

# COOLAMON SHIRE COUNCIL

## HERITAGE STRATEGY FOR COOLAMON SHIRE

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**2018-2021**

### **Introduction**

This document has been prepared to set in the future direction for heritage initiatives in the Coolamon Shire for a three year period 2018-2021. It is also prepared to meet the requirements of the NSW Office of Environment and Heritage in association with the Two Year funding agreement to support Local Government Heritage Management in NSW.

Coolamon Shire Council includes the villages of Marrar, Ganmain, Ardlethan, Matong and Beckom as well as a substantial rural area focused on these villages and Coolamon.

The purpose of this document is to provide a summary of the strategies Coolamon Council will employ to guide heritage management for the financial years of 2018/19, 2019/20 and 2020/2021. The OEH Heritage Division publication Recommendations for Local Government Heritage Management has been reviewed and utilised in the preparation of this heritage strategy.

### **1.0 The Coolamon Shire Heritage Committee**

#### **Aim:**

*To promote the conservation, participation and awareness, maintenance and appreciation of Coolamon's heritage through increased community.*

#### **Actions:**

- Support the Heritage Committee in providing advice to full Council, with the Heritage Committee including members of the local community as well as Councillors, Council staff and heritage advisor.
- To monitor and assist in the assessment of the annual Heritage Incentive Grants program.

### **2.0 List Heritage Items in the LEP**

#### **Aim:**

*To identify and protect all buildings and places within the Coolamon Local Government area that are considered to be of heritage significance.*

#### **Actions:**

- To progressively update the Coolamon Heritage Inventory with the assessment of further site nominations from the general community.
- To provide assistance to the NSW Department of Planning, NSW Office of Environment and Heritage in the identification and listing of state significant buildings/places within the Coolamon area in the State Heritage Register.
- Develop a strategy to deal with lower priority local listings in the Coolamon Heritage Inventory that furthers their protection in a co-operative positive process involving the owners.

### **3.0 Offer a Heritage Advisory Service**

**Aim:**

*To provide policies and plans appropriate to the assessment of applications within the Main Street Conservation Area of the Coolamon Shire.*

**Actions:**

- To continue to seek the input of Council's Heritage Advisor in the assessment of development applications likely to impact on the heritage significance of buildings/spaces.
- To utilise the advisory service in developing opportunities for owners to take advantage of the technical advice provided by the heritage advisor and give guidance on the Heritage Incentive grants when relevant.
- To provide ongoing support to and liaison with community based heritage groups.

**4.0 Manage local heritage in a positive manner****Aim:**

*Achieve proactive heritage and urban design management within the Coolamon Shire.*

**Actions:**

- To flag all items of heritage consideration on the Council property data base with the assistance of the heritage advisor, so that heritage issues are noted when development applications are first lodged or during pre-lodgement meetings.
- To investigate the most appropriate manner of protecting heritage streetscapes within Coolamon, Ganmain, Ardlethan, Marrar, Matong and Beckom.

**5.0 Run a local heritage fund****Aim:**

*Increase community participation in the management and conservation of heritage places and conservation areas.*

**Actions:**

- Continue to offer Heritage Incentive Grants to encourage owners to undertake conservation and maintenance works of heritage items or places within conservation areas and projects that promote the significance of heritage to the community.

**6.0 Run a main street program****Aim:**

*To implement the results of Main Street programs completed for the Shire Villages*

**Actions:**

- To encourage local communities to seek local and associated funds for projects which are consistent with Council's Main Street Study recommendations.
- To encourage owners and the community to maintain and develop as appropriate the infrastructure – kerbing, footpaths, lighting and street furniture associated with the heritage streetscapes.

## **7.0 Present educational and promotional programs**

### **Aim:**

*Increase awareness of heritage issues by Council, community and owners.*

### **Actions:**

- To utilise the services of a Museum Advisor for the Up To Date Store, Garth Jones Collections, Mavis Furner Collection and Reg Godde Collection as required and to provide development advice for museums and collections within the Shire.
- To continue to provide support to community and tourism groups in the development of cultural heritage tourism projects and programs.
- To continue to promote and identify new opportunities for cultural heritage tourism through the ongoing promotion and identification of sites and tours through the Coolamon Visitor Information Centre.
- To develop and maintain heritage walking trails and identify opportunities to expand these trails as appropriate.
- To maintain network links with the area's schools through improved liaison.
- To continue to investigate and seek funding opportunities for the implementation of heritage tourism options.
- To develop aboriginal heritage interpretation within the museum collection and in other appropriate locations within the Shire in consultation with Land Council representatives.

## **8.0 Management of Council's Assets**

### **Aim:**

*To ensure that Coolamon Shire Council's Asset Register identifies all heritage issues and that there are appropriate plans to conserve those properties into the future.*

### **Actions:**

- To seek funding for the preparation of Conservation Management Plan where appropriate for heritage assets.
- To prepare an inventory and mapping of historic structures and items within the Local Government Area, including minor elements such as street trees, parks and bridges.
- To identify sites where interpretive signage should be prepared to convey the historic significance of the Council owned site or place.

## **9.0 Promote sustainable development**

### **Aim:**

*To promote heritage and sustainable development opportunities.*

### **Actions:**

- To promote energy efficiency and water saving measures to heritage places.
- To encourage the adaptive re-use of existing redundant heritage sites and buildings and places within conservation areas.
- To encourage regeneration of places within conservation areas and to discourage development which may detract from the viability of conservation area and listed heritage places.