collection, including works gifted to Council.

**Legislation**

Not applicable.

## Financial implications

Not applicable.

## Associated Risks

Not applicable.

FIONA TURNER  
MANAGER, COMMUNITY SERVICES

SIMON JONES  
DIRECTOR COMMUNITY

2 January 2019

*Attachments:* 1. CDC Minutes - December 2018.

**APPROVED FOR SUBMISSION:**

BRAD CAM  
GENERAL MANAGER



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## CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

### MINUTES

5 December 2018

Meeting commenced 4.30pm

1. **PRESENT:** Scott Etherington (Chair), Councillor Sam Paine, Portia Lindsay, Melanie Trethowan, Fiona Turner (staff)

2. **APOLOGIES:**

Lizzy Galloway, Virginia Handmer, Simon Jones (staff), Alicia Leggett, Simon Staines, Alex Wisser

3. **ART STRATEGY AND PLANNING – MUDGEES HOSPITAL (BRONWEN COLMAN, CREATIVE ROAD – BY TELEPHONE)**

Creative Road has been tasked with producing an art strategy for the Mudgees Hospital redevelopment. They have a budget of \$30,000 and are looking for the best art with big impact. Architects have suggested that there is, in particular, one key site for art: a 20 metre wall in the interior of the building (a digitised image, perhaps?). There is also an opportunity for a piece involving a brickwork pattern (external).

The Committee was asked to recommend themes for the works and discussed the regional heritage and history. It was suggested that the theme of the area's natural environment would be timeless, as well as sympathetic to the indigenous population. It would also allow for possible abstract works, and may also accommodate rich, natural colours.

The Committee also suggested that Creative Road be in contact with Aleisha Lonsdale and Georgia Mansur (F Turner and P Lindsay having previously met with Creative Road and recommended they consult with Councillor Paine (Mudgees Arts), A Wisser (Cementa), V Handmer (Rylstone Sculptures Inc), Chester Nealie, Amber Hooper and Rose Hensley (Gulgong Arts Council)). Creative Road will prepare a shortlist of artists to respond to a brief.

B Colman proposed that the joint 2019 Council/Sculptures in the Garden acquisition be installed on hospital grounds. Unfortunately, this is not an option whilst Council focuses so strongly on a Sculpture Walk towards (hopefully) the site of the new gallery.

The timing for the strategy will be a draft available in January 2019, with it to be finalised the following month.

4. **REGIONAL GALLERY UPDATE (F TURNER)**

Council is still waiting on:

- (a) An announcement regarding its Regional Cultural Fund Application; and

(b) A transfer by Property NSW of 90 Market Street.

Council has also placed on public exhibition a proposal to reclassify the land at 90 Market Street as Operational Land.

M Trethowan noted that she had heard through media channels of a gallery that offers artist accommodation (in the form of a basic bedsit). Also discussed the opportunity to have the café open not just during core gallery hours. P Lindsay discussed her recent visit to the Tweed Heads Gallery. She reported that the placement of windows and the use of Huon Pines knocked down to during construction phase within the architecture are both extremely sympathetic treatments for the environmental setting of the gallery. She also appreciated sliding wooden 'gates' that were used to lock up the on-site gift shop and information desk after hours. Will provide images to F Turner. All ideas to consider at the design stage.

**5. OFFER OF DONATED ART BY JOHN SALVANA (F TURNER)**



Oil on paperboard, 75cm x 49cm.

The painting depicts the Cudgegong Valley prior to it being dammed. It has been offered to Council by Odette O'Neill on behalf of her husband who passed away two years ago.

The artist: Born in Stuart Town (not New Zealand, as previously reported), John Salvana studied at the Art Society in Sydney in 1897 and in 1912 under Frank Calderon (1865-1943) in London. Later he was a theatre artist in Brisbane.

The Committee was directed to Council's Art Collection Policy, which discusses, amongst other matters, whether the work fills a gap or builds on strengths within the existing collection and also whether there is an appropriate location for the work to be displayed or stored. A conclusion was reached that the Committee recommend that the gift not be accepted but suggest to the donor that it may be more appropriate to offer it as a gift to the Colonial Inn Museum in Mudgee.

**6. COUNTRY ARTS SUPPORT PROGRAM (F TURNER)**

Council has recently been successful in securing a CASP grant for \$3,000. The project is titled 'Growing a Community's Cultural Ecology' and will see a Council staff member lead two local, professional artists to develop work in a residency with public outcomes. The residencies will attach to community development events revolving around a selected day or week or month of local or national significance (eg, NAIDOC Week, Volunteers Week). M Trethowan suggested that Green Day may be an option to explore.

**7. SCULPTURES IN THE GARDEN ACQUISITIONS (F TURNER)**

Still need site for installation of Richard Nagel acquisition.

Flame Within  
*Recycled farm machinery and sandstone*  
Richard Nagel  
Sculptures in the Garden 2018 Moolarben Acquisition Prize  
Catalogue price \$4,500. Prize \$5,000.

Councillor Paine confirmed that the artist is happy to replace the base with a larger (taller) block of sandstone if it suits the selected installation site better.

Suggestions provided:

- (a) The intersection of the Walkers Oval path and Short Street;
- (b) The intersection of the Walkers Oval path and the river.

**8. ORANA ARTS UPDATE (P LINDSAY)**

CASP grants recently announced, including one for Mid-Western Regional Council (discussed above).

OA starts its 'Ask an Arts Worker' series in the new year, providing local artists an opportunity to discuss events, grants, cultural issues, etc. The Mudgee event is to be run at Mudgee Art House on 14 January from 10:30am to 2:30pm.

OA's Stakeholder Forum will be convened on 4 February 2019 from 10am-2pm at Dubbo Blackbox Theatre. Council/this Committee is encouraged to send representation.

*Addendum: An invitation will be included in the upcoming Local Government newsletter from OA.*

The arts community continues to wait for Create NSW funding announcements.

Meeting closed at 5.30pm.

**Next meeting: 4.30pm on 6 February 2019 – Town Hall Theatre Green Room.**