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**GRIFFITH PIONEER PARK MUSEUM COMMITTEE  
HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS ON  
WEDNESDAY, 20 MAY 2026 COMMENCING AT 4:00 PM**

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**PRESENT**

Councillor Shari Blumer (Chair), Councillor Laurie Testoni, Denis Couch (Community Representative), Jenna Thomas (Community Representative) (via zoom), Michael Rohan (Community Representative), Robyn Turner (Community Representative) (via zoom), Virginia Tropeano (Community Representative)

Quorum = 3

**STAFF**

Director Business, Cultural & Financial Services, Matthew Hansen, Griffith Pioneer Park Museum Manager, Jenny O'Donnell, Curator, Fox Darcy, Administration Officer, Tabbitha Williams and Minute Secretary, Antoinette Galluzzo

**Absent:** Desma Newman (Community Representative), Neil Dal Nevo (Community Representative), Peter Taylor (Community Representative)

**1 APOLOGIES**

**RECOMMENDED** on the motion of Councillor Laurie Testoni and Virginia Tropeano that apologies be received from Councillor Jenny Ellis, Dolf Murwood (Community Representative), John Nikolic (Community Representative).

**2 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

**RECOMMENDED** on the motion of Denis Couch and Councillor Laurie Testoni that the minutes of the previous meeting held on 18 February 2026, having first been circulated amongst all members, be confirmed.

**3 BUSINESS ARISING**

Nil.

**4 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

**Pecuniary Interests**

*Members making a pecuniary interest declaration are required to leave the meeting during consideration of the matter and not return until the matter is resolved.*

There were no pecuniary interests declared.

### **Significant Non-Pecuniary Interests**

*Members making a significant non-pecuniary interest declaration are required to leave the meeting during consideration of the matter and not return until the matter is resolved.*

There were no significant non-pecuniary interests declared.

### **Less Than Significant Non-Pecuniary Interests**

*Members making a less than significant non-pecuniary interest declaration may stay in the meeting and participate in the debate and vote on the matter.*

There were no less than significant non-pecuniary interests declared.

## **5 ITEMS OF BUSINESS**

### **CL01 GRIFFITH PIONEER PARK MUSEUM ACTION DAY - 3 APRIL 2026**

The Committee noted that Action Day 2026 was a successful event and continues to have a positive reputation within the community.

**RECOMMENDED** on the motion of Virginia Tropeano and Jenna Thomas that the Griffith Pioneer Park Museum Committee thank the volunteers and staff for their ongoing contribution to Action Day, and a letter of thanks be prepared.

### **CL02 QTR 1 REVIEW - FREE LOCAL ENTRY TRIAL**

**RECOMMENDED** on the motion of Councillor Laurie Testoni and Robyn Turner that the Committee note the report.

### **CL03 QUARTER 3, VISITATION STATISTICS JAN - MAR 2026 (EXCLUDING CULTURAL AND COMMUNITY USE)**

**RECOMMENDED** on the motion of Councillor Laurie Testoni and Robyn Turner that the Committee note the report.

### **CL04 QUARTER 3, COMMUNITY AND CULTURE STATISTICS - JAN - MAR 2026**

**RECOMMENDED** on the motion of Councillor Laurie Testoni and Robyn Turner that the Committee note the report.

### **CL05 COMMITTEE MEMBER AGENDA ITEM - DENIS COUCH**

Mr Couch raised concerns regarding the advertising of the “locals free entry” initiative at Pioneer Park and many local residents are still unaware they can access the park for free. Ms Turner suggested that staff could attend Council Cafe to engage with local residents to help raise awareness. Staff responded that they are planning to attend future Council Cafes to support community engagement and promotion of the initiative.

Councillor Blumer highlighted within previous reports, it has indicated a slow but positive growth. Councillor Testoni also mentioned he has put in a Councillor Budget Bid for Pioneer Park advertisement.

**RECOMMENDED** on the motion of Denis Couch and Virginia Tropeano that the discussion be noted.

#### **CL06 OPERATIONAL UPDATE - PRICKLY PEAR AND KANGAROO MANAGEMENT**

Ms O'Donnell provided an update to the Committee regarding the Prickly Pear issue highlighting they have received guidance on chemical treatment and best-practice management techniques. The prickly pear treatment program is expected to commence within the coming months and will be an ongoing process over approximately 12 months.

An update was provided on kangaroo management at the Museum site. It was acknowledged that kangaroo management will remain an ongoing challenge.

**RECOMMENDED** on the motion of Councillor Laurie Testoni and Jenna Thomas that the information be received.

#### **CL07 PRESENTATION - REVIEW OF GRIFFITH PIONEER PARK STRATEGIC PLAN**

Ms O'Donnell presented to the Committee, outlining each component of the Griffith Pioneer Park Strategic Master Plan and providing an update on the progress achieved across each area (please find attached presentation for more information).

**RECOMMENDED** on the motion of Virginia Tropeano and Jenna Thomas that Council consider the needs of disabled patrons, visitors, volunteers and staff at Griffith Pioneer Park Museum as part of the Disability, Inclusion and Access Plan.

#### **SMT Comment**

Accessibility to Pioneer Park has been considered in the newest version of the DIAP ( due to be adopted 16 June 2026.)

Councillor Blumer and Mr Hansen informed the Committee that a grant application has been submitted for machinery shelters at the Pioneer Park Museum.

Ms Tropeano suggested while Italian migrant histories are relatively well documented, British, Irish, German, and other migrant experiences have not been captured as thoroughly. The Committee discussed how modern technology makes it easier to record and store interviews and information digitally so they can later be used in exhibitions or community projects.

**Action:** At the next Committee meeting staff present a report highlighting how they will further engage and give opportunities to other members of the community as part of the oral history project.

#### **6 OUTSTANDING ACTION REPORT**

The report was noted.

**7 GENERAL BUSINESS**

Nil.

**8 ATTACHMENTS**

- (a) Griffith Pioneer Park - Strategic Master Plan Update

**8 NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of the Griffith Pioneer Park Museum Committee is to be held on Wednesday, 19 August 2026 at 4:00 pm.

There being no further business the meeting terminated at 5:30 pm.