

Meeting details

Date of meeting	Wednesday, 3 June 2026
Time	5:30pm – 7:30pm
Venue	Barrbunin Beek
Chair/Facilitator	Maddi Miller
Minutes	Kristen Munro

Acknowledgement of the Traditional Custodians

“Banyule City Council is proud to acknowledge the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people as traditional custodians of the land and we pay respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Elders, past, present and emerging, who have resided in the area and have been an integral part of the region’s history.”

Inclusive Banyule Statement

“Our community is made up of diverse cultures, beliefs, abilities, bodies, sexualities, ages and genders. We are committed to access, equity, participation and rights for everyone: principles which empower, foster harmony and increase the wellbeing of an inclusive community.”

Attendee

Attendee name	Affiliation/Organisation
Maddi Miller	Banyule First Nations Advisory Committee
Uncle Owen Butler	Banyule First Nations Advisory Committee
Shelley Ware	Banyule First Nations Advisory Committee
Cath Bradley	Banyule First Nations Advisory Committee
Sue Harris	Banyule First Nations Advisory Committee
Cr Peter Castaldo	Banyule First Nations Advisory Committee
Kate Noble	Banyule First Nations Advisory Committee
Zali Mifsud	Banyule City Council
Georgie Meyer	Banyule City Council
Kristen Munro	Banyule City Council
Ryan Hood	Banyule City Council
Michael Beattie	Banyule City Council
Belinda Coombs	Banyule City Council

Apologies

Name	Affiliation/Organisation
Banyule First Nations Advisory Committee	

Cr Mary O'Kane	Banyule First Nations Advisory Committee
Uncle Charles Pakana	Banyule First Nations Advisory Committee
Kyralee Murray	Banyule First Nations Advisory Committee

Items

1. Introduction 5:30pm – 5:35pm

- Acknowledgement of traditional custodians
- Inclusive Banyule Statement
- Welcome to members
- Apologies
- Housekeeping
- Conflict of Interest

2. Confirmation of Minutes and Actions from previous meeting 5:35pm – 5:55pm

- Council Officer, Zali Mifsud to report back on actions
- Discussion

Action	Update
Action item 1: Discuss reciprocity, Council's commitment to this committee at next meeting.	Update: Will be scheduled in the new financial year
Action Item 2: Banyule Officer to send community engagement reports from other local governments who have completed a Stolen Generations Marker.	Update: Will complete in the new financial year
Action Item 3: Council Officer to coordinate a workshop with sub-committee to review and revise the Statement of Commitment prior to engagement with Wurundjeri Corporation.	Update: Presented BFNAC comments to Cultural Consultations Unit for review
Action Item 4: Council Officer to connect identified committee members with Senior Strategic Planner for the walking tour.	Update: Email was sent to committee for inclusion
Action Item 5: Council Officer to send updates delivery plan of the Marrageil Strategy.	Update: Emailed and scheduled for discussion tonight
Action Item 6: Council Officer to work with Council Communications Team regarding wording for Jan 26 social media post.	Update: Internal discussions have commenced; committee will be updated in the August meeting
Action Item 7: Council Officer to send National Reconciliation Week events to committee.	Update: Complete

3. Community Engagement Team 5:50pm – 6:10pm

- Council staff, Micheal to present to Committee
- Discussion

Discussion

Review of Community Engagement Policy and Protocols: Michael, Belinda and Ryan from Council's Engagement and Insights team presented Council's review of the Community Engagement Policy and sought the Committee's input on the development of First Nations engagement protocols.

The Committee discussed key principles for effective engagement, including the use of culturally appropriate language, cultural safety, flexibility in engagement processes, and recognition of cultural protocols. Members

emphasised the importance of engaging First Nations communities in ways that are community-led, respectful of capacity, and supported by practical measures where needed.

The discussion also highlighted the need to tailor engagement approaches to the nature and scale of projects, ensure clear communication about engagement outcomes, and build on existing community networks and relationships.

The Engagement and Insights team will consider the feedback provided and continue consultation with the Committee as the policy review progresses.

Actions

Council Officer to draft guidance for engaging First Nations communities in community engagement and bring back to further meeting.

4. Marrageil Strategy Update 6:10pm – 6:40pm

- Council Officer, Zali to present and ask for feedback
- Discussion

Discussion

Marrageil Strategy Update: Zali provided an update on the implementation of the Marrageil Strategy, outlining progress against Year Two actions, key achievements, challenges, and upcoming priorities.

The Committee noted significant progress, including the securing of funding for Barrbunin Beek, delivery of cultural awareness training across Council, and successful First Nations events and partnerships. Members welcomed the strengthening relationship with Barrbunin Beek and the ongoing development of a formal partnership with the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation.

Discussion focused on maintaining momentum across Council, supporting partner capacity, and embedding outcomes to ensure long-term sustainability. Upcoming initiatives include the Welcome Baby to Country program, development of First Nations branding, and further integration of cultural considerations into Council processes.

Committee members were invited to identify priority areas for future engagement and consultation.

Action

Council Officer to send the Marrageil Strategy, Year 2 Achievement reports to Committee.

5. BFNAC Priorities Identification 6:40pm – 7:00pm

- Council Officer, Zali to present and request feedback
- Discussion

Discussion

Committee were requested to participate in an activity which identifies the Year 3 Implementation Plan of the Marrageil Strategy. The activity asked Committee members to identify what actions or initiatives they would like involvement or consultation on over the next 12 months.

Committee members then discussed the potential impact of upcoming elections and legislative changes on Council's First Nations strategies, with Zali and others outlining approaches to safeguard achievements and adapt to possible shifts in political will.

Concerns were raised about the vulnerability of initiatives such as the partnership agreement with Wurundjeri in the event of adverse political outcomes, particularly regarding treaty processes. The committee discussed the importance of embedding achievements in organisational practice to ensure continuity.

Suggestions included reviewing which actions are most at risk, updating or rebranding agreements if necessary, and maintaining a strong foundation of support for First Nations initiatives within Council, independent of external political changes.

Action

Council Officer to collate Marrageil Strategy areas of interest to bring back to the Committee at the August next meeting.

6. General Business 7:00pm – 7:15pm

- Call for any general business items
- Any interest in a Committee collaboration event

Discussion

Reflections on Recent Events: The Committee reflected on recent events, including National Sorry Day and Family Day, noting strong attendance and positive community engagement outcomes. Members acknowledged the success of both events in supporting truth-telling, cultural connection and community participation.

The Committee discussed the importance of ensuring speeches and presentations at future events are appropriate, culturally sensitive and aligned with event objectives. Members recommended providing clear guidance and protocols for Council representative speakers, particularly at events involving children and sensitive subject matter.

The Committee also highlighted the importance of cultural competency and trauma-informed approaches in event planning and delivery and supported continued staff training and organisational learning in these areas.

Committee questioned why Banyule City Council didn't have representatives at the Aboriginal Remembrance Event as apart of National Reconciliation Week.

Zali raised the topic of Wurundjeri representation at committee meetings, seeking endorsement for inviting three family representatives to participate, with committee members expressing support for increased First Nations visibility and involvement.

Following a request from Wurundjeri, Zali proposed inviting three family representatives to attend committee meetings, aligning with their governance structure and enhancing direct engagement and advice on relevant topics.

Committee members endorsed the proposal, offering to support discussions with Wurundjeri representatives and emphasising the value of increased First Nations visibility and participation in Council processes.

Action

Council Officer to send invitation to Wurundjeri Aboriginal Corporation representatives to attend Banyule First Nations Advisory Committee.

Council Officer to register Banyule City Council representative to attend next Aboriginal Remembrance event.

7. Close and date of next meeting 7:15pm – 7:20pm

- Confirm Actions arising
- Close meeting