

## 12.3 Red Hill Committee 11 March 2021

REPORT BY THE MANAGER, CUSTOMER SERVICES & GOVERNANCE  
TO 19 MAY 2021 ORDINARY MEETING  
GOV400088, A0190002

### RECOMMENDATION

#### That Council:

1. receive the report by the Manager, Customer Services & Governance on the Red Hill Committee 11 March 2021; and
2. note the minutes of the Red Hill Committee meeting held on 11 March 2021.

### Executive summary

This report seeks to inform Council on the progress of the Red Hill site following the Red Hill Committee Meeting held on 11 March 2021.

### Disclosure of Interest

Nil.

### Detailed report

The Gulgong Gold Experience at the Red Hill site has undergone a tourist resurgence in 2021 following the impact of Covid lockdowns early in 2020. Visitation to the site has been strong during the 2<sup>nd</sup> half of 2020 and has continued into 2021.

### Community Plan implications

Theme	Looking After Our Community
Goal	Vibrant towns and villages
Strategy	Respect and enhance the historic character of our Region and heritage value of our towns

### Strategic implications

#### Council Strategies

Community Strategic Plan  
Red Hill Master Plan

#### Council Policies

Not Applicable

#### Legislation

The Red Hill Committee is operating under Section 355 of the Local Government Act (1993)

## Financial implications

Any further capital works at the Red Hill site will require budget approval.

## Associated Risks

Not Applicable

RICHARD CUSHWAY  
MANAGER, CUSTOMER SERVICES &  
GOVERNANCE

SIMON JONES  
DIRECTOR COMMUNITY

5 May 2021

- Attachments:*
1. Red Hill Committee Meeting 11 March 2020.
  2. Gulgong Gold Experience 6 Monthly Report July-Dec 2020.
  3. Gulgong Gold Experience Financials July-Dec 2020.

### APPROVED FOR SUBMISSION:

BRAD CAM  
GENERAL MANAGER



## MID-WESTERN REGIONAL COUNCIL

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**MINUTES****RED HILL COMMITTEE MEETING**

Meeting commenced at 3.07pm on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> March 2021 at Red Hill School Gulgong

Attendees: Councillor Percy Thompson (Chair), Bill Murphy, Joy Harrison, Tony Harrison, David Warner, Richard Cushway (MWRC Staff), Red Hill EEC representative.

**1. APOLOGIES**

Maurice Gaudry, Chris Pearson, Rebecca Neilsen

*Moved: Joy                      Seconded: Tony                      Carried unanimously*

**2. REVIEW OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES**

No Comments

*Moved: Joy                      Seconded: David                      Carried unanimously*

**3. GULGONG GOLD EXPERIENCE UPDATE**

Joy Harrison (GGE Co-ordinator) provided an update on operations and submitted a 6 Monthly report for the committee to review. Joy advised the Xmas Holiday season and since that period has been a very busy time.

*Moved: Joy                      Second: Bill                      Carried unanimously*

**4. UPDATE ON ABORIGINAL LAND CLAIM AT RED HILL (2017)**

Richard Cushway advised the committee there has been no update on the ALC at Red Hill however a response from Crown Lands is expected over the next month or so.

**5. MINER'S COTTAGE REFURBISHMENT (BUILDING BETTER REGIONS GRANT)**

No progress on the Miner's Cottage Refurbishment due to the ALC in effect.

**6. EOI SUBMISSION – GULGONG GOLD EXPERIENCE WALKWAY**

Richard advised that a grant submission has been made to provide 50% in funding towards the upgrade of the walkway between the GGE and the Miner's Cottage (anticipated to cost \$40,000 in full). The remaining 50% to be contributed through Council capital funds (subject

to approval in the budget process). The concept of a new walkway was discussed amongst the committee and further consultation on design and location would be required should the grant be approved.

**7. DISCUSS SECURITY FENCING (FROM RED HILL MASTERPLAN)**

Joy Harrison tabled the need for improved security at the site and suggested to bring forward the masterplan development of security fencing. This was discussed amongst the committee in detail, and ideas were shared around what type of fence (if installed) would be appropriate. There was no decision reached and so a suggestion was made to defer to matter until the next meeting.

**8. RED HILL EEC LANDSCAPING MASTERPLAN UPDATE**

It was noted that the rear fencing had been repaired. No other update provided, will defer this until next meeting.

**9. GENERAL BUSINESS**

None

**MEETING CLOSED 4.22PM**

**NEXT MEETING: 3PM WEDNESDAY 5<sup>TH</sup> MAY AT RED HILL SCHOOL**

**ACTIONS – UPDATED 04/05/21**

<b>TASK</b>	<b>WHO</b>	<b>PROGRESS</b>
Red Hill Signage Audit	Red Hill Committee	<b>Will determine any action based on landscaping masterplan.</b>
Panning Troughs near cottage to be reinforced with concrete base or pavers	Joy & Tony Harrison	<b>On hold due to possible relocation</b>
Review process of listing Red Hill Site on State Heritage Register	Richard Cushway	<b>On hold due to Aboriginal Land Claim (ALC) in effect</b>
Consult with NSW Dept of Planning re possible funding for Signage	Richard Cushway	<b>On Hold</b>
Extend GGE MOU to include operations of Visitor Information Centre and Tea Room	MWRC	<b>On Hold until Miner's Cottage opens</b>
Installation of Mullock Heaps around Red Hill site	MWRC	<b>On hold due to Aboriginal Land Claim (ALC) in effect</b>
Repair/upgrade of pathway between Cottage and GGE entrance	MWRC	<b>A Community Plan Proposal of \$20k has been lodged and supported by Council. Needs matched funding through approved grant or GGE funds (of \$20k).</b>

## GULGONG GOLD EXPERIENCE

### 2<sup>ND</sup> HALF YEAR REPORT JULY – DECEMBER 2020

I am pleased to present this report to you after the disappointing first half year report which showed the effects of bush fire smoke, dust storms and extreme heat followed by a two and a half month lockdown.

After the NSW Health lifted the COVID -19 Restrictions we were able to re-open on 4<sup>th</sup> July 2020.

Because the regional areas were also open to the rest of the state we saw an influx of visitors from all over NSW. It was also school holidays this made July a record month for us 1087 visitors.

The following months also saw record numbers through the complex. This been difficult with the COVID restrictions. Because we are a unique complex we set up our own COVID plan and found that all our visitors followed this without any objections.

When looking at the figures you will note that we made more money in this last half year than we made in the entire year last year.

I put this down to the increased number of visitors, the great attitude and passion of our volunteers and our increased promotion of the experience to families.

Because of the increased number of children/adult panning we are finding that we do not have enough troughs to accommodate them all. Some days we had over 50 panning.

In the Master Plan the troughs have to be moved to a different location to allow for an outdoor dining area where the troughs are now so I would like to request two extra troughs to be installed with this move.

With the DA for the cottage now in Council it is only a matter of time before our stage 2 is in progress. This will add another dimension to the complex. At the moment we are focussing on family involvement, when the cottage opens I will be promoting the complex to more bus companies (I had stopped this promotion

because of COVID) and using the cottage and the tea rooms to attract more adults.

I would like to thank Richard Cushway and Council for the faith they have in me and the support given to me.

Joy Harrison

#### VISITOR NUMBERS

2019		2020	
July	549	July	1087
August	232	August	538
September	487	September	777
October	637	October	1087
November	115	November	631
December	75	December	237

December numbers were down because we closed on 16<sup>th</sup> December to give the volunteers a Christmas break. As you can see by the numbers they had all worked so hard during the year.

**GULGONG GOLD EXPERIENCE**

**Financials from 30<sup>th</sup> June 2020 to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2020**

<b>Date: 31<sup>st</sup> December 2020</b>	<b>Debit</b>	<b>Credit</b>
<b>Carried over from 30<sup>th</sup> June 2020</b>		<b>\$15,734.08</b>
<b>Income from 1<sup>st</sup> July to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2020</b>		<b>\$28,211.31</b>
		<hr/>
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$43,945.39</b>
 <b>Outgoings 1<sup>st</sup> July 2020 to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2020</b>		
Account fees	\$60.00	
Tubes	333.81	
Gems	219.57	
Calico bags	1,430.01	
Printing	302.80	
Cleaning products	202.18	
Coordinators Remuneration	9,000.00	
MRTI	110.00	
Maintenance	1,150.50	
Merchandise	503.56	
Volunteers July lunch/Christmas party	748.08	
Stationery	29.97	
Insurance	401.47	
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	<b>Total Dr \$14,491.95</b>	<b>Cr \$43,945.39</b>
	<b>Balance</b>	<b>Cr \$29,453.44</b>
 <b>Balance in bank as of 31<sup>st</sup> December 2020</b>	 <b>\$29,453.44</b>	