

**ORDINARY MEETING**

**25 MARCH 2026**

**6.5**

## **CAIRNS CELEBRATES 150 YEARS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES**

L&C | 79/4/1-01 | #7837178

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

**That Council notes the minutes of the Cairns Celebrates 150 Years Advisory Committee Meeting held 6 March 2026.**

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### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

The Cairns Celebrates 150 Years Advisory Committee provides initiatives, ideas and suggestions as to the content of the Cairns Celebrates 150 Years program and promotes the program through community and business networks. The Committee will meet five times in 2026 to discuss all matters, with this report pertaining to the meeting held 6 March 2026.

It is noted that the minutes refer to an artwork gift from the Papua New Guinea government, details of which are yet to be provided to Council.

### **BACKGROUND:**

Council endorsed the establishment of the Cairns Celebrates 150 Years Advisory Committee ("the Committee") at its Ordinary Meeting on 20 November 2024.

This committee is an Advisory Committee to Council pursuant to section 264 1(b) of the Local Government Regulation 2012 and does not make binding decisions.

Full details of the Committee's responsibilities, membership and terms of reference are available on Council's website under Experience Cairns/Cairns 150. Part of its obligations is for the meeting minutes to be reported at the Council Ordinary meeting.

### **OPTIONS:**

Council has the following options:

#### **Option 1 (Recommended):**

That Council **notes** the minutes of the Cairns Celebrates 150 Years Advisory Committee meeting held on 6 March 2026.

OR

#### **Option 2:**

That Council **does not** note the minutes of the C150 Advisory Committee meetings held on 6 March 2026 and requests Councillor Officers provide further details.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

Attachment 1 – Minutes of the C150 Advisory Committee Meeting 6 March 2026 DM# 7835028

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Destry Puia', with a horizontal line extending to the right.

Destry Puia  
Director Lifestyle & Community

Attachment 1

<b>Date</b>	6 March 2026	<b>Start:</b>	9:37am	<b>End:</b>	10:22am	<b>Location</b>	Committee Room, Level 3 Spence St
<b>Meeting chair</b>	Mayor Amy Eden						
<b>Meeting Intent</b>	To discuss the planning of the 150 <sup>th</sup> year celebrations of Cairns						
<b>Attendees</b>	Mayor Amy Eden, Cr Cathy Zeiger, Jen Houston, Jon Fearon, Russell Milledge, Destry Puia, Yvette McGee, Dion Eades, Janine Bowmaker						
<b>Apologies</b>	Sandi Robb, Kesa Strieby, Henrietta Marrie, Ranjit Singh, George Bell, Cr Moller, Cr Middleton, Cr Tickner, Cr Olds, Cr Pyne, Cr Coghlan, Cr Tim						
<b>Acknowledgement of Country</b>							
Council acknowledges the Traditional Custodians on whose land we walk, work and live, and their continuing connection to land, sea and community. We also acknowledge and pay respect to all Elders past, present and emerging who walked before us and who still watch over us today.							
<b>Items</b>							
1.	Welcome by Mayor Eden						
2.	Acknowledgement of Country by Mayor Eden						
3.	Acceptance of minutes from 21 November 2025 meeting						
4.	<p>Actions from previous meeting</p> <p>a) ALL: Provide any requests for the remembrance flower asap to assist with propagation planning.  <b>Ongoing:</b> Remember plants <u>need to be collected</u> from the Botanic Gardens – contact Charles Clark / Dion Eades to arrange.  <b>Council is currently arranging for some A5 cards to be available to be handed out in place of physical plants</b> – These may be exchanged for plants at the Friends of the Botanic Gardens.</p> <p>b) ALL: Cairns Photographic Society are the official photographers for C150, should anyone require a photographer at a C150 event please reach out to Dion Eades and seek approval/availability.</p> <p>c) Dion to talk to the parks team about renaming a park “Celebration Park “. This is scheduled for the second half of the year.  <b>Ongoing item – nothing to report today.</b></p>						
	New Actions:						

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dion Eades - check if the C150 QCode stickers can be incorporated on the Way Finders – perhaps on the poles? Check current campaign finish dates.</li> </ul>
5.	<p>Council update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>First Souvenir Program is underway. Deadline for inclusion for next edition is end of April. Please contact Dion in the first instance. The next release will be in June and then September.</li> <li>Stickers available for distribution – please email Dion if you would like some.</li> <li>Future meeting dates: 29 May, 17 July, 11 September, and 13 November – dates suit everyone / meeting invites have been distributed.</li> <li>Any requests for pull-up banners please reach out to Dion Eades.</li> <li>Dion Eades will be away for the month of April, please contact Destry or Yvette with any queries to be will referred onwards.</li> </ul>
6.	Nothing to add to the current Suggestions table DM # <a href="#">7640997</a>
7.	<p>Committee members updates/new business</p> <p>Jen Houston announced her departure effective end March. Everyone congratulated her on her time with Council and efforts with the Cairns Celebrates 150 Program to date, thank you for an incredible job. Dion Eades will be taking over Jen's role for C150.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Jon advised that the dates for Shadows of the Past are now available – these will be added to the next Program and can be added to the Council What's On website. We are unable to add it to the electronic version of the C150 program as we do not have capacity to update.</li> <li>Team Elite report that sales of the C150 merch are going well. Please note that the Fishing Shirts are a larger fit than the Polos.</li> <li>Robin Cleland has given Jen a collection of Super 8 film and CDs of Cairns history to add to the collection.</li> <li>Jon reported that after months since he first requested information from Australia Post about a pre-paid envelope specially made for C150, he finally heard back, and it was not what he asked for. This avenue will not be pursued.</li> <li>Keith Harland has written a jazzy song for C150 and provided a CD which was played to Committee members. The song can be used for a multitude of events. Jen has linked him up with Star FM who are running a songwriting comp with the theme about Cairns.</li> <li>Mayor Eden recently visited the State Library in Brisbane, amazing photo album of the Mulgrave Gallery, opening date was 4pm 11 August 1930 – they will digitize it for us for use. Also visited State Archives seeking information on the first meeting of Cairns Council.</li> <li>LGAQ turn 130 and their annual conference is in Cairns this year.</li> <li>PNG High Commissioner met with Mayor Eden re an artwork gift "<i>The Lakatoi (Canoe)</i>" to be installed by years end for C150. The plan is to place it near the Boulevard Plaza before the Helipad, Sister Cities end looking out the Coral Sea and to Lae's position.</li> </ul>
8.	Next meeting details: Friday 29 May 2026 in the Committee Room, Council Offices Spence Street. _
Meeting closed at 10:22am	