



BUSINESS PAPER
ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL

To be held on

Wednesday, 14 December 2022

Commencing at

3:00pm

at

Walcha Council Chambers

Members:

Mayor – Councillor Eric Noakes
Deputy Mayor – Councillor Scott Kermode
Councillor Mark Berry
Councillor Kevin Ferrier
Councillor Nena Hicks
Councillor Anne-Marie Pointing
Councillor Aurora Reilly
Councillor Gregory Schaefer

Quorum – 5 Members to be Present

AGENDA

Submitted to Council:

14 December 2022

..... General Manager

..... Mayor



Dear Mayor & Councillors

You are requested to attend the Ordinary Meeting of the Walcha Council to be held in the Council Chambers, Hamilton Street, Walcha on **Wednesday, 14 December 2022** commencing at **3:00pm**.

Yours sincerely

Barry Omundson
General Manager

NOTICE:

The Ordinary, Extra Ordinary and Committee open meetings of Council will be audio recorded for community transparency and minute taking purposes. The audio recording of all Ordinary and Extra-Ordinary Meetings of Council will be uploaded to Council's website.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY:

We acknowledge the Dunghutti people as the traditional owners of the land that we meet on. We pay our respects to the Elders, past, present and emerging. We acknowledge and recognise their continuing connection to the land, water and community of which we are a part.

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 - 2.1 Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on Wednesday, 30 November 2022 at Walcha Council Chambers. WO/2022/03483
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5. Mayoral Minute
Nil.
6. Senior Officers' Reports
 - 6.1 Appoint Council Representation to Advisory Committees WO/2022/03564
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 - 6.3 Review of Walcha Council's Model Code of Conduct WO/2022/03559
 - 6.4 Update Revenue Policy WO/2022/03568
 - 6.5 Regional Meetings 2022 WO/2022/03567
 - 6.6 2022 Motorcycle Rally Final Report WO/2022/03561
 - 6.7 2021 – 2022 Annual Report for Notation WO/2022/03554
7. Notice of Motion
Nil.
8. Matters of Urgency
(Resolution to admit matters of urgency before being further considered by Council).



9. Management Review Reports

- | | |
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| 9.1 Office of the General Manager | WO/2022/03573 |
| 9.2 Infrastructure & Development | WO/2022/03492 |
| 9.3 Corporate & Community | WO/2022/03498 |

10. Committee Reports

- | | |
|--|-----------------|
| 10.1 Minutes of the Tourism Advisory Committee Meeting held at Council Chambers on Tuesday 18 October 2022. | WINT/2022/06297 |
| 10.2 Minutes of the Capital Advisory Committee Meeting held at Council Chambers on Thursday 24 November 2022. | WO/2022/03386 |
| 10.3 Minutes of the Youth Advisory Committee Meeting held at St Patricks Primary School on Thursday 24 November 2022 | WO/2022/03540 |

11. Delegate Reports

- | | |
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| 11.1 Minutes of the Namoi Unlimited Board Meeting held at Tamworth Regional Council and via Video Conference on Thursday 27 October 2022. | |
| 11.2 Minutes of the Central Northern Regional Library Annual General Meeting held at Quirindi Library on Wednesday 16 November 2022. | WI/2022/15669 |
| 11.3 Minutes of the Central Northern Regional Library Ordinary Meeting held at Quirindi Library on Wednesday 16 November 2022. | WI/2022/15669 |
| 11.4 Minutes of the Country Mayors Association of NSW General Meeting held at Theatrette, Parliament House, Sydney on Friday 18 November 2022 | WI/2022/15466 |
| 11.5 Minutes of the Country Mayors Association of NSW Annual General Meeting held at Theatrette, Parliament House, Sydney on Friday 18 November 2022 | WI/2022/15466 |

12. Questions with Notice

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| 12.1 Action List – Clr Nena Hicks | |
| 12.2 Action List – Clr Scott Kermode | |

13. Reports to be Considered in Closed Council

Nil.

Resolution to adjourn the Ordinary Meeting and to move into Closed Council Meeting and to exclude the Press and the Public from the entire proceedings of the Closed Meeting.

Resolution to move into Open Council.

The Mayor publicly declares the Closed Council Meeting Resolution/s.



Present:

Leave of Absence Received:

Confirmation of the Ordinary Meeting Minutes held on Wednesday, 30 November 2022:

Matters arising from the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on Wednesday, 30 November 2022:



Item 2: Previous Minutes



ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL

held on

Wednesday, 30 November 2022

at

03:20pm

at

Walcha Council Chambers

**The Audio Statement and Acknowledgement of Country
were read by the Chairman.**

PRESENT: Clr EH Noakes (Chairman) Mayor together with Councillors MA Berry, NF Hicks, SJ Kermode, AC Pointing, A Reilly and GDM Schaefer.

IN ATTENDANCE: Mr PE Hood – Director Infrastructure & Development / Acting General Manager, Mr CC Martin – Director Corporate & Community and Mrs EL Hobbs – Executive Assistant.

1. LEAVE OF ABSENCE:

81 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Kermode and Berry that the Leave of Absence emailed to Council by Clr Ferrier, due to a medical condition, be **ACCEPTED**.

MINUTES



2. CONFIRMATION OF THE ORDINARY MEETING MINUTES HELD ON WEDNESDAY 26 OCTOBER 2022:

82 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Berry and Pointing that the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on Wednesday 26 October 2022, copies of which have been distributed to all members, be taken as read and confirmed a **TRUE** record with the addition of the complete Mayoral Minute added to the Minutes.

3. BUSINESS ARISING

Nil.

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

7.1 Notice of Motion#26: Business Plan for Renewable Energy Projects

Clr Schaefer declared a Pecuniary – Conflict of Interest in this matter due to being a host landholder for Winterbourne Wind and Director / Shareholder of Walcha Wind Pty Ltd.

5. MAYORAL MINUTE

5.1 Mayoral Minute – Declaration of Statewide Road Emergency

WO/2022/03433

83 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Noakes and Hicks that Walcha Council joins with Local Government NSW and Country Mayors Association of NSW in declaring a Statewide Road Emergency.

6. SENIOR OFFICERS REPORT

84 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Reilly and Kermode that the Senior Officers' Reports be **RECEIVED** for further consideration.

6.1 Presentation of Audited 2021 – 2022 Financial Statements

WO/2022/03438

85 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Hicks and Kermode that Council:

1. **ADOPT** the Audited Annual Financial Statements including the Audit Report for the year ending 30 June 2022;
2. **PUBLICLY** exhibit the Audited Annual Financial Statements including the Independent Auditors Report pursuant to Section 418(1) of the Local Government Act, 1993;



3. **NOTE** the presentation of the Audited Financial Statements for the year ending 30 June 2022 and Independent Auditors Report pursuant to Section 419 (1) of the Local Government Act 1993.

Paul Cornall, Council's Auditor representative, spoke to the Auditors Report of the Financial Statements for the year ending 30 June 2022.

6.2 Grants for Junior Sporting / Coaching Clinics WO/2022/03427

86 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Hicks and Kermode that Council **ALLOCATE** the following funds to:

1. Walcha Flippers Swimming Club - \$2,400;
2. Walcha & District Tennis Association - \$700;

FURTHER THAT as per the Local Government Act 1993, Section 356 Council **REFUSE** MacCallum Performance application for funding as it is a private business and therefore is ineligible to apply through this funding.

6.3 Waiving of After Hours Pool Hire Fees – All bookings for 2022 – 2023 Season WO/2022/03367

87 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Reilly and Schaefer that Council:

1. **APPROVE** waiving the After Hours Pool Hire Fees for the 2022 – 2023 season in all circumstances, providing that those using the pool are still paying their entry fees as normal, and there is a booking made with a minimum of 20 users;
2. **ENSURE** user groups have adequate notification before the next season should the After Hours Pool Hire Fee remain in the 2023 – 2024 Fees & Charges;
3. **REVIEW** the Learn to Swim Assistance Policy prior to setting the 2023 – 2024 Fees & Charges.

6.4 Changes to Audit, Risk & Improvement Committee WO/2022/03439

88 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Kermode and Pointing that in order to recruit new independent members of the Audit, Risk & Improvement Committee (ARIC) Council:

1. **TERMINATE** the appointment of independent ARIC Members of the Walcha Council ARIC as at 31 December 2022;
2. **NOTIFY** Walcha Council ARIC Members of the termination;
3. **CONSIDER** the Office of Local Government model Audit, Risk & Improvement Charter once established; workshop and define Council's



expectations of the ARIC in line with S428A of the Local Government Act 1993;

4. **ADOPT** the fees for three independent members (one as Chair) as set out in the report;
5. **UNDERTAKE** to share the ARIC independent members jointly with Uralla Shire Council; and
6. **CALL** for expressions of interest for panel members jointly with Uralla Shire Council.

6.5 Administration Policies – Walcha Council Housing Policy

WO/2022/03395

89 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Kermode and Pointing that Council **NOTE**:

1. the new Administrative Walcha Council Housing Policy; and
2. that all previous Housing Rental Policies be **REVOKED**.

7. NOTICES OF MOTION

Clr Schaefer left the Chambers and took no part in the debate at 03:50pm.

7.1 Notice of Motion Number: 26: Business Plan for Proposed Developers of Renewable Energy Projects **WO/2022/03423**

Motion:

It was **MOVED** Councillor Berry **Seconded** Councillor Kermode that Council **ACKNOWLEDGE** the Survey results from Voice for Walcha and **DEVELOP** a Strategic Business Plan for all proposed Developments of Renewable Energy Projects informed by the work of the Coalition of Renewable Energy Mayors (CoREM).

Amendment:

An **Amendment** was **MOVED** Councillor Hicks **Seconded** Councillor Reilly that Council **DEVELOP** a Strategic Business Plan for all proposed Developments of Renewable Energy Projects informed by the work of the Coalition of Renewable Energy Mayors (CoREM).

Division of Voting:

For: Hicks Pointing and Reilly
Against: Berry Noakes and Kermode.
Absent: Ferrier
Declared Interest: Schaefer



As the Voting is tied the **Amendment** is deemed as **LOST** as per the Walcha Council Code of Meeting Practice Clause 11.3.

90 The **Original Motion** became the **Substantive Motion** and was put to the **VOTE** and **CARRIED**.

Division of Voting:

For: Councillors: Berry, Kermode, Noakes and Pointing

Against: Councillors: Hicks and Reilly

Absent: Ferrier

Declared Interest: Schaefer

Clr Schaefer returned to the Chambers at 3:58pm and the Chair informed him of the resolution.

8. MATTERS OF URGENCY

Nil.

9. MANAGEMENT REVIEW REPORTS

9.1 Office of the General Manager

WO/2022/03441

91 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Kermode and Pointing that items included in the Office of the General Manager Management Review Report be **NOTED** by Council.

9.2 Infrastructure & Development

WO/2022/03435

92 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Kermode and Hicks that items included in the Infrastructure & Development Management Review Report be **NOTED** by Council.

9.3 Corporate & Community

WO/2022/03319

93 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Kermode and Hicks that items included in the Corporate & Community Management Review Report be **NOTED** by Council.

10. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Nil.

11. DELEGATE REPORTS

94 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Hicks and Reilly that Council **RECEIVE** and **NOTE** the Delegate Reports as presented.



11.1 Minutes of the Country Mayors Association of NSW Meeting held at Theatrette, Parliament House, Sydney on Friday 05 August 2022

WI/2022/14683

11.2 Delegates Report – Clr Hicks & Clr Reilly – Local Government NSW Annual Conference on 23-25 October 2022 Report

11.3 Walcha Community Consultative Committee Annual General Meeting Minutes held at Walcha Council Chambers, Hamilton Street Walcha on Wednesday 09 November 2022.

WO/2022/03298

12. QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

12.1 July 2022 Mayoral Minute – Resolution 02/20222023 – Clr Hicks

As per the Action List: Letters to various Ministers and Departments – Have these been sent?

12.2 July 2022 Notice of Motion – Resolution 08/20222023 – Clr Kermode:

Action List: Vegetation Regrowth on Roadside Verges – Clr Kermode stated he noticed Dead saplings along highway – is this part of the RMCC?

13. CLOSED COUNCIL

Nil.

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS THE CHAIRMAN DECLARED THE MEETING CLOSED AT 4:21PM.



Item 3:

Business

Arising from

Previous

Minutes



Item 4:

Declarations of Interest



Item 5: Mayoral Minute



There was no Mayoral Minute available for
December 2022 at time of print.



Item 6:

Senior Officers' Reports



Item: 6.1 **Ref:** WO/2022/03564
Title: Appoint Council Representation to Advisory Committees
Author: General Manager
Previous Items: Not Applicable
Attachment: No

Community Strategic Plan Reference:

Strategy 8.1.1: Councillors will exhibit leadership on Council and regional Committees as well as in community organisations.

RECOMMENDATION: That Council ENDORSE and APPROVE the following Councillor Representation to the stated Council Advisory Committee below:

Advisory Committee	Automatic Representation	Councillor Nomination
Walcha Council Community Care Advisory Committee	Nil	Councillor _____
Walcha Council Motorcycle Rally Advisory Committee	Nil	1.Councillor Berry 2.Councillor _____

Introduction:

The purpose of this report is to appoint Council representation to the Walcha Council Community Care Advisory Committee and the Walcha Council Motorcycle Rally Advisory Committee as per the Terms of Reference.

Report:

Councillor Ferrier was elected the Council Representative on the Walcha Council Community Care Advisory Committee and the Walcha Council Motorcycle Rally Advisory Committee and has resigned from both due to living too far away to attend these meetings.

Council now seeks Councillor nominations and selection for these two Advisory Committees. If more than one Councillor expresses an interest in a Committee then Council will hold a Secret Ballot to elect the representative for that Committee.

Legal Implications:

There are no legal implications arising from this report.

Financial Implications:

There are no financial implications arising from this report.

Environmental Implications:

There are no environmental implications arising from this report.



Social Implications:

There are no social implications arising from this report.

Policy Implications:

There are no policy implications arising from this report.



Item: 6.2 **Ref:** WO/2022/03565
Title: Draft Walcha Section 7.12 Contribution Plan
Author: Director Infrastructure & Development
Previous Items: Not Applicable
Attachment: *Draft Walcha Section 7.12 Contribution Plan – WINT/2022/06895*

Community Strategic Plan Reference:

Goal 3.2: *The public health and wellbeing of the community will be protected and enhanced.*

Goal 6.1: *Walcha's distinct and diverse natural and built environment will be protected and enhanced.*

Goal 6.6: *The character of Walcha and its surround villages will be maintained while protecting the productivity of our rural land.*

RECOMMENDATION: **That Council:**

- 1. ACCEPT the Draft Walcha Section 7.12 Contribution Plan;**
 - 2. PLACE the Draft Walcha Section 7.12 Contribution Plan on public exhibition for a period of 28 days;**
 - 3. IF no submissions are received, GIVE delegation to the General Manager to ADOPT the Draft Walcha Section 7.12 Contribution Plan on behalf of Council.**
-

Introduction:

Council resolved to prepare a draft Section 7.12 Contribution Plan at its Ordinary Meeting on 26 October 2022 – Resolution 67/20222023. This report is to consider the Draft Walcha Section 7.12 Contribution Plan attached to this report.

Report:

Section 7.12 (formally 94A) of the *Environmental Planning & Assessment Act 1979* (EP&A Act) has traditionally been the principal method enabling Councils to levy contributions for public amenities and services required as a consequence of development. This may be the provision of new facilities for a new area, or may be the expansion of existing facilities where a developed area is growing. Contributions are imposed by way of a condition of development consent or complying development and can be satisfied by:

- Dedication of land
- A monetary contribution
- Material public benefit
- A combination of some or all of the above.

The local infrastructure contributions system is administered by local government as they are best placed to understand the needs of their communities. The NSW Planning sets the policy framework under which councils collect and administer contributions. This includes legislation, ministerial directions and practice notes.



To complete a contribution plan the following steps are required to be undertaken:

1. Prepare a draft Plan as per the requirements of the *Environmental Planning & Assessment Act 1979* and its associated Regulations.
2. The draft Plan will be considered by Council.
3. The draft Plan will be public exhibited and public consultation undertaken.
4. All submissions will be considered by Council.
5. The draft Plan will be endorsed by Council.
6. The Plan will commence as at the date of a public notice regarding the endorsement.

The draft plan has been prepared and if accepted by Council in its current format, is ready for community consultation. If approved for public consultation will commence on 21 December 2022 and will finish on 14 February 2023. The legislated period is 28 days excluding the period 20 December 2022 until 10 January 2023.

Conclusion:

It is considered the proposed *Draft Walcha Section 7.12 Contribution Plan* addresses all legislated requirements, and the Works Schedule aligning with Council's current priorities. If accepted by Council, the *Draft Walcha Section 7.12 Contribution Plan* is ready for public exhibition.

Legal Implications:

Consideration under the provisions of *the Environmental Planning & Assessment Act 1979, and associated Regulations (2021)* will be followed as part of the preparation process. The 2021 Regulations which commenced in March 2022 detail the Plan content, restrictions and process for legalising the *Draft Walcha Section 7.12 Contribution Plan*. The legislated process, content and exclusions will be considered as part of any draft plan preparation.

Financial Implications:

The collection of 7.12 levy increases Council capacity to provide and augment public amenities and services.

Environmental Implications:

There are no environmental implications arising from this report.

Social Implications:

The redevelopment and upgrading of community facilities is considered to be a positive impact for the community.

Policy Implications:

The *Draft Walcha Section 7.12 Contribution Plan* will be considered a new Policy of Council.



Item: 6.3 **Ref:** WO/2022/03559
Title: Review of Walcha Council's Code of Conduct
Author: General Manager
Previous Items: Not Applicable
Attachment: Under Separate Cover: Walcha Council's Model Code of Conduct – Adopted November 2020

Community Strategic Plan Reference:

Goal 8.1: *Walcha Council will exemplify good leadership, mutual respect and trust by being inclusive, open information and communication and encouraging active participation at all levels.*

Strategy 8.1.2: *Provide a framework for the efficient and effective administration of Council.*

RECOMMENDATION: **That, in accordance with the provisions of Section 440(7) of the Local Government Act, 1993, Council has reviewed the Walcha Council's Model Code of Conduct and determined no changes need be made to the Code.**

Introduction:

The Local Government Act, 1993, requires that council periodically reviews and re-adopts certain documents and the purpose of this report is to review Council's Code of Conduct.

Report:

Section 440 (1) of the Local Government Act 1993 States: *"The regulations may prescribe a model code of conduct (the model code) applicable to councillors, members of staff of councils and delegates of councils"*.

Section 440 (7) requires in part that Council must "..... within 12 months after each ordinary election, review its code of conduct and make such changes to it as it considers appropriate and as are consistent with this section."

A copy of the current Walcha Council Model Code of Conduct is attached to this report. I have reviewed the code and have not identified any need for change.

Legislative Implications:

This report ensures Council complies with its legislative requirements with the *Local Government Act, 1993*.

Financial Implications:

There are no financial implications arising from this report.

Environmental Implications:



There are no environmental implications arising from this report.

Social Implications:

There are no social implications arising from this report.

Policy Implications:

There are no policy implications arising from this report.



Item: 6.4 **Ref:** WO/2022/03568
Title: Administration Policies – Revenue Policy
Author: Director Corporate & Community
Previous Items: Not Applicable
Attachment:

Community Strategic Plan Reference:

Strategy 8.2.1: *Maintain a stable and secure financial structure for Council*

RECOMMENDATION: That Council:

- 1. Place the Draft Revenue Policy on public exhibition for a period of 28 days.**
- 2. If no submissions are received within the exhibition period, that the amendments to the Revenue Policy be ADOPTED.**

Walcha Councils Revenue Policy was last updated in June 2021. The current policy restricts the amount that can be charged for private works. This section has been removed from the policy to allow for greater flexibility for pricing private works.

Removed	Replaced with
Private works will only be performed by Council when the Director of Infrastructure so approves but shall not be carried out if such private work interferes with Council's works programme. Charges to be calculated on Council's comprehensive hire rates or Council cost plus twenty five per cent (25%). Materials charged as per fees and charges. Quotes will be provided by the Director of Infrastructure as requested.	Private works will only be performed by Council when the Director Infrastructure & Development so approves but shall not be carried out if such private work interferes with Council's works programme. Quotes will be provided by the Director and must be formally accepted by the customer prior to works commencing. The quote will be calculated on a per job basis and include charges for labour, plant hire, materials and any other costs relating to the private works.

This draft policy will need to be placed on public exhibition for a period of twenty eight (28) days.

Legal Implications:

There are no legal implications arising from this report.

Financial Implications:

Ensure Walcha Council private works charges cover all costs and a profit is made.

Environmental Implications:

There are no environmental implications arising from this report.



Social Implications:

There are no social implications arising from this report.

Policy Implications:

Existing Policy is updated with relevant information.

Draft Revenue Policy – 2022/2023

Rates

Council proposes to levy four ordinary rates for the 2022-2023 year - Farmland, Residential, Business and Mining. The Residential and Business categories have various sub-categories, a detailed list of the sub-categories appears in the Statement of Proposed Rates to be levied (as attached).

Council proposes to use an ad valorem (rate in the dollar) with a common minimum rate. A detailed summary of the revenue yields appears in the Statement of Proposed Rates to be levied (as attached).

Charges

Council introduced best practice water, sewerage and trade water charges in the 2005-2006 year. With the increasing demands being placed on NSW water resources, the State Government considers it important for water supply authorities (referred to as LWU – local water utility) to set best-practice tariffs for water supply, sewerage and liquid trade waste. Such tariffs are designed to better recognise the true cost of providing the services and comply with the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal's (IPART) Pricing Principles for Local Water Authorities handed down in 1996. The IPART Pricing Principles are consistent with the Council of Australian Governments' (COAG) Strategic Framework for Water Reform developed in 1994. All Australian Governments agreed to comply with this framework in 1998 and such compliance is required under National Competition Policy.

Water

The pricing for water for properties in Walcha is based on an access charge and a usage charge. In accordance with Sections 501 and 502 of the Local Government Act 1993, Council will levy an access charge to all assessments connected and all those that are capable of being connected (within 225 metres of a water main) to Council's water supply. Where connection to a Council main is required or a mains extension is required, the owner shall pay the relevant connection fee calculated in accordance with Council's fees and charges.

The fixed access charge is calculated according the following formula:



$$AC = AC_{20} \times \frac{D^2}{400}$$

Where:

- AC = Customer's Annual Access Charge (\$)
- AC₂₀ = Annual Access Charge for a 20mm diameter water supply service connection (\$)
- D = Diameter of customer's water supply service connection (mm)

The basis for this formula comes from fluid mechanics where in simple terms, the flow through a pipeline is directly proportional to the area of the pipeline. As the area of a pipeline is equal to $\pi \frac{D^2}{4}$ then the flow through a pipeline is directly proportional to the diameter squared. Therefore if the diameter of a pipeline doubles the flow and therefore the access charge increase fourfold assuming everything else remains constant.

Using the abovementioned formula the following access charges are proposed for 2022-2023:

Connection Size	Access Fee \$
20 mm	\$422.00
25 mm	\$659.36
32 mm	\$1,080.32
38 mm	\$1,523.44
50 mm	\$2,637.44
75 mm	\$5,934.32
100 mm	\$10,550.00

The usage charge for residential customers in 2022-2023 will comprise the following two steps:

- 0 - 250 kilolitres - \$3.88 per kilolitre
- 251 and above - \$5.15 per kilolitre

The treated water usage charge for non residential customers will be a flat \$3.88 per kilolitre. The usage charge for untreated water will be a flat \$1.95 per kilolitre.

Sewerage

Residential

For residential customers, the best practice guidelines recommend that there should be a uniform sewerage bill for all properties based on the estimated volume of sewerage



discharged from all residential customers. In accordance with Sections 501 and 502 of the Local Government Act 1993, Council will levy an access charge to all assessments connected and all those that are capable of being connected (within 75 metres of a sewer main) to Council's sewerage system. Where connection to a Council main is required or a mains extension is required, the owner shall pay the relevant connection fee calculated in accordance with Council's fees and charges.

The annual residential sewerage bill is calculated as the Sewer Discharge Factor (SDF) times the annual non-residential sewerage access charge plus SDF times the product of the sewer usage charge (UC) and the average residential consumption. That is:

$$B_R = (SDF \times SAC_{20}) + (SDF \times C_R \times UC)$$

Where:

- B_R = Annual residential sewerage bill (\$)
- SDF = Sewer Discharge Factor – the proportion of total residential water consumption that is discharged to the sewerage system. A typical value for NSW is $SDF = 0.78$
- SAC_{20} = Annual Non Residential Sewer Access Charge service connection (\$). Calculated to be \$549.02 for Walcha.
- C_R = Average annual residential water consumption (kl) for Walcha is 136 kl.
- UC = Sewer usage charge (\$/kl). Has been set at \$1.19/kl.

Based on the above formula the proposed sewerage charge for residential customers is \$549.02 per year. The unoccupied sewerage charge for residential customers is \$276.88 per year.

Non Residential

For non-residential customers, the sewerage bill recommended by the Guidelines is similar and is as follows:

$$B = (SDF \times SAC) + (SDF \times C \times UC)$$

Where:

- B = Annual non-residential sewerage bill (\$)
- SDF = Sewer Discharge Factor – the proportion of total water consumption that is discharged to the sewerage system
- SAC = Customers Annual Sewer Access Charge

$$SAC = SAC_{20} \times \frac{D^2}{400}$$
- C = Customer's annual water consumption (kL).



UC = Sewer usage charge (\$/kL). This has been set at \$1.19/kL.

The SDF for non-residential customers varies according to the type of business. The non residential sewer access charge is set at \$541.76 per user, per annum. The vacant non-residential access charge is set at \$264.88 per user, per annum.

Trade Waste

The Guidelines also recommend that local water utilities responsible for sewerage must levy appropriate trade waste fees and charges on all its liquid trade waste dischargers in addition to the non-residential sewerage bills.

Council's liquid trade waste recommended fees and charges in 2022-2023 are:

- ◆ Application fee – fee based on category with a minimum charge of \$186.38
- ◆ Annual Trade Waste Fee:
 - Classification A \$91.53
 - Classification B \$181.97
 - The annual fee for Classification C dischargers will be set on a case by case basis depending on the complexity of monitoring required (for charging purposes and other administrative requirements).
- ◆ Re-inspection fee - \$87.12
- ◆ Trade Waste usage charge - \$1.65/kL with appropriate pre-treatment.
- ◆ Trade Waste usage charge - \$15.29/kL without appropriate pre-treatment.
- ◆ Food waste disposal charge - \$29.14/bed.
- ◆ Portable toilet - \$17.19/kL.
- ◆ Septic Waste
 - Normal (combined effluent and sludge) - \$2.86/kL.
 - Effluent only - \$2.37/kL.
 - Sludge only - \$24.64/bed.

Dischargers requiring nil or minimal pre-treatment of their liquid trade waste will only pay an annual trade waste fee together with a re-inspection fee where required. That is:

$$TW = A + I$$

Where:

TW = Total annual trade waste fees and charges (\$)
A = Annual trade waste fee (\$)
I = Re-inspection fee (\$) (where required)

Dischargers with prescribed pre-treatment will pay a trade waste usage charge per kL plus the annual trade waste fee. That is:

$$TW = A + I + (C \times UC_{TW} \times TWDF)$$



Where:

TW	=	Total annual trade waste fees and charges (\$)
A	=	Annual trade waste fee (\$)
I	=	Re-inspection fee (\$) (where required)
C	=	Customer's annual water consumption (kL)
UC _{TW}	=	Trade waste usage charge (\$/kL) of \$1.65/kL
TWDF	=	Trade waste discharge factor

The TWDF represents the estimated proportion of a customer's metered water consumption that is discharged to the sewerage system as liquid trade waste.

The following table represents sewerage and trade waste discharge factors.

Sewer and Trade Waste Discharge Factor

Business Description	Discharge Factor	
	Sewer	Trade Waste
Bakery	95	25
With a residence attached ¹	70	18
Bed and Breakfast/Guesthouse (max. 10 persons)	75	NA ²
Butcher	95	90
With residence attached ¹	70	65
Cakes/Patisserie	95	50
Car Dealership	80	70
Car Detailing	95	90
Caravan Park (with commercial kitchen)	75	25
Caravan Park (no commercial kitchen)	75	NA ²
Caravan Park + Laundry (no commercial kitchen)	75	50
Club	95	30
Community Hall (minimum food only)	95	NA ²
Concrete Batching Plant	2	1
Craft/Stonemason	95	80
Day Care Centre	95	NA ²
Delicatessen, mixed business (no hot food)	95	NA ²
With residence attached	70	
Dental Surgery with X-ray	95	80
With a residence attached ¹	70	60
Hairdresser	95	NA ²
High School	95	25 ⁵
Hospital	95	60
Hotel	100	25



Joinery	95	10
Laundry	95	92 ⁵
Mechanical Workshop ³	95	70
Mechanical Workshop with car yard	85	70
Medical Centre	95	25 ⁵
Motel small (breakfast only, no hot food)	90	NA ²
Motel (other than breakfast only, no hot food)	90	20
Nursing Home	90	50
Office Building	95	NA ²
Panel Beating/Spray Painting	95	70
Primary School	95	10 ⁵
Printer	95	85
Restaurant ⁴	95	50
Self Storage	90	NA ²
Service Station	90	70
Supermarket	95	70
Swimming Pool (commercial)	85	NA ²
Take Away Food	95	50
Veterinary (no X-ray), Kennels, Animal Wash	80	NA ²

Notes:

¹ If a residence is attached, that has garden watering, the residential SDF should be applied.

² A trade waste usage charge is not applicable for this Category 1 activity.

³ Includes lawn mower repairers, equipment hire.

⁴ Includes café, canteen, bistro, etc.

⁵ A trade waste usage charge applies if appropriate pre-treatment has not been installed or has not been properly operated or maintained.

Waste Management Charges

Annual Domestic Waste Management (DWM) service charge is comprised of – 1 x 140L (Red) General Waste bin, 1 x 240L (Yellow) Recycling Waste bin and 1 x 240L (Green) Green Waste bin.

Annual Commercial Waste Management (CWM) service charge is comprised of – 1 x 240L (Red) General Waste bin and 1 x 240L (Yellow) Recycling Waste bin.

Fees

Council proposes to charge fees for the 2022-2023 financial year. Generally, Council will endeavour to ensure that all fees charges are raised equitably. A Statement with respect to each type of fee proposed to be charged and the amount of each charge is attached in the Statement of Fees and Charges.



Private Works

Private works will only be performed by Council when the Director Infrastructure & Development so approves but shall not be carried out if such private work interferes with Council's works programme. Quotes will be provided by the Director and must be formally accepted by the customer prior to works commencing. The quote will be calculated on a per job basis and include charges for labour, plant hire, materials and any other costs relating to the private works.

Payment in advance for work being carried out is not required except where:

- ◆ considered necessary by the General Manager
- ◆ the customer is not currently a rate payer, full payment in advance is required unless prior approval by the General Manager

Where payment in advance is required, 50% of the work value shall be paid prior to the work being commenced. Details of individual private works charges are available from the Infrastructure Department.

Where required by law, the 10% Goods and Services Tax (GST) will be added to the cost of all private works.

Goods and Services Tax (GST)

All fees and charges have been prepared using the most current available information in relation to the GST impact on the fees and charges at the time of publication of the Strategic Plan. However the GST legislation is subject to change during the year, accordingly if a fee that is shown as being subject to GST is subsequently proven not to be liable to the tax the fee or charge will be reduced by the amount of the tax. Conversely if Council is advised that a fee, which is shown not to be subject to GST, becomes liable to the tax the charge or fee will be increased by the amount of the tax.

Proposed Borrowings

Council is in the process of assessing the potential for borrowing funds to replace critical infrastructure at the water treatment plant and also support an investment portfolio. The details and scale of these borrowings are not yet confirmed. Detailed submissions will be provided to Council for review and resolution prior to any borrowings being undertaken in 2022-2023.



Proposed Rates to be Levied

RATING CATEGORY	NUMBER OF ASSESSMENTS	LAND VALUE	MINIMUM RATE	MINIMUM REVENUE	AD VALOREM RATE	AD VALOREM REVENUE	TOTAL REVENUE
Farmland	94	9,585,450	\$479.50	45,073.30	\$0.00238165	\$3,041,271.95	3,086,345.25
	651	1,276,961,560					
Residential	137	7,822,800	\$479.50	65,691.94	\$0.00288337	33,738.37	99,430.31
	60	11,701,000					
Residential – Walcha	463	19,297,250	\$479.50	222,009.98	\$0.00861786	169,037.20	391,047.18
	271	20,205,360					
Business	12	215,680	\$479.50	5,754.04	\$0.00546281	3,031.86	8,785.90
	2	555,000					
Business – Walcha Centre	24	564,984	\$479.50	11,508.08	\$0.01229694	69,108.81	80,616.89
	64	5,626,200					
Business – Walcha Industrial	13	458,899	\$479.50	6,233.54	\$0.00964309	24,898.47	31,132.01
	22	2,582,000					
Mining	0	-	\$479.50	-	\$0.01092694	-	-
	0	-					
TOTALS:	1803	1,354,979,383		\$356,270.87		\$3,341,086.66	\$3,697,357.53



ANNUAL CHARGES	No. Services	Amount	Total
Water Access		\$	\$
Residential (20mm) – Treated	704	422.00	297,088.00
Residential (25mm) - Treated	37	659.38	24,396.32
Residential (38mm) - Treated	3	1,523.44	4,570.32
Residential (50mm) - Treated	2	2,637.44	5,274.88
Residential (100mm) - Treated	1	10,550.00	10,550.00
Residential (Vacant) - Treated	29	422.00	12,238.00
Non-Residential (20mm) - Treated	104	422.00	43,888.00
Non-Residential (25mm) - Treated	17	659.36	11,209.12
Non-Residential (38mm) - Treated	7	1,523.44	10,664.08
Non-Residential (50mm) - Treated	3	2,637.44	7,912.32
Non-Residential (100mm) – Treated	3	10,550.00	31,650.00
Non-Residential (Vacant) – Treated	13	422.00	5,486.00
Untreated (20mm)	2	422.00	844.00
Untreated (25mm)	2	659.36	1,318.72
Untreated (38mm)	2	1,523.44	3,046.88
			470,136.64
Sewer Access		\$	\$
Residential (Occupied)	697	549.02	382,668.14
Residential (Unoccupied)	32	276.88	8,860.16
Non-Residential (Occupied) – 20mm	96	541.76	52,008.96
Non-Residential (Occupied) – 25mm	14	846.48	11,850.72
Non-Residential (Occupied) – 38mm	5	1,955.68	9,778.40
Non-Residential (Occupied) – 50mm	3	3,386.00	10,158.00
Non-Residential (Occupied) – 100mm	1	13,544.00	13,544.00
Non-Residential (Unoccupied)	13	264.88	3,443.46
			492,311.84
Waste Management		\$	\$
Annual Domestic Waste Management (DWM)	773	695.00	537,235
DWM – Annual Additional 140L General Waste	5	243.50	1,218.00
DWM – Annual Additional 240L Recycling Waste	2	183.50	367.00
Annual Commercial Waste Management (CWM)	218	716.00	156,088
CWM – Annual 240L Green Waste Charge	21	71.50	1,502.00
CWM – Annual Additional 240L General Waste	6	365.00	2,190.00
CWM – Annual Additional 240L Recycling Waste	8	183.50	1,468.00



Annual Waste Management– Rural	879	267.50	235,133.00
Annual Waste Management - Unoccupied Town	59	213.50	12,597.00
Commercial Recycling – Cardboard and Paper - Woolpack Collection Service	452	18.20	8,226.00
Commercial Recycling – Cardboard and Paper– 240L Bin Collection Service	76	9.10	692.00
			956,714.00

¹ – Average rate – actual charge depends on water usage

² – Number of services varies depending on demand



Item: 6.5 **Ref:** WO/2022/03567
Title: Regional Meetings 2022
Author: General Manager
Previous Items: Not Applicable
Attachment: No

Community Strategic Plan Reference:

Goal 8.1: Walcha Council will exemplify good leadership, mutual respect and trust by being inclusive ensuring open information and communication and encouraging active participation at all levels.

RECOMMENDATION: **That Council RECEIVE and NOTE the Regional Meetings 2022 Report as presented.**

Introduction:

The purpose of this report is to provide a summary of the items raised at the 2022 Regional Meetings.

Report:

Council Presentation

The Mayor welcomed everyone and thanked the host at every venue. Introductions were voiced for Councillors, Staff and our guest at this years Regional Meetings, Professor Joseph Drew. The Mayor advised that Council were here to not only discuss the issues in each venues area but also the Special Rate Variation (SRV).

SRV Points:

- This was a very big decision for Council and a very important one. The Council voted unanimously for the SRV.
- Council and Councillors have been saving costs where we can. For example: Councillors didn't take the Superannuation that they are entitled to; the General Manager has reviewed the Organisation Structure of the Council and we have saved money on redundancies and changing from three directorates to two.
- State Government dictates to Local Government – cost shifting; rate pegging explained.
- Income – only income Walcha Council has is the rates as we don't have parking rangers and no other businesses. We rely on grants to fund most of our services. Rate Pegging this financial year was 0.7% and costs went up 9% so therefore we took an 8.3% cut in revenue.
- National Parks and Forests NSW are exempt from paying rates and 40% of Walcha Council LGA is either National Parks or Forests. They use our roads – logging trucks etc are very hard on our roads – and we have no income from them.

Other Points mentioned at Meetings:



- Grant overruns – Truck Wash Bay, Community Storage Sheds, - change of culture and introduction of Capital Advisory Committee to ensure everything is scoped correctly and to be accountable for the project.
- State Government with cost shifting – Audit Risk & Improvement Committee (ARIC) is now costing more money given new State Government laws; Forestry & National Parks – unrateable land and therefore no income however they are big users of our roads; Financial Assistance Grants (FAGS) and other State Grants not given to the people that need it – explained by Prof Drew.
- CoREM – Coalition of Renewable Energy Mayors – explained set up and purpose – information is shared, Agreements streamlined, costs reduced, etc.
- Purchasing a Jet Patcher – potential to earn income as we can hire to other Councils – long wait on arrival.
- Emphasising on efficiencies, culture, accountability, reporting monthly, going forward great things coming out of Council – good staff.
- Land & Facilities Strategy – identify land and work out what is viable to sell, develop, etc.

Professor Drew addressed every meeting advising that he has no gain from his reports as he doesn't reside within the Walcha LGA nor is he employed by Walcha Council – he is employed by the Sydney University of Technical Studies. After analysing the data (facts and figures) from the last ten years Professor Drew advised that Walcha Council is not financially sustainable nor has it been for at least a decade and need to apply for a 57.7% Special Rate Variation to be implemented over three years. He thoroughly explained this through his presentation and then took questions afterwards.

Community Feedback

Monday 10 October 2022

11:30am "Europambela" Shearers Quarters

12 people

Questions & Answers – Issues raised at Meeting

Q: Local Government needs to stand up to State Government! What can we do about it? – Warwick Fletcher

A: Yes you are right. Rate capping is under review by the Minister – the population weight factor in the rate cap needs to be abolished.

Q: As landowners we understand raising rates as commodity and land prices have risen. External shock of drought and the effects on the severe and vulnerable / low income / pensioners – how much influence does LG have over that? - Katrina Blomfield

A: State Government rule – we have no control over any of it. The pensioners receive a rebate on their rates, currently \$250/year and low income earners are indexed to CPI. We have a hardship policy in place.

Q: Half of our LGA is Forestry and National Parks (NP) who don't pay rates but use our roads – is there any income opportunity? - Rob Blomfield

A: Continual advocacy. There is lack of respect of State Government for LG. Very hard to get anything from them and we have searched other avenues before through Country Mayors. 40% of our LGA is Forestry & NP.



Q: We have an ageing population we need to expand the town (grow) through housing development. Has Council looked into that? It is hard to get a DA through Council – massive burden process – hamstrung by red tape. -Jock Fletcher

A: Yes we have. Currently creating a Facilities and Land Strategy to identify land that Council can develop for housing, etc. We have put in a grant to extend the sewerage to the John Oxley Oval to assist with the sewerage problems we have had when the Ovals are used for Rugby Carnivals and Soccer. This extension will allow us to place the sewer to the Industrial area, Beaver Place, at minimum costs which will assist with marketing our commercial land to sell.

Q: Is this a done deal (SRV) or do you need concensus from the community? - Holly Fletcher

A: Yes it is – don't need the community approval/permission and Council unanimously agreed to the SRV.

Q: Levee bank at Millhole, eastern side, is eroding and bank of dirt build up. I have wrote in about this and no response – what are you doing about it? - Peter MacNeil

A: We are on to it. There are environmental and bureaucratic issues regarding this. Our team are looking at geo rock bags for stability and grants to fund the necessary work.

Q: In regards to Professor Drew's report he states things like: 'operating under environmental constraints including ageing population, large roadwork, development – no future prospects', the Renewable Energy Zone in New England – huge opportunity to embrace renewable energy and bring a lot of money into the area – need a CAN DO attitude! – Warwick Fletcher

Comments along this question: Council needs to be a support – positive submission – Katrina Blomfield. Council submission has a lot of weight in it – heavy voice – Holly Fletcher

A: The EIS is released next month and we don't know what that entails as yet. We have been doing a lot of work behind the scenes in regards to the Community Fund and Road Agreements. Developed CoREM – Coalition of Renewable Energy Mayors.

Q: Efficiency – Grading of roads. Emu Creek Winterbourne Road lot of large potholes to the Bark Hut turn off. Council did some and then a month later did the rest. Grading road but didn't rip the road up to do properly – not efficient. Potholes came back quickly. – Katrina Blomfield

A: Yes we have been zig zagging all over the LGA as we have limited staff and insufficient scheduling. This is under construction and something we will prioritise.

Q: Complement Council on tar roads – Uralla Shire Council's are terrible – Peter MacNeil

Q: Road slashing – Council uses 3 people – use to be 1. Is it WHS? – Ross Fletcher

A: Legislation – laws with traffic management – now staff have to do 1 week of training when it use to be 1 day. Cultural change.

Comment: You have stated that there have been budget overruns – expenditure inaccuracies. If we give you extra money Council need to stick to your budget – no overruns. Spend the money like it is your own.

A: GM advised operational overruns etc that weren't reported to Council until nearly three months after they had occurred (Quarterly Reviews) – this has changed with monthly budget reports to Council Meetings. Also with funded Projects, costs have more than doubled since the Grant Project was scoped. Used Derby Street as an example and Thunderbolts Way Strategy - \$450,000 of the \$2,000,000 was used for scoping the project. Also mentioned past overspend on Consultants and the introduction of the Capital Advisory Committee.

02:30am Ingleba Hall

13 people

Questions & Answers – Issues raised at Meeting

Q: What if it fails in 5 years time? (SRV referring to) – Don Kermod



A: Inflation has already gone up again since we have started this process. We would have to ask for another SRV. I hope it would be longer than five years, might have to do every 10 years due to State Government constraints.

Q: Why wasn't it adopted 10 years ago when it was recommended? – Susie Harrison

A: No one can answer that as we were not on Council then.

Q: Is it a given that we get this? – Ian Olrich

A: No.

Q: is it a possibility to go to State Government and asking for money for unrateable land – roads – mill logs – Forestry and NP. – Lucas Hoad

A: Not impossible – something we will visit. Eg; Truck levy

Q: Be accountable for the money. Internal workings of Council need to change.

Congratulate you on bringing this to the community.

A: General Manager will change the culture and has already commenced over the last 12 months.

Q: Englefield Bridge – approaches damaged on Saturday night – needs attention before another storm comes through – Ian Olrich.

A: Thanks Ian we will ensure our Engineers are inspecting that bridge tomorrow unless they already have. FOLLOW UP: ensure Engineers inspect bridge.

Q: Gravel Pits – last year were mentioned.

A: Have improved. We are utilising Brookly Quarry at Walcha Road and own Quarry pits locally – management plans are in place.

Q: Millhole erosion of levee bank – Nigel Hoad

A: Chasing grant funding – red tape approval required. Immediate Stabilisation – used gabion rock to stop further erosion.

Comment: Compliance is killing LG – LG need to lobby State Government – Lucas Hoad

Q: Bridge replacement “ElmGrove” Niangala Road Bridge – when is it going to start and finish? – Ian Olrich

A: Not sure but will find out.

Q: How do you feel about Uralla Road? – Nigel Hoad

A: Mayor: Pretty good our section is anyway.

Q: Aberbaldie Road – Don Trevenen’s corner – not do too much until dam is finished due to high and heavy traffic. Rams Gully – bad section of the road. People are dodging potholes – accident waiting to happen.

A: Place them on the list – if not already on it. Tar Patcher Truck is on order.

Q: Turbines come into Walcha by the hundreds of truckloads what do Council get from it? – Carolyn Salter

A: Council are doing a lot behind the scenes. Preparing Agreements now to ensure things are in place if the Wind Renewable Projects are approved by State Government. Road Infrastructure Agreement, Voluntary Planning Agreement, Community Fund for Walcha.

Formation of CoREM – Coalition of Renewable Energy Mayors – assists with this project as there are many rules around who gets what including road agreements, offers to land users. The aim is to get standard agreements which ensure Council don't miss anything. Great sharing of knowledge over five states.

Q: Can we get a Rating Category for Wind Farms? – Dwayne Hoad

A: Yes however there is a fair way to go before that comes about. Inverell do have one. Glen Innes don't have one. It is a hard one but if we can we will.

Thanked everyone for attending the Meeting – Meeting Closed at 4:25pm.



Wednesday 12 October 2022

09:00am Yarrowitch Hall

12 People

Questions & Answers – Issues raised at Meeting

Q: What is the rationale? Why did we only go with what we need? More? Louise Clarke

A: Lots of savings planned and its going to be a slog. Internal savings include scoping projects correctly to ensure no overruns; new Organisational Structure saved in the vicinity of \$200K; if we get more we become slack – need to ensure we make the changes.

Q: You can't continually cut costs. Increase the rate base to spread the costs such as increasing development? Subdivision? - David Moxey

A: Bringing more people doesn't mean we get more rates. Do we risk our money on development or give (Sell) it to a Developer? What industry do we entice/bring to Walcha? GM Spoke of Facilities & Land Strategy, development – houses for staff, grant to extend sewer line to John Oxley Oval; Subdivide Beaver Place to sell or build sheds to rent.

Q: need to increase population. There is more NP's and Forestry to come / declared. We need to band together and rally to State Govt as they are making money from them.

Water – applaud Council – great incentive for people to move here. Need to get moving on subdivision. – Dave Moxey

A: Country Mayors Association – unrateable lands group – tried to lobby State Govt and it has fallen away due to Govt ignoring us and going nowhere. Need to get it moving again. The Capital Advisory Committee (CAC) was explained as well as the Professor explaining FAGS – Financial Assistance Grants given by the Government. He is trying to lobby to get a fairer division of this money/grant – needs to be allocated on road length not population.

Q: Is Thunderbolts Way changing the funding? - Dave Moxey

A: yes

Q: Rates increase but no more services – road graded once in three years. – Shirley O'Keefe

A: no more services just trying to keep current services. Professor Drew's report states that we are over-servicing compared to other Councils.

Q: Focus on roads, rubbish. The bitumen to the airport and spending on things to make town looks good are not necessities. – James Koebel

A: Grants for specific purposes.

Q: 29 years waiting for dust suppression. One month it is breaking up – poor work. Before the vehicles have left the area the road is breaking up – need better performing workmanship. – Belinda O'Keefe

Q: Whatever Council does it needs to be done properly in the first instance – do less but do it properly. Doing half a job turns into major work. Concentrate on what you do but do it better. User pays systems for services. Sell off to Private owners the Preschool, Library etc. Need to review management practices – what makes money and what doesn't – back to basics only. – Peter O'Keefe

Q: Rural businesses needs roads viable to move stock – it seems to be a juggling act. We, ourselves, are very lucky with our roads at the moment. – Suzanne O'Keefe.

A: Phil Hood spoke in his experience this Council is the most generous Council he has ever seen re: fees and charges. The level of service is not sustainable. Ongoing maintenance costs are a major problem. We need to think smarter about what grants we apply for due to these costs. Lot more strategy for future applications.

Q: Contract for Roads – envisage to a quality job – does anyone inspect the job? Annette Brown



A: Yes – proper control points have been initiated. The challenge is to get appropriately qualified staff to do the inspections. Improved accountability.

Q: Road Contract – guaranteed for six months? – Dave Moxey

A; Yes its 12 months.

Q: Is there a chance that IPART will reject the SRV? – Marlay Brown

A: Yes it is a reality. They knock back a quarter of the applications they receive and have the amounts requested by up to 50%. We need to fill in the surveys and make the intention clear.

Q: Potholes on gravel roads – tell them to rip them. Is it better to patch with jet patcher rather than a shovel? - Dave Moxey

A: Yes it is quicker.

Suggestion: James Koebel – fill potholes with a ute, gravel and shovel before they get bad. Dave Moxey – following on from James Koebel – 9 out of 10 of the grader crew in wet conditions send them with bobcat fixing the patches that are needed. Then maybe grade once a year rather than twice a year.

Comment: Annette Brown – town gardens, spring flowers, avenue of trees – all fantastic! People who visit our town appreciate them. Thank you! Levee bank walk – a good place!. Toilets at swimming pool need upgrading.

Q: What % of rural rates go towards the rural services? Belinda O’Keefe and James Koebel?

A: \$3.6M is the rates revenue and it would be 80% of that that is spent in the rural services.

Thanked everyone for attending the Meeting – Meeting Closed at 11:00am.

11:30am “Brockley Park” Shed

7 People

Questions & Answers – Issues raised at Meeting

Q: Council needs to narrow focus on roads and rubbish. Roads are our lifeline to be able to truck stock. A lot of graders before but now they are very rare. Buy back machinery of what you have sold – get back to basics. Once financial start grants and beautification of town and the gym, etc. – Broni Koebel

A: Responsibility to the town to keep it vibrant so people visit and spend money in it. No new gardens but we have to maintain all that we have. Fine line to tread but we need time to do it!

Q: Two bridges on Tia Diggings Road – what is wrong with pipes? Mark Mackaway

A: Unique to each situation.

Q: On the SRV (more money) I don’t think we have a choice but why did we build a Rose Garden? Was it voted to do? Was it grant money? – Mark Mackaway

A: There was some funding put towards the Rose Garden however it was voted by last Council to complete it and budget allocation provided. It has also been refused at the Capital Advisory Committee level to ensure that what we do we do properly and everything needs to be researched, and then completed on budget.

Q: If Wind Farms go ahead do we have a rate base ready to go? Will it go from Farming Rate to Industrial Rate Category? How will it work? – Mark Morawitz

A: Yes – Coalition of Renewable Energy Mayors has been very useful in this and some Councils implemented a new category and others did not. We have benchmark templates ready to go – road agreements etc.

Q: Income on Pie Graph shows Rates only 22% and the majority of income is grants – Mark Morawitz

A: Professor Drew explained Financial Assistance Grants how they are suppose to be rural grants and Council’s like ours, are continually being disadvantaged.



02:30pm Nowendoc Hall

18 People

Questions & Answers – Issues raised at Meeting

Q: What part of our LGA is Forestry and National Parks? – Kath Morris

A: 40% - explained how we have tried in the past to lobby for payment from them as they are big users of our road network and contribute nothing.

Q: They also lease some of their land, we have one and they have advised that it is going up. – Kath Morris

A: State Government cost shifting.

Q: Thunderbolts Way – has that been taken on by the State?

A: As yet No. Election promise – voting ploy?!

Q: When does rates increase?

A: Annually by IPART through Rate Pegging. This year we received 0.7% increase in our rates, the year before it was 2.5%.

Q: Stop wasting money on artwork / sculptures

A: Nearly all of our artwork is achieved through grant money or donations.

Q: Lawn mowing at Hall and Cemetery – Allan Morris use to mow around the Hall with the Council Mower left here and then mower disappeared without notice. You send a man to Nowendoc to mow the Hall and Cemetery. – Kath Morris

A: Yes we do, the mower needed to be sold due to maintenance issues.

Q: Hall Trustees were never consulted on the new Toilets. Pressure pump – the Hall pays for the electricity, the grant paid for the tanks on the Hall for the toilets however during the drought they would run out of water (needed a float then but not now) – just needed to be consulted more often. – Kath Morris

A: No answer was given really as Mrs Morris didn't really have a question.

Q: Tip is 24/7 and it works well – great – but the recycling bins don't need to be emptied weekly – once a fortnight would probably work. However another clear plastic bin would be great. – Beth Higgins

A: Thanks for the feedback – we will talk to our Works Manager – Water & Waste.

Q: Thanks for fixing a grave at the cemetery – no name on grave – pioneering gold prospector. Thanks also for installation of History boards

Q: Heard twice now – business – does Council operate like a business? Assets, investments; etc. Armidale Regional Council run cattle around their dam – make use from the land.

A: Council runs on business principles – make money from investments, update assets, etc. Compiling a Land & Facilities Strategy which will assist in decisions such as:

- Sell land;
- develop land – revenue stream on a regular basis – Beaver Place
- Sewer – build more commercial buildings – grant to John Oxley Oval
- Land behind Pool – residential units (Staff housing) – work with developer and then sell them off?
- Seek revenue sources / streams.

Q: What is Council's view on Wind Farms and what is going to happen in 20 years time? – Allan Morris

A: No decision by Council however we have, as previously mentioned, the Coalition of Renewable Energy Mayors Group and Voluntary Planning Agreements, Roads Agreements that have been researched and shared through this process.



Q: Development for land for this area? (Nowendoc) No fuel or shop!

A: No

Q: Car near Quite Valley Road over the bank that has been there for 18 months / 2 years. Can you please remove the car?

A: Take on notice.

6:00pm Woolbrook Sport & Recreational Ground

22 People

Questions & Answers – Issues raised at Meeting

Q: Who are IPART? – Dave Allerton

A: People centric in Sydney – suppose to be independent – Prof Drew

Q: Is there any way of making money?

A: Not many options in Walcha. Prof Drew mentioned Financial Assistance Grants etc.

The GM mentioned the other avenues as discussed previously and mentioned at the beginning.

Q: Why wasn't this addressed earlier (2013)? – Neil Blanch

A: No one can answer that. However, when it became apparent to current Executive Staff Council acted straight away.

Q: Watched Guyra fall apart – Walcha needs to do everything they can to stay as Walcha. – Donna Davidson

Q: Use your assets is the way to go! Forget about murals and sculptures focus on roads; lease your land – Sheri Fogarty

Q: Motorcycle Event – is it a money maker? – Sheri Fogarty

A: No not at the moment – good for town as they spend money here. Has 3 years to turn a profit or we cannot do it anymore – can't run events that do not make money.

Q: Council going to be doing private works again? Use to grade our road when they were in the area. – Simon Blake

A: Yes we are looking into that.

Q: Common Road – Graders need to grade it the other way as drains are directing water straight onto my land.

Q: When Anne Moddero was here and talking about taking over the TRC part of Woolbrook. Costs of rates if you transferred from Tamworth to Walcha – we would have saved \$1,000 then on rates. – Tony Haling

Q: Road in front of the School is terrible when is this being fixed?

A: Part of the heavy patching program which begins in October and goes for three months.

Q: Common Road – water coming out and down the road and then backs up making the tar patch on corner lift up

A: Noted – will get a look and assess Common Road

Q: Campfire Road – blocked when grading water pipes haven't been cleaned out in years. Need to clean out the pipes. Also runs down the road into the Sport & Rec Ground

A: Noted.

Comment: Tony Haling – Hall Committee to Woolbrook & District Progress Committee – raised issue with WC as you come into Woolbrook trees fallen over and needs a tidy up. John Holland issues with supervision. Push matter as a fire hazard to put pressure on Armidale Fire Service and to put pressure on John Holland (Railway people) – get an order on relevant bodies to clean it up!



Tony Haling – Drainage around Hall has been bad for ages. Engineer from TRC came and regraded so it now collects and dumps it all at the Hall – inspections at Hall have presented issues of rising damp and the floor is coming up as it is bowed due to damp, bogging around the Hall. Creating more problems – can't use the Hall as expected. Lever for TRC & WC to take over Hall to approve projects. Asking TRC so the Committee can apply for grants.



Item: 6.6 **Ref:** WO/2022/03561
Title: 2022 – 2024 Motorcycle Rally
Author: Director Corporate and Community
Previous Items: Not Applicable
Attachment: WO/2022/03506 – 2022 Motorcycle Rally Final Report

Community Strategic Plan Reference:

Strategy 2.1.2: Develop and market tourism products targeting identified markets.

Strategy 2.1.3: Develop activities that encourage increased visitation frequency and stay length.

Strategy 5.2.1: Support and promote participation in community events.

RECOMMENDATION: That Council NOTE the 2022 Motorcycle Rally Final Report.

Introduction:

The Walcha Motorcycle Rally was held on 18 & 19 November 2022, and with clear blue skies and strong pre-event ticket sales, a successful event was held.

Council has previously approved an allocation of funds of \$35,000 per year until the 2024 event. As the underwriter of the event Councils risk allocation – that is - if funding and sales expectations are not met Councils financial risk amounts to \$155,000.

Report:

Financial Summary

	2022 (Estimate)	2022 (Actual)
Income	\$123,600	\$117,143
Expenditure	\$144,220	\$114,511
Profit / (Loss)	(\$20,620)	\$2,632

The 2022 Motorcycle Rally cost \$114,511 to stage which is a significant reduction from the previous year (\$149,911). Experience gained from the first event has contributed to the need for less paid staff hours, by engaging a strong volunteer contingent. Systems and processes are now in place that should continue to keep staff costs reasonable.

Staff wages were charged directly to the rally when staff were working additional days (focusing on rally planning), and non-tourism staff working on preparation, planning or delivery over the weekend. It is estimated that from January to September



approximately 10% of the tourism teams working hours were not charged through to the rally, as it was completed during their normal working days/hours. In October/November 25% of their normal working hours would have been spent on the rally organisation.

Please note that from the total wages of \$21,995 (inclusive of tourism, parks & gardens, cleaners, infrastructure), only \$4,860 was paid as overtime.

Grant funding was received totalling \$32,003 made up of:

- Destination NSW Incubator Event fund \$20,000
- Destination NSW COVID-19 Support fund \$4,503
- Department of Regional NSW – Community Grant \$7,500

Volunteer numbers were increased for the 2022 event, which in turn significantly reduced staff costs from the 2021 event. Individuals, service organisations and RV events all combined to ensure the rally was a success.

With 644 pre-registered participants the 2022 Walcha Motorcycle Rally proved to be a success. The total number of people who attended the event was around 1400, with an estimated 300 ticket sales at the gate. There was a large number of spectators and supporters also, who, although not participating purchased merchandise and also watched the entertainment provided, especially the demolition derby. Children under 16 were admitted free of charge.

Surveys were sent out to event attendees, local businesses, exhibitors and sponsors and the results are listed in the attached report.

Please note that not all invoices have been received at this time, however we have made generous estimations for the outstanding amounts and include those in these figures.

Risk Implications

There are no risk implications arising from this report.

Legal Implications:

There are no legal implications arising from this report.

Financial Implications:

A small profit was made from the 2022 event. This profit will go towards staging the 2023 event.



Environmental Implications:

There are no environmental implications arising from this report

Social Implications:

The 2022 Motorcycle Rally was a successful event, enjoyed by participants and locals.

Policy Implications:

There are no policy implications arising from this report.



Item: 6.7 **Ref:** WO/2022/03554
Title: Walcha Council's 2021 – 2022 Annual Report for Notation
Author: General Manager
Previous Items: Not Applicable
Attachment: No

Community Strategic Plan Reference:

Goal 8.1: *Walcha Council will exemplify good leadership, mutual respect and trust by being inclusive, open information and communication and encouraging active participation at all levels.*

Strategy 8.1.2: *Provide a framework for the efficient and effective administration of Council.*

RECOMMENDATION: **That Council NOTE the Walcha Council 2021 – 2022 Annual Report.**

Introduction:

The purpose of the report is to formally note the Walcha Council 2021 – 2022 Annual Report.

Report:

Section 428 of the *Local Government Act 1993* states a Council must produce an Annual Report within five months after the end of each year. The Annual Report must be placed on Council's website and the link sent to the Office of Local Government by 30 November.

Each Annual Report must contain certain information which includes a copy of Council's Audited Financial Statements as well as other information as the Regulations or the Integrated Planning & Reporting Guidelines under Section 406 may require.

The 2021 – 2022 Annual Report is available on our website for viewing: <https://www.walcha.nsw.gov.au/council/council-documents-walcha/annual-reports/2021-2022-annual-report.aspx>

Legislative Implications:

Council have complied with the Legislative requirements for the Annual Report.

Financial Implications:

There are no financial implications arising from this report.

Environmental Implications:

There are no environmental implications arising from this report.



Social Implications:

There are no social implications arising from this report.

Policy Implications:

There are no policy implications arising from this report.



Item 7:

Notice of Motions



There are no Notice of Motions for
December 2022



Item 8:

Matters of Urgency



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Item 9: Management Review Reports



9.1 OFFICE OF THE GENERAL MANAGER

Ref: WO/2022/03573

Responsible Executive: General Manager

Community Strategic Plan Reference:

Goal 8.1 – *Walcha Council will exemplify good leadership, mutual respect and trust by being inclusive, ensuring open information and communication and encouraging active participation at all levels.*

RECOMMENDATION: That items included in the Office of the General Manager Management Review Report be NOTED by Council.

1. RESOLUTIONS ACTION LIST

See attached report.

Walcha Council's Meeting Action List



Minute No.:	Item:	Responsible Officer:	Due Date:	Action to be Taken:	Progress:
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Ordinary Meeting – 31 October 2018

60/1819	6.6 On-site Sewage Management Strategy Implementation WO/2018/02306 that Council postpone the implementation of the On-site Sewage Management Strategy until the next financial year.	DED DID	Review 30062022 31032023	Review Strategy when suitable resources secured (current vacancy for a Health & Building Surveyor)	Council resolved to put this on hold until the drought conditions subside and suitable resources secured.
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Extra Ordinary – 22 May 2019

167/1819	2.2 Planning Proposal 2 Annual Review WO/2019/01107 that Council: 1. Prepare a planning proposal to include the following: a. Rezone land described as Lot B DP 371356, Lot 7016 DP 94120 and Lot 543 DP 756502 from RU1 Primary Production to RE2 Public Recreation, and to remove the land from the Minimum Lot Size Map. b. Rezone the portion of the land described as Lots 1, 2 & 4 Sec 41 DP 759035 zoned R1 General Residential to RE1 Public Recreation, remove the land from the Minimum Lot Size map and the Height of Buildings map. c. Insert attached dwellings, hostels, multi dwelling housings, residential flat buildings, seniors housing as prohibited uses in the RU5 Village Zone Land Use Table d. Increase the current height restriction from 8.0 metres to 8.5 metres on the Height of Buildings Map.	DED DID	31012023	As per resolution.	Initially due October 2020. Work behind schedule and has been prioritised. Planning Proposal to be submitted to DPE for Gateway Determination.
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Walcha Council's Meeting Action List



Minute No.:	Item:	Responsible Officer:	Due Date:	Action to be Taken:	Progress:
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	<p>2. Request Delegation under section 3.36(2) of the <i>Environmental Planning & Assessment Act 1979</i> to make the final instrument.</p> <p>3. Submit the drafted Planning Proposal for a Gateway Determination.</p>				
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168/1819 22 May 2019	<p>Motion: It was MOVED Clr Heazlett Seconded Clr Kermode that Council prepare a planning proposal to rezone the portion of the land described as Lot 8 DP1167213 zoned RU1 Primary Production to RE1 Public Recreation, remove the land from the Minimum Lot Size map and reclassify the land from 'community' to 'operational' land to enable the subdivision of the industrial land when required. A FORESHADOWED Motion Clr Lyon that the portion of Lot 8 currently zoned Industrial be rezoned 'public recreation'. The Original Motion was put to the VOTE and CARRIED.</p>	DED DID	31012023	As per resolution.	Initially due October 2020. Work behind schedule and has been prioritised. Planning Proposal to be submitted to DPE for Gateway Determination.
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Ordinary – 31 July 2019

6/20192020	<p>6.3 Crown Land Management Plan Preparation WO/2019/01134 that Council:</p> <p>1. Acknowledge that a Walcha Crown Land Management Plan is required to be prepared for Crown Land managed by Walcha Council as required by the <i>Crown</i></p>	DED DID	30062023	As per resolution.	Underway.
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Walcha Council's Meeting Action List



Minute No.:	Item:	Responsible Officer:	Due Date:	Action to be Taken:	Progress:
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2. Request ministerial consent from NSW Department of Industry—Lands & Water to manage land known as:
- a. Woolbrook Rubbish Tip - 104 Campfire Road, Woolbrook - Lot 238 DP 753846 being Reserve 82854
 - b. Walcha General Cemetery - 169-179 Darjeeling Road, Walcha - Lot 1 DP 1088076 and Lot 7042 DP 1122396 being Reserve 1018788, Lot 7027 DP 1075451 and Lot 1 DP 117825 being Reserve 1018768
 - c. Old Rubbish Depot - Oxley Highway, Walcha Road - Lot 132 DP 753846 and Lot 7300 DP 1136219 being Reserve 89912
 - d. Waste Transfer Station - 49 Aerodrome Road, Walcha - Lot 532 DP 756502 being Reserve 51457, Lot 7007 DP 1057278 being Reserve 63519 and Lot 7017 DP 1057279 being Reserve 70192.
 - e. Woolbrook Cemetery - 119 Campfire Road, Woolbrook - Lot 7011 DP 94017 being Reserve 1018428
 - f. Walcha Catholic Cemetery - 219E Oxley Drive, Walcha - Lot 7002 DP 94214 being Reserve 43749 and Lot 7004 DP 94215 being Reserve 63559
 - g. Nowendoc Waste Transfer Station - 47 Tops Road, Nowendoc - Lot 171 DP 753691 being Reserve 83987

Walcha Council's Meeting Action List



Minute No.:	Item:	Responsible Officer:	Due Date:	Action to be Taken:	Progress:
	<p>h. Yarrowitch Showground - 92 Upper Yarrowitch River Road, Yarrowitch - Part Lot 125 DP 756475 being Reserve 94641</p> <p>i. Nowendoc Cemetery - 7817 Thunderbolts Way, Nowendoc - Lot 7301 DP 1134898 being Reserve 1016508</p> <p>j. Old Oxley RFS Shed - 6432 Brackendale Road, Nowendoc - Lot 157 DP 753691 being Reserve 95794</p> <p>land as "operational" as per Section 3.22 of the <i>Crown Land Management Act 2016</i>.</p> <p>3 Delegate the General Manager authority to:</p> <p>a) Assign the relevant categories to each parcel of Crown Land considered to have a classification of "community" land as per Section 3.23 of the <i>Crown Land Management Act 2016</i>,</p> <p>b) Obtain native title manager advice as per the provisions of Part 8 of the <i>Crown Land Management Act 2016</i>,</p> <p>c) Consult the NSW Dept of Industry Lands & Water on the content of the draft Walcha Crown Land Management Plan for Council consideration prior to Public Exhibition.</p>				

Walcha Council's Meeting Action List



Minute No.:	Item:	Responsible Officer:	Due Date:	Action to be Taken:	Progress:
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Ordinary – 29 July 2020

13/20202021	<p>6.3 Application for an Alcohol-Free Zone in the Walcha Central Business District by Walcha Police WO/2020/01944</p> <p>Motion: It was MOVED Cllr Kealey Seconded Cllr Ferrier that Council:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Prepare a proposal for an Alcohol-Free Zone as per the area identified in the application and extend to all licensed premises; 2. Prepare a proposal for Alcohol Prohibited Area in McHattan Park. 	<p>DED DID</p>	<p>30042021 31012023</p>		<p>Proposal reported to July 2022 Ordinary Meeting of Council. Advertised proposals inviting submissions to 09092022 – Sept 2022 Ordinary Meeting</p> <p>Outcome of consultation presented to October 2022 Ordinary Meeting.</p> <p>Waiting on signage to be delivered and installed.</p>
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Closed – 26 August 2020

<p>Closed: CC13 / 20202021</p>	<p>13.2 Request to Improve Driveway RESOLVED on the Motion of Councillors Kealey and Kermode that Council honour the agreement made to construct the new driveway for the applicant as detailed in the body of the report.</p>	<p>DI DID</p>	<p>30122021 30062023</p>		<p>Work to be scheduled next FY with other driveway works at the Council Depot and road shoulder/drainage repairs on North Street undertaken via LRCI Phase 3 funding.</p>
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Ordinary – 25 November 2020

124/20202021	<p>6.8 Beautification Committee Project Recommendations WO/2020/04068</p> <p>that Council:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. ENDORSE the recommendations of the 355 Committee Project Scope forms endorsed by the Walcha Town & District Beautification & Tidy Towns Committee meeting of 07 October 2020 and approves construction of 	<p>DI DID</p>	<p>30102022 30042023</p>		<p>Completion of works (Rose Garden Stage 2) identified in LRCI Phase 3 approved Project list. Works delayed due to weather and internal resource limitations.</p>
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Walcha Council's Meeting Action List



Minute No.:	Item:	Responsible Officer:	Due Date:	Action to be Taken:	Progress:
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	<p>Mill Hole – Stage 2 and the Rose Garden projects;</p> <p>2. ACKNOWLEDGES the continuing efforts of the Walcha Town & District Beautification & Tidy Towns Committee and their contribution to positive Community Strategic Plan outcomes.</p>				
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Ordinary – 16 December 2020

148/20202021	<p>7.1 Notice of Motion No.: 21 – Available Residential & Industrial Land – Cllr Noakes WO/2020/04452</p> <p>that:</p> <p>1. \$30,000 from the Project Development Internal Restriction be allocated to identify Council owned and Crown land that may be available for development as residential or industrial land.</p> <p>2. Any privately owned land within the town boundary that is zoned residential or industrial also be identified.</p>	<p>DED DID</p>	<p>30062021 31032023</p>	<p>Consultant brief to be prepared and issued to market, with completion date for project TBC following selection of supplier.</p>	<p>Initial due date June 2021.</p> <p>Work delayed due to resourcing.</p> <p>To be reprioritised to commence July 2022. Commenced in part with the Facilities Strategy.</p>
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Ordinary – 24 February 2021

194/20202021	<p>10.2 Minutes of the Walcha Tourism Advisory Committee Meeting held at Council Chambers on Friday, 12 February 2021 WO/2021/00517</p> <p><u>Item 3.8 – Caravan Access to Water</u></p> <p>that Council provide a dedicated drinking water refill point separate from dump point tap.</p>	<p>DI DID</p>	<p>30122022 31032023</p>	<p>DI to investigate options for caravan access to water and present back to Council.</p>	<p>Initial assessment is that business case for compliant, fee-for-service fill location may struggle to stack up due to low use. Issues regarding safety and compliance can be introduced by designating a fill point for specific purpose.</p>
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Walcha Council's Meeting Action List



Minute No.:	Item:	Responsible Officer:	Due Date:	Action to be Taken:	Progress:
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Ordinary – 29 September 2021

36/20212022	<p>6.3 Heritage Listing Removal from Walcha LEP Request – 2N Middle Street Walcha – Mrs L Green WINT/2021/08363</p> <p>that Council:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Remove heritage listing (1017 – being Lot A DP 159627 known as 2N Middle Street Walcha) from Schedule 5 of the <i>Walcha Local Environmental Planning Plan 2012</i>, and 2. Advise the land owner that: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. The removal of the heritage listing will be included within the next House Keeping Planning Proposal as prepared by Council when there are enough matters to warrant the expense of a Planning Proposal, alternatively b. They are welcome to submit their own Planning Proposal for Council consideration along with \$4,500 deposit towards the cost of processing the Planning Proposal, as this will expediate the processing time. 	<p>DED DID</p>	<p>31032021 31012023</p>	<p>Organise the removal of heritage listing of property from LEP 2012 Schedule 5. Advise owner of resolution options.</p>	<p>Owner visited Council March 2022 and advised they are happy for removal to be included in next house keeping Planning Proposal of Council.</p> <p>No date scheduled for next House Keeping Planning Proposal at this stage.</p> <p>Will be included in Annual Review Planning Proposal</p>
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Ordinary – 27 October 2021

<p>59/20212022 27 Oct 2021</p>	<p>6.2 Draft Amendment to Walcha Development Control Plan WINT/2021/08887</p> <p>that Council:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Adopt the <i>Draft Amended Walcha Development Control Plan 2019</i> which 	<p>DED DID</p>	<p>30062022 31012023</p>	<p>As per resolution</p>	<p>Point 1 of resolution completed.</p> <p>Further work delayed due to resourcing.</p>
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Walcha Council's Meeting Action List



Minute No.:	Item:	Responsible Officer:	Due Date:	Action to be Taken:	Progress:
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	<p>includes the following amendments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Minimal editing and word changes to correct grammar, identification of development controls and to ensure state agency referencing is correct b. Clause 14.6 – Visual Amenity Impacts– Replace the reference to the Australian Wind Energy Association and Australian Council of National Trust's <i>Wind Farms and Landscape Values: Stage 1 Report – Identifying Issues, March 2005, Appendix B: Wind Farms and Landscape Values: Final Issues Paper</i> has been changed to the current guideline being NSW Planning, Industry & Environment <i>Wind Energy Visual Assessment Bulletin For State significant wind energy development December 2016</i>. c. Clause 41.6(1) - Replace the reference of axis with sector. d. Clause 14.4 - Inclusion of a stated position for State Significant Development in the objectives. e. Clause 14.6(b)(iii) – Extend the wording to include damage, degradation or disruption to groundwater. f. Clause 14.6(u) – Extend the wording to state that Decommissioning Bonds will be considered based on the individual merits of the development. g. Inclusion of Clause 14.5(n) regarding cumulative impact assessment including 				<p>Completed 1. 3 completed this month. 2 & 4 will be part of LEP Review completed for Gateway by 31 January 2023</p>
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Walcha Council's Meeting Action List



Minute No.:	Item:	Responsible Officer:	Due Date:	Action to be Taken:	Progress:
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	<p>power line construction.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Prepare a further amendment to the <i>Amended Walcha Development Control Plan 2019</i> in regards to all renewable energy development. 3. Include provision in any future Section 7.11 Development Contribution Plan for a contribution for renewable energy development. 4. Amend the Walcha Local Environmental Plan 2012 by ensuring all Land Use Tables reflect the provisions of all relevant State Environmental Planning Policies 				
60/20212022 27 Oct 2021	<p>6.3 Part Day Public Holiday 2022 & 2023 Survey Results WO/2021/04247 that Council:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. ENDORSE the application for a Part Day Public Holiday for the Walcha Council Local Government Area from 12 noon until 6pm on Friday, 4 February 2022 and Friday, 3 February 2023 for the Walcha Races; 2. SURVEY the community and key stakeholders directly after the 2022 & 2023 Part Day Public Holiday to ascertain their success. 	GM	201221 Oct 2022 Feb2023		<p>Sent application to Industrial Relations for Part Day Public Holiday – 08112021 Diarise to survey the community and key stakeholders in March 2022 & 2023. – Not completed in March 2022. Update: view is to survey as a component of community consultation re financial sustainability. Unable to undertake review through this process – separate survey to be undertaken in the new year.</p>

Ordinary – 24 November 2021

85/20212022	<p>6.2 Customer Charter WINT/2021/09573 that Council ADOPT the Customer Charter as presented.</p>	DCC		As per resolution – Charter was adopted in 2021 however the current format is not fit for purpose and it was not rolled out to staff.	Update customer charter for February 2022 Council meeting. ELT workshop prior.
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Walcha Council's Meeting Action List



Minute No.:	Item:	Responsible Officer:	Due Date:	Action to be Taken:	Progress:
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Ordinary – 16 February 2022

127/20212022	Item: 4.2.12 – Constructive Solutions Update that Council maintain a Contractor Register which is to be regularly updated FURTHER THAT the Director of Infrastructure is to create End of Project Completion Report to include comments on contractor performance.	DI DID	30062022 31032023	As per resolution	Engineering team is working on improving all end-of-project functions, including contractor performance and capitalisation.
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Ordinary – March 2022

144/20212022	6.2 Amendment to Walcha Local Environmental Plan – Employment Zones that Council: 1. Endorse the Department of Planning, Industry & Environment Employment Zone Reforms by amending the Walcha Local Environmental Plan 2012 by: (a) Changing the zone names of (i) B2 Local to E1 Local Centre (ii) IN1 General Industrial to E4 General Industrial (iii) B4 Mixed Use to MU2 Mixed Use (b) Business identification sign, home business, home industry and recreation area as defined in the Standard Instrument is to be Permitted Without Consent in the E1 Local Centre Land Use Table (c) Business identification signs as defined in the Standard Instrument is to be Permitted With Consent in the MU1	DED DID	01122022 30042023	1. So endorsed 2. To advertise on our website media documents provided by DPE	Complete. Consultation documentation displayed on our website. Exhibition ran from 31/05/2022 to 12/07/2022. No submissions were received regarding our Council's proposed land use tables or mapping so no post exhibition amendments required. DPE will proceed with finalising drafting PCO, working towards 1/12/2022 date for the amendments to be notified. To be completed by April 2023
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Walcha Council's Meeting Action List



Minute No.:	Item:	Responsible Officer:	Due Date:	Action to be Taken:	Progress:
	<p>Mixed Use and E4 General Industrial Land Use Table</p> <p>(d) Pond and tank based aquaculture as defined in the Standard Instrument is as Permitted With Consent in the E1 Local Centre, E4 General Industrial and MU1 Mixed Use zones Land Use Tables</p> <p>(e) Local distribution premises as defined in the Standard Instrument as Permitted With Consent in all zones Land Use Tables</p> <p>2. Assist the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment with their community consultation.</p> <p>3. Give delegation to the General Manager to make any required post exhibition changes that are consistent with intent of the translation, to address any technical amendments.</p>				
146/20212022	<p>6.4 Amendment to Walcha Local Environment Plan – Agritourism Land Uses that Council:</p> <p>1. Advise the Department of Planning and Environment Council wishes to amend the Walcha Local Environmental Plan 2012 by:</p> <p>(a) Incorporating the land uses of:</p> <p>(i) Agritourism</p> <p>(ii) Farm Experience</p> <p>(iii) Farm Gate Premises</p> <p>(b) Agritourism as defined in the Standard Instrument is to be Permitted with</p>	DED DID	31/03/2022 30042023	<p>1. Advise DPE participation in amendment.</p> <p>2. To advertise on our website media documents provided by DPE</p>	<p>Complete</p> <p>To be undertaken immediately any consultation documentation received from DPE</p> <p>To be completed by April 2023</p>

Walcha Council's Meeting Action List



Minute No.:	Item:	Responsible Officer:	Due Date:	Action to be Taken:	Progress:
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	<p>Consent in the RU1 Primary Production, RU4 Primary Production Small Lots and C4 Environmental Living, Land Use Table and prohibited in all other zones.</p> <p>(c) Farm Experience as defined in the Standard Instrument is to be Permitted with Consent in the RU1 Primary Production, RU4 Primary Production Small Lots and C4 Environmental Living Land Use Table and prohibited in all other zones.</p> <p>(d) Farm Gate Premises as defined in the Standard Instrument is to be Permitted with Consent in the RU1 Primary Production, RU4 Primary Production Small Lots, RU5 Village, R5 Large Lot Residential and C4 Environmental Living Land Use Table and prohibited in all other zones.</p> <p>(e) Include clauses Farm Stay Accommodation 5.23 and Farm Gate Premises 5.24 as per the <i>Standard Instrument (Local Environmental Plans) Amendment (Agritourism) Order 2021</i>.</p> <p>2. Assist the Department of Planning and Environment with their community consultation.</p> <p>3. Give delegation to the General Manager to make any required changes that are consistent with intent of the translation, to address any technical amendments.</p>				
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Walcha Council's Meeting Action List



Minute No.:	Item:	Responsible Officer:	Due Date:	Action to be Taken:	Progress:
155/20212022	<p>10.1 Minutes of the Walcha Council Capital Advisory Committee Meeting held on Thursday 17 February 2022</p> <p>4.2.1 Capital Grant Funding Progress Report</p> <p>that any use of contingency on any projects going forward will need Director or General Manager approval prior to spending and a monthly report detailing the spending of any contingency to be provided monthly to Council.</p>	ALL		To be noted and actioned as per resolution.	
156/20212022	<p>4.2.3 Sgt Andrew Russell Bridge Naming</p> <p>that Council retain Sergeant Andrew Russell Bridge as the name for the new / replacement bridge and relocate the existing memorials closer to the new bridge.</p>	DI DID	TBA	As per resolution	Project will require a variation approval to proceed.
158/20212022	<p>4.2.9 Walcha Pool Upgrade Status</p> <p>that the engaged aquatic consultants provide a list of Walcha Pool upgrade priorities for the funding we have via the Bushfire Local Economic Recovery Fund FURTHER THAT the list needs to go to a Council Workshop then a report produced confirming Scope of Work.</p>	DI DID	30102023	As per resolution	Funding Deed variation request approved by Public Works to deliver works during 2023 pool closure, giving more time to develop scope and tender with new Project Manager. Pool Design Tender awarded in September, works underway.
159/20212022	<p>4.3.1 Footpath & Cycleway Funding Application (closes 25 February)</p> <p>that an application is submitted via the Shared Pathways Stage 2 – Walking and Cycling Program for \$3,605,810 and seek Transport NSW advice on the applicability of this funding for road widening instead of separate pathways.</p>	DI DID	16122024	As per resolution.	Funding successful. COMPLETED
163/20212022	<p>4.3.6 Derby Street Upgrade – Supplementary Funding</p>	DI DID	30062023 30062024	As per resolution.	Application successful. Due to increase in Scope, works proposed to be pushed back

Walcha Council's Meeting Action List



Minute No.:	Item:	Responsible Officer:	Due Date:	Action to be Taken:	Progress:
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	that Council apply for \$4.56M via the Heavy Vehicle Safety and Productivity Program to complete all works on Derby Street (including asphalt surface), with 20% (\$1.14M) coming from the Thunderbolts Way Corridor Strategy.				to 23/24 financial year. Project is now a \$6M+ project. COMPLETED
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Ordinary – 27 April 2022

173/20212022	<p>6.1 2021 Motorcycle Rally Final Report Update WO/2022/01154</p> <p>that Council:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> RESOLVE to seed-fund, underwrite and manage the Walcha Motorcycle Rally for a period of three (3) years, noting annual financial risk allocation of \$155,000 and an allocated annual budget of \$35,000. NOTE that the 2024 Rally is the final Council financial risk supported event; and AUTHORISE the General Manager to have an independent economic review of the success of the Rally post the 2024 event, and further UPON receipt of the economic analysis report the new Council provide direction as to Council's role, if any, in future Motorcycle Rally events. 	GM DCC	Dec 2024		<p>Planning for the 2021/22 event has commenced. Tourism and Manager Project Delivery will be working on this event together.</p> <p>Event planning progressing well. Tourism Coordinator is managing expectations well. Weather will again play a role.</p> <p>Event for 2022 was successfully held with a financial report to be provided at the December 2022 Council meeting.</p>
186/20212022	<p>4.2.1 LRCI Round 3 Project List</p> <p>that Council nominate the following projects for inclusion in the \$1,183,592 Local Road and Community Infrastructure Phase 3 Grant Funding allocation to be delivered in 2022/2023:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> \$441,250 for kerb and gutter works in Walcha (North Street, Hill Street, Pakington Street). 	DI DID	30062023	As per resolution	Works to be completed by 30 June 2023

Walcha Council's Meeting Action List



Minute No.:	Item:	Responsible Officer:	Due Date:	Action to be Taken:	Progress:
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ \$247,515 for Rectification of Old Brookmount Culvert over Emu Creek. ■ \$180,000 for Causeway Restoration at Draytons Creek on Hazeldean Road. ■ \$55,000 for Crocodile Bridge, Rose Garden Stage 2, Mill Hole and Hospital Wall. ■ \$150,000 to Aberaldie Road Heavy Patching. ■ \$109,827 to Lakes Road Gravel Resheeting. 				
187/20212022	<p>4.2.2 Jet Patcher Business Case that Council purchase Jet-Patcher Plant and supporting equipment for \$600,000 via a loan, based on the business case presented at April 2022 Capital Advisory Committee subject to a site visit to inspect patching and other works currently done by similar plant eg: Derby Street.</p>	DCC / DID	30112022 30042023	As per resolution	Supplier selected and equipment ordered with delivery time being May 2023. Works in progress to prepare and remediate depot tar plant.
188/20212022	<p>4.2.3 New Skid-Steer Business Case that Council ENDORSES the purchase of the new Bobcat T770 skid-steer and Simex PL60 Planer for \$197,000, using proceeds from sale of 2011 Bobcat Skid-steer profiler unit and 2016 Case skid-steer totalling \$99,000 with remaining funds sourced via loan.</p>	DCC / DID	31052023	As per resolution	Quotations being sought. Quotes have been received and advice is long lead time up to 6 months. To be reviewed and supplier selected. Quotes received and supplier selected. Delivery expected May 2023.
<p>Closed: 27042022</p> <p>CC22 / 20212022</p>	<p>13.1 Tender Evaluation of Green Waste WINT/2022/02765 <i>CC22/20212022 RESOLVED on the Motion of Councillors Hicks and Schaefer that Council AWARD Tender No. W22/54 Bushfire Generated Waste Clean-Up and Processing to OK Earthmoving for the lump sum of \$804,000 GST exclusive.</i></p>	DID via WM-WW	30112022	As per resolution	Works to be completed by September 2022. EPA granted an extension until 31 December 2022. Aiming to finish by 30 November 2022. Completed 07122022 with Acquittal to be completed by 22122022.

Walcha Council's Meeting Action List



Minute No.:	Item:	Responsible Officer:	Due Date:	Action to be Taken:	Progress:
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> To EXPLORE shared service opportunities of Audit Risk & Improvement Committee arrangements with Uralla Shire Council; and SEEK applications of Audit Risk & Improvement Committee chair (either in conjunction with Uralla Shire Council or alone). 				
226/20212022	<p>3.2 Relocation of "The Mother" Sculpture that Council APPROVE relocating the sculpture "The Mother" to the Southern End of Middle Street (near to Nivisons Look Out).</p>	DID	15072022	Schedule the relocation of sculpture as per resolution.	Following Arts Advisory Committee meeting in August, Council awaiting advice from Stephen King and James Rogers to proceed.

Ordinary – 27 July 2022

02/20222023	<p>5. MAYORAL MINUTE that Council:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> writes to the local State Member the Hon Kevin Anderson MP, the Treasurer the Hon Matt Kean MP, Minister for Emergency Services and Resilience the Hon Stephanie Cook MP and the Minister for Local Government the Hon Wendy Tuckerman MP: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Expressing Council's objection to the NSW Government's determination on ownership of Rural Fire Service (RFS) assets; Advising of the impact of the Government's position on Council finances of this accounting treatment; calling on the NSW Government to take immediate action to permanently clear up inequities and inconsistencies 	GM / EA / Mayor	05082022	As per resolution ensure all letters are sent etc.	Letters/emails will be sent by end of August 2022 Posts on social media platforms and website will be scheduled Email/Letter to RFS & LGNSW as per resolution.
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Walcha Council's Meeting Action List



Minute No.:	Item:	Responsible Officer:	Due Date:	Action to be Taken:	Progress:
	<p>around the accounting treatment of RFS assets by acknowledging that rural firefighting equipment is vested in, under the control of and the property of the Rural Fire Service; and</p> <p>d. amending S119 of the Rural Fires Act 1997 so that the effect is to make it clear that Rural Fire Service Assets are not the property of Councils.</p> <p>2. Writes to the Shadow Treasurer Daniel Mookhey MLC, the Shadow Minister for Emergency Services Jihad Dib MP, the Shadow Minister for Local Government Greg Warren MP, the Greens Spokesperson for Local Government Jamie Parker MP and the leaders of the Shooters, Fishers and Farmers, Animal Justice and One Nation parties Robert Borsak MLC, Emma Hurst MLC and Mark Latham MLC:</p> <p>a. Advising Members of Walcha Council's position, including providing copies of correspondence to NSW Government Ministers; and</p> <p>b. seeking Members' commitments to support NSW Councils' call to amend the Rural Fires Act 1997 as set out in correspondence.</p> <p>3. Promotes these messages via its digital and social media channels and via its networks.</p> <p>4. Reaffirms its complete support of and commitment to local Rural Fire Service (RFS) brigades noting that Walcha Council's action</p>				

Walcha Council's Meeting Action List



Minute No.:	Item:	Responsible Officer:	Due Date:	Action to be Taken:	Progress:
	<p>is entirely directed towards the NSW Governments nonsensical position that rather than being owned and controlled by local brigades, RFS assets are somehow controlled by councils, which councils consider to be a cynical financial sleight of hand abdicating the NSW Government's responsibilities at the cost of local communities.</p> <p>5. Affirms its support to Local Government NSW (LGNSW) that requests LGNSW continue advocating on Council's behalf to get clarification finally from the State Government about the accounting treatment of RFS assets.</p> <p>6. Until such time as clarity from the State Government in relation to the accounting treatment of RFS assets is resolved Walcha Council will not have a qualified financial report and consequently recognise the RFS assets.</p>				
08/20222023	<p>7. NOTICES OF MOTION</p> <p>7.1 Report on Vegetation Regrowth on Roadside Verges WO/2022/02064</p> <p>that Council seek funding to control vegetation regrowth on roadside verges to maintain an existing but degrading fire hazard control measure.</p>	<p>DI</p> <p>DID</p>	30112022	<p>Seek funding sources</p> <p>See item 12 - QoN</p>	<p>Oxley Hwy maintained under RMCC, Thunderbolts Way via State Forestry, roadside slashing, Council spraying. Local roads maintained by Council slashing, spraying & NE Weeds Authority. Limited funding available for these works outside of own source – however, will seek to apply for bushfire resilience funding should it become available.</p>

Walcha Council's Meeting Action List



Minute No.:	Item:	Responsible Officer:	Due Date:	Action to be Taken:	Progress:
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Ordinary – 31 August 2022

<p>Closed: 31082022 CC05/ 20222023</p>	<p>13.2 Expression of Interest for Panel of Conduct Reviewers WINT/2022/05381 that Council:</p> <p>1. APPOINT the Panel of Conduct Reviewers for a period of 4 years as set out in the report by the evaluation panel conducted by Uralla Shire Council and listed below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Australian Workplace Training & Investigation b) Centium c) LegalMinds d) Murdock Lawyers e) O'Connor Marsden & Associates f) Pendlebury Workplace Law g) Procure h) Sincolutions i) RSM j) Weir 	DCC		As per resolution	Notification letter to be sent to the selected panel. To be completed prior to December shutdown.
<p>CC06/ 20222023</p>	<p>13.3 RFT-W22-106 – Design and Construction of Lions Park Play Space WINT/2022/05345 That Council AWARD Tender No. W22-106 Design and Construction of the Lions Park Play Space to Moduplay Group Pty Ltd for the lump sum of \$299,870 GST exclusive</p>	DID	30032023	Notify Tenderer and start project	Works underway.
<p>CC07/ 20222023</p>	<p>13.4 WAL-2021-032 – Tender Report for Design and Construction of Three Bridges that Council AWARD Tender No. WAL-2021-032 Design and Construction of Three Bridges to</p>	DID	30062023	Notify Tenderer and start projects	Works underway.

Walcha Council's Meeting Action List



Minute No.:	Item:	Responsible Officer:	Due Date:	Action to be Taken:	Progress:
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	<i>Fulton Hogan Pty Ltd for \$1,549,562.30 GST exclusive.</i>				
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Ordinary – 28 September 2022

47/20222023	<p>6.2 Financial Sustainability Review WO/2022/02807</p> <p>that Council:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. NOTE the comprehensive reports arising from the Financial Sustainability Review (FSR); 2. UNDERTAKE a Community dialogue on the meaning and implications arising from the FSR, including community meetings as follows: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a Europambela: Monday 10 October 2022 at 11:30am; b Ingleba Hall: Monday 10 October 2022 at 02:30pm; c Yarrowitch Hall: Wednesday 12 October 2022 at 9:00am; d Brockley Park Woolshed: Wednesday 12 October 2022 at 11:30am; e Nowendoc Hall: Wednesday 12 October 2022 at 2:30pm; f Woolbrook: Wednesday 12 October at 6:00pm; g Street Stall Booth: Monday 17 October & Tuesday 18 October from 10:00am to 2:00pm; h Walcha Bowling Club: Wednesday 19 October at 4:00pm. 	<p>EA GM DCC</p>		<p>Book venues Advertise Meetings times and dates</p> <p>Presentations ready for Meetings / Running Sheet</p>	<p>Venues all booked – EA 05102022</p> <p>Advertisement: FB: 07102022; 09102022; 11102022; 17102022 (around 9am); 17102022 – 7pm; 18102022 – 9am and 18102022 – 7pm for Wednesday’s meeting Website: 06102022 Advocate for item g, & h :12 October 2022 – CM9 Ref: WO/22/2926</p> <p>ALL Community Sessions completed with an overall successful interaction.</p> <p>COMPLETED</p>
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Walcha Council's Meeting Action List



Minute No.:	Item:	Responsible Officer:	Due Date:	Action to be Taken:	Progress:
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	3. Taking into consideration community feedback, APPLY to IPART for a Special Rate Variation with effect 2023-2024 Budget.			Apply to IPART for SRV	To be sent in February 2023
48/20222023	6.3 Review of Delegated Authorities WO/2022/02732 that Council, in accordance with Section 380 of the <i>Local Government Act, 1993</i> , REAFFIRM its delegations.	GM EA	19102022	Ensure Delegated Authorities are endorsed with resolution showing they have been reaffirmed.	Mayor & Deputy Mayor delegations reaffirmed - 21102022 COMPLETED
56/20222023	10.1 Minutes of the Walcha Council Beautification Advisory Committee Meeting held on Wednesday 07 September 2022. WO/2022/02801 3.6 Crocodile Bridge that Council APPROVE the installation of a seat at the end of the path leading to the Crocodile Bridge pending suitable funding source as part of the works to extend the current garden beds and if within the approved budget.	DID	TBA	As per resolution	

Ordinary – 26 October 2022

65/20222023	6.1 Alcohol Free Zone Walcha Proposal & Alcohol Prohibited Area McHattan Park Proposal Submissions WO/2022/03018 that Council: 1. NOTE the completion of the consultation period for the proposed Alcohol Free Zone and Alcohol Prohibited Area and consider submissions received during the period.	DID	31012023	As per resolution plus order signs and erect them	Waiting on signage to be delivered and installed.
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Walcha Council's Meeting Action List



Minute No.:	Item:	Responsible Officer:	Due Date:	Action to be Taken:	Progress:
	<p>2. APPROVE the proposal with the following amendments:</p> <p>a) that Hamilton Street, between Derby Street and South Street be added to the Alcohol Free Zone Walcha Proposal;</p> <p>b) that 1W-5W Fitzroy Street be exempt from the proposed Alcohol Free Zone during opening hours of the Taphouse and under the condition that only alcohol purchased directly from the Taphouse be consumed at this location and in accordance with current liquor requirements for this premises.</p>				
67/20222023	<p>6.3 Section 7.2 Contribution Plan WO/2022/03037</p> <p>that Council PREPARE:</p> <p>1. a draft Section 7.12 Contribution Plan for Council consideration; and</p> <p>2. a suitable Work Schedule for inclusion in the Draft Section 7.2 Contribution Plan.</p>	DID	16112022	As per resolution	Tabled at December 2022 Council meeting.
70/20222023	<p>6.6 Updated Administration Policies – Social Media Policy WO/2022/02795</p> <p>that Council ADOPT the Social Media Policy as presented.</p>	DCT / EA	16112022	Update Social Media Policy with changes – DCT Adopt SM Policy and place on website – send to ALL Staff	
71/20222023	<p>6.7 Arrangements for Christmas for Council Staff WO/2022/02989</p> <p>that Council:</p> <p>1. ALLOW the combined Staff Christmas Party to be held during working hours on Thursday 22 December 2022 from 12:30pm;</p> <p>2. A donation of \$3,000 be MADE towards the cost of the Function.</p>	DID MCT DCC EA		Advise All Staff – especially that it is mandatory to attend. DCC – ensure allocation is made and advise EA of GL Code Book venue, organise refreshments etc	Venue booked. Had conversations with GM & Storeman regarding refreshments and food.

Walcha Council's Meeting Action List



Minute No.:	Item:	Responsible Officer:	Due Date:	Action to be Taken:	Progress:
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72/20222023	<p>7. NOTICES OF MOTION</p> <p>7.1 Notice of Motion # 25: New England Tablelands (Noxious Plants) County Council trading as New England Weeds Authority WO/2022/03041</p> <p>that Council AUTHORISE the General Manager to prepare a report for Council on the value for money and risk profile for Walcha Council in relation to Council's ongoing membership of the New England Weeds Authority including such expenditure as required within budget on legal advice.</p>	GM		As per resolution	
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Ordinary – 30 November 2022

82/20222023	<p>2. CONFIRMATION OF THE ORDINARY MEETING MINUTES HELD ON WEDNESDAY 26 OCTOBER 2022:</p> <p>that the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on Wednesday 26 October 2022, copies of which have been distributed to all members, be taken as read and confirmed a TRUE record with the addition of the complete Mayoral Minute added to the Minutes.</p>	EA	07122022	Update Minutes to include the Mayoral Minute as per resolution. Place on website Place in Resolutions Register	Minutes were already updated with Mayoral Minute added Website: 01122022 Register: 01122022
	<p>4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</p> <p>7.1 Notice of Motion#26: Business Plan for Renewable Energy Projects</p> <p>Clr Schaefer declared a Pecuniary – Conflict of Interest in this matter due to being a host landholder for Winterbourne Wind and Director / Shareholder of Walcha Wind Pty Ltd.</p>	EA	07122022	Form filled in Uploaded in CM9 Written in Register	Form tabled by Clr Schaefer at Meeting 30112022 CM9: 06122022 Register: 06122022

Walcha Council's Meeting Action List



Minute No.:	Item:	Responsible Officer:	Due Date:	Action to be Taken:	Progress:
83/20222023	<p>5. MAYORAL MINUTE</p> <p>5.1 Mayoral Minute – Declaration of Statewide Road Emergency WO/2022/03433</p> <p>that Walcha Council joins with Local Government NSW and Country Mayors Association of NSW in declaring a Statewide Road Emergency.</p>	GM	31122022	Advises LGNSW and CMA of Council's resolution	
85/20222023	<p>6.1 Presentation of Audited 2021 – 2022 Financial Statements WO/2022/03438</p> <p>that Council:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> ADOPT the Audited Annual Financial Statements including the Audit Report for the year ending 30 June 2022; PUBLICLY exhibit the Audited Annual Financial Statements including the Independent Auditors Report pursuant to Section 418(1) of the Local Government Act, 1993; NOTE the presentation of the Audited Financial Statements for the year ending 30 June 2022 and Independent Auditors Report pursuant to Section 419 (1) of the Local Government Act 1993. 	DCC	31122022	As per resolution	COMPLETED
86/20222023	<p>6.2 Grants for Junior Sporting / Coaching Clinics WO/2022/03427</p> <p>that Council ALLOCATE the following funds to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Walcha Flippers Swimming Club - \$2,400; Walcha & District Tennis Association - \$700; <p>FURTHER THAT as per the Local Government Act 1993, Section 356 Council REFUSE</p>	GM / EA		Advise and pay the Walcha Swimming Club & Walcha Tennis Association of their allocated monies. Advise MacCallum Performance of Resolution	

Walcha Council's Meeting Action List



Minute No.:	Item:	Responsible Officer:	Due Date:	Action to be Taken:	Progress:
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	MacCallum Performance application for funding as it is a private business and therefore is ineligible to apply through this funding.				
87/20222023	<p>6.3 Waiving of After Hours Pool Hire Fees – All bookings for 2022 – 2023 Season WO/2022/03367</p> <p>that Council:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> APPROVE waiving the After Hours Pool Hire Fees for the 2022 – 2023 season in all circumstances, providing that those using the pool are still paying their entry fees as normal, and there is a booking made with a minimum of 20 users; ENSURE user groups have adequate notification before the next season should the After Hours Pool Hire Fee remain in the 2023 – 2024 Fees & Charges; REVIEW the Learn to Swim Assistance Policy prior to setting the 2023 – 2024 Fees & Charges. 	DID	22122022 30062023	<p>Advise Walcha Flippers Swimming Club & Schools</p> <p>Diarise notification communication for April 2023 (or earlier)</p> <p>Diarise Review of Policy</p>	Fees to be reviewed as part of 2023/24 Fees & Charges
88/20222023	<p>6.4 Changes to Audit, Risk & Improvement Committee WO/2022/03439</p> <p>that in order to recruit new independent members of the Audit, Risk & Improvement Committee (ARIC) Council:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> TERMINATE the appointment of independent ARIC Members of the Walcha Council ARIC as at 31 December 2022; NOTIFY Walcha Council ARIC Members of the termination; 	DCC	31122022	As per resolution	Notify members prior to Christmas shutdown, work with Uralla Council on recruitment.

Walcha Council's Meeting Action List



Minute No.:	Item:	Responsible Officer:	Due Date:	Action to be Taken:	Progress:
	<p>3. CONSIDER the Office of Local Government model Audit, Risk & Improvement Charter once established; workshop and define Council's expectations of the ARIC in line with S428A of the Local Government Act 1993;</p> <p>4. ADOPT the fees for three independent members (one as Chair) as set out in the report;</p> <p>5. UNDERTAKE to share the ARIC independent members jointly with Uralla Shire Council; and</p> <p>6. CALL for expressions of interest for panel members jointly with Uralla Shire Council.</p>				
89/20222023	<p>6.5 Administration Policies – Walcha Council Housing Policy WO/2022/03395</p> <p>that Council NOTE:</p> <p>1. the new Administrative Walcha Council Housing Policy; and</p> <p>2. that all previous Housing Rental Policies be REVOKED.</p>	EA	31122022	Update Policy Register for the new policy and revoke the previous policies.	
90/20222023	<p>7. NOTICES OF MOTION</p> <p>Clr Schaefer left the Chambers and took no part in the debate at 03:50pm.</p> <p>7.1 Notice of Motion Number: 26: Business Plan for Proposed Developers of Renewable Energy Projects WO/2022/03423</p> <p>Motion:</p>	DID / GM		As per resolution	

Walcha Council's Meeting Action List



Minute No.:	Item:	Responsible Officer:	Due Date:	Action to be Taken:	Progress:
	<p>It was MOVED Councillor Berry Seconded Councillor Kermode that Council ACKNOWLEDGE the Survey results from Voice for Walcha and DEVELOP a Strategic Business Plan for all proposed Developments of Renewable Energy Projects informed by the work of the Coalition of Renewable Energy Mayors (CoREM).</p> <p>Amendment: An Amendment was MOVED Councillor Hicks Seconded Councillor Reilly that Council DEVELOP a Strategic Business Plan for all proposed Developments of Renewable Energy Projects informed by the work of the Coalition of Renewable Energy Mayors (CoREM).</p> <p>Division of Voting: For: Hicks Pointing and Reilly Against: Berry Noakes and Kermode. 90 The Original Motion became the Substantive Motion and was put to the VOTE and CARRIED.</p>				
QonN	<p>12. QUESTIONS ON NOTICE</p> <p>12.1 July 2022 Mayoral Minute – Resolution 02/20222023 – Clr Hicks As per the Action List: Letters to various Ministers and Departments – Have these been sent?</p>	GM	09122022	Reply to Clr Hicks as per resolution	
	<p>12.2 July 2022 Notice of Motion – Resolution 08/20222023 – Clr Kermode:</p>	DID	09122022	Reply to Clr Kermode as per resolution	

Walcha Council's Meeting Action List



Minute No.:	Item:	Responsible Officer:	Due Date:	Action to be Taken:	Progress:
	Action List: Vegetation Regrowth on Roadside Verges – Clr Kermode stated he noticed Dead saplings along highway – is this part of the RMCC?				



9.2 INFRASTRUCTURE & DEVELOPMENT:

Ref: WO/2022/03435

Responsible Executive: Director Infrastructure & Development

Community Strategic Plan Reference:

Goal 8.1 – Walcha Council will exemplify good leadership, mutual respect and trust by being inclusive, ensuring open information and communication and encouraging active participation at all levels.

RECOMMENDATION: That items included in the Infrastructure & Development Management Review Report be NOTED by Council.

Planning & Regulatory Services – November 2022

GRANTS SUMMARY					
Grant	Description	Funding	Status	Deadline	Comments
NSW P&C (Heritage NSW)	Heritage Advisor	\$6K 2022-23 \$1:\$1	Successful	30/06/2023	On track
OLG	Council Crown Land Management – Plans of Management	\$48,616	Successful	30/06/2023	On track
NSW EPA Council Regional Capacity Building Program	Building capacity in management of contaminated land	\$420K	Successful	Not set at this time	Namoi Unlimited Project
NSW DPE API	API Integration with NSW Planning Portal	\$80K	Successful	31/3/2023	Investigation on proposed vendor being undertaken



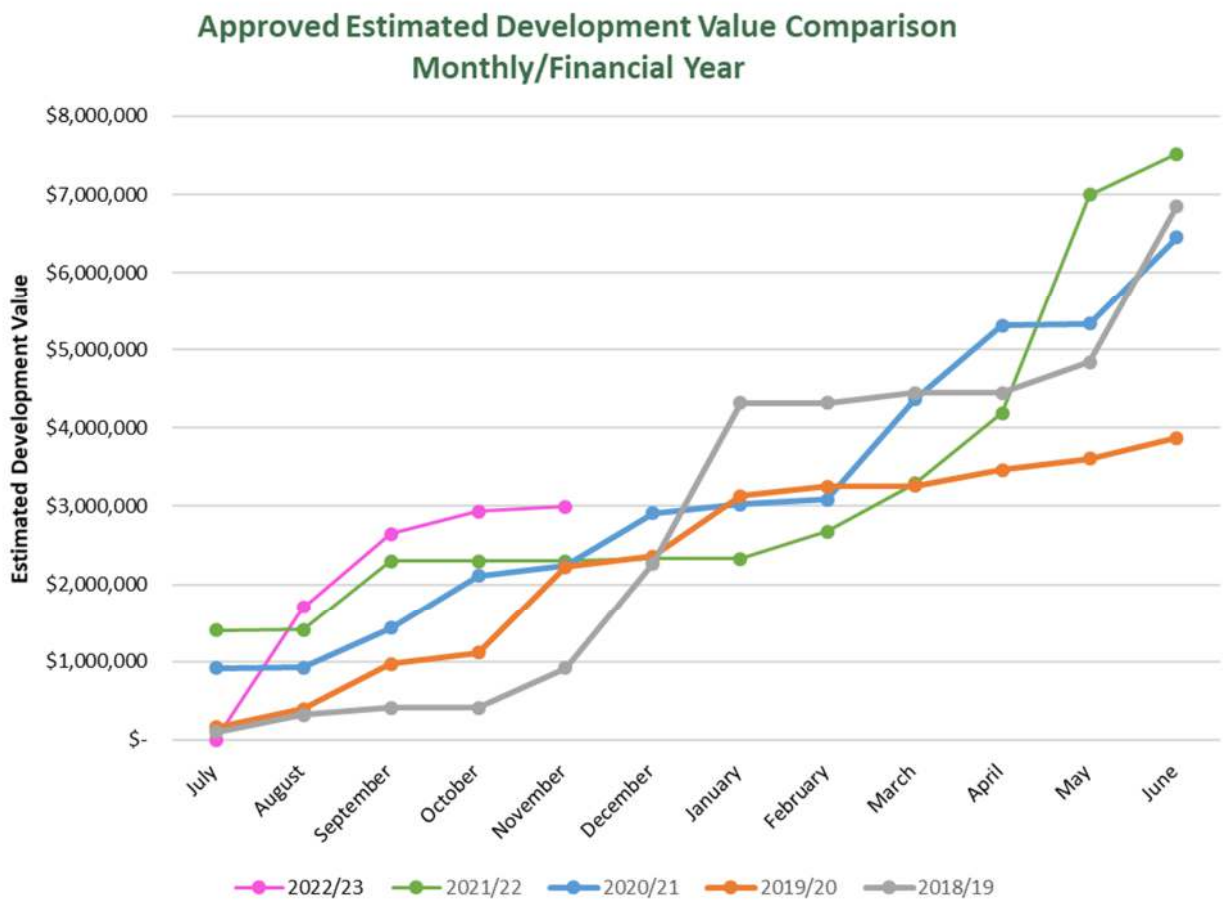
OPERATIONAL OVERVIEW

1. Development & Construction

Development Statistics 2022-2023	DAs	CCs	CDCs
Number Determined – 30.11.2022	17	6	4
Estimated Development Value – 30.11.2022	\$2,884,700	\$227,000	\$113,000

For Councillor information, the following graphs show the combined (DA & CDC) approved development value for the LGA trend for the financial years from 2018/2019. The development value includes those applications determined by private certification; but does not include civil works such as roads, bridges and the like. These graphs are only current until 30 November 2022.

Council is currently still trending a higher approved estimated development value over the last 5 year period.





For interest also presented below are the Financial and Calendar Years trends between 2018 and 31/10/2022. The Calendar year comparison over a 5 year period shows that Council already has a significantly higher approved development value for the 2022 year.



1.1 Determinations Issued

November 2022				
Development Applications				
Number	Description	Address	Determination	Assessment Days
Nil				
Construction Certificates				
Number	Description	Address	Determination	
11.2022.13	Verandah & Carport	58N Lagoon Street Walcha	Approved By Council Certifier	
Complying Development Certificates				
Number	Description	Address	Determination	
18.2022.8	Alterations & Additions to a Dwelling	62N South Street Walcha	Approved By Council Certifier	

Note: Assessment Days is the assessment day count, and does not include referral days (concurrence State Agency assessment period) and the period where additional information has been requested and not provided.



1.2 Development Applications Outstanding

As at 1.12.2022	
Under Assessment:	6
On Notification	0
Additional Information Requested	2
Waiting on State Agency Comment	0
Waiting on Fee Payment	1
Total	9

1.3 Certificates & Advice

November 2022			
Number Issued	2021-22	2022-23	Current Period
Occupation Certificates	15	8	2
Subdivision Certificates	7	5	0
Planning Certificates	135	66	27
Building Information Certificates	1	1	1
Outstanding Notices Orders Certificates	18	2	1
Bushfire Attack Level Certificates	-	-	-
Dwelling Entitlement Advice	10	1	-

1.4 Compliance Inspections for DAs, CCs and CDCs

As both planning and building certification has now been contracted out. This information could not be collated as per previous reports. The reason being the change in department structure. It is intended to modify this report over the next quarter, further addressing this.

2. Environment & Regulation

2.1 Section 68 Activities

November 2022	2021-22	2022-23	Current Period
Number Issued	27	18	4

2.2 Compliance Inspections for Section 68 Activities

As both planning and building certification has now been contracted out. This information could not be collated as per previous reports. The reason being the change in department structure. It is intended to modify this report over the next quarter, further addressing this.



2.3 Public Health Activities

August 2022			
Compliance Inspections & Reports Issued	2021-22	2022-23	Current Period
On-Site Sewage Management Systems	2	4	-
Food Premises	22	-	-
Private Swimming Pools	-	-	-
Fire Safety Schedules	1	-	-
Skin Penetration Procedure Premises	-	-	-
Advertisements / Advertising Structures (incl. sandwich boards)	1	-	-

3. Animal Control

Companion Animal Registrations 2022-2023								
	Desexed	Non Desexed	Pensioner Desexed	Pound Purchase Desexed	Cat Desexed	Under 6 Months	Working/ Recognised Breeder	Value
Jul	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	\$ 234
Aug	1	1	2	1	-	-	4	\$ 625
Sep	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	\$ 29
Oct	1	-	-	-	-	-	6	\$483
Nov							3	\$207
Total	2	2	3	1	-	-	13	\$1578

Companion Animal Seizures 2022-2023						
	Seized	Surrendered	Released	Rehomed	Euthanised	Stolen/Escaped
Jul	1	-	-	-	-	-
Aug	3	2	3	2	-	-
Sep	2	-	1	1	-	-
Oct	2	1	-	1	1	-
Nov	8	7	1	5	2	
Total	16	10	5	9	3	-

Companion Animal Ranger Services 2022-2023				
	Dog Attack Investigation	Roaming Dogs	Roaming Cats	Barking Dogs
Jul	3	3	2	5
Aug	1	2	1	5
Sep	-	4	3	8
Oct	2	1	2	0
Nov	1	4	1	1
Total	7	14	9	19



4. Planning Policy

4.1 Amendment to Walcha Local Environmental Plan – Agritourism Land Uses

Update – Resolution 2022/146 – Ordinary Meeting of Council held 30 March 2022

The NSW Planning and Environment have advised that the proposed amendment to the Walcha Local Environmental Plan 2012 to incorporate;

- a) the land uses of agritourism, farm experience and farm gate premises,
- b) alter the land use tables for zones RU1 Primary Production, RU4 Primary Production Small Lots, RU5 Village, R5 Large Lot Residential and C4 Environmental Living to include the above land uses, and
- c) include specific clauses relating to farm stay accommodation and farm gate premises in the *Walcha Local Environmental Plan 2012*

This will commence on 1 December 2022 with the amendments being completed February 2023. There is no current action to be undertaken by Council as NSW Planning and Environment are acting on our behalf.)

4.2 Amendment to Walcha Local Environmental Plan – Employment Zones

Update – Resolution 2022/144 – Ordinary Meeting of Council held 30 March 2022

The NSW Planning and Environment have advised that the proposed amendment to the Walcha Local Environmental Plan 2012 to;

- a) Change the zone names of
 - i. B2 Local to E1 Local Centre
 - ii. IN1 General Industrial to E4 General Industrial
 - iii. B4 Mixed Use to MU2 Mixed Use
- b) Business identification sign, home business, home industry and recreation area as defined in the Standard Instrument is to be Permitted Without Consent in the E1 Local Centre Land Use Table
- c) Business identification signs as defined in the Standard Instrument is to be Permitted With Consent in the MU1 Mixed Use and E4 General Industrial Land Use Table
- d) Pond and tank based aquaculture as defined in the Standard Instrument is as Permitted With Consent in the E1 Local Centre, E4 General Industrial and MU1 Mixed Use zones Land Use Tables
- e) Local distribution premises as defined in the Standard Instrument as Permitted With Consent in all zones Land Use Tables

Amending Standard Instrument Local Environmental Plan Order (Amending SI LEP Order) and Prescribed zones State Environmental Planning Policy (SEPP) was made on 30 November 2022 with immediate commencement. This has no immediate effect on Council.

Amending SI LEP Order

The Amendment Order is intended to make a number of changes to the Order including amending the repeal of the business and industrial zones until 26 April 2023 to coincide with



the commencement date for Local Environmental Plan (LEP) amendments. Other changes include modifications to objectives and land uses to address matters raised in submissions, as well as comprehensive savings and transitional provisions as previously outlined.

1. **16 December 2022 and will commence on 26 April 2023** – amendments to all LEPs that are being amended via self-repealing SEPP (134 LEPs in total. This will include Walcha.)

Prescribed zones SEPP

The Transport and Infrastructure and Housing SEPPs will be amended to include employment zones as prescribed zones to maintain permissibility. Changes will also be made to the Codes SEPP to ensure a Complying Development approval path cannot be used where permissibility is achieved through a savings and transitional provision.

2. **14 December 2022** – amendments to all LEPs that are being amended via self-repealing SEPP (134 LEPs in total. This will include Walcha.)

Self-repealing SEPP – LEP amendments

DPE are on track to notify 6 self-repealing SEPPs on 14 December 2022 which will amend 134 LEPs to introduce employment zones. These amendments will commence on 26 April 2023. For the remaining LEPs not captured as part of these 6 SEPPs, these are being amended either by a Consolidated/Comprehensive LEP process or through a future SEPP.

3. **22 February 2022** - housekeeping SEPP to update any anomalies as well as to make the mapping coversheet for LEPs with PDF maps.

Housekeeping SEPP

DPE have identified the need for a housekeeping SEPP which will be made in February 2023. The SEPP will cover off on anything that gets picked up as problematic and unintentionally omitted between 14 December 2022 and early February 2023. The primary purpose of the Housekeeping SEPP will be to amend mapping and to include any undrafted consequential amendments. It is intended to be made **February 2023** and will commence **26 April 2023**.

Council Action

Planning staff are yet to commence reviewing the LEP data, particularly checking that:

1. The correct employment zone has been applied and to the correct areas;
2. Environmental Zones have been updated to Conservation Zones;
3. All Additional Permitted Uses or Key Sites have been mapped correctly.

This work is programmed for this work to be undertaken over December 2022.

4.3 Section 7.2 Contribution Plan

Update – Resolution 2022/67 – Ordinary Meeting of Council held 31 March 2022




The draft plan has is presented to this meeting under a separate report for consideration



5. Capital Works Update

To improve project reporting, the reporting on all initiated and budgeted capital projects within the Infrastructure portfolio has been consolidated into one attachment.

The coloured boxes indicate the health of a project with separate indicators for budget and schedule. Where status is green, commentary may not be required. However, the responsible officer will provide a comment against any indicator that is amber or red to explain how this issue is being addressed.

Indicator Colour	Project Status
	On Track – Project will meet the target deadline and/or is expected to stay within budget.
	At Risk – Project may not meet the target deadline and/or is expected to exceed allocated budget. Closer monitoring or preventative action is required.
	Off Track – Project will not meet adopted targets for delivery and/or budget, action is required.
C	Completed – Project completed with no further work required

Capital Works Delivery Update - Dec 2022

Project	Summary Scope/deliverables	Project Value	Original Target Completion Date	Estimated Completed Date	Cost to date	Budget Status	Budget Status	Schedule Status	Schedule Status	Activities for Next Three Months	
LOCAL ROADS											
Glen Morrison Road Rehab	Rehabilitate and widen existing sealed road to ease curve - Fixing Local Roads R1	\$ 299,000		Mar-23	\$ 18,066					Start of works pushed to new year - workforce delayed attending to disaster recovery jobs.	Construction work to begin in the new year.
Middle Street Rehab	Fixing Local Roads R2 - minus kerb and gutter	\$ 565,586	Nov-21	Jun-23	\$ 14,141		Budget increased from \$495,000 to \$565,586 using unspent funds from Moona Plains Road			The Department have provided extensions for all rounds of the Fixing Local Roads program. Middle Street and Walsh Street will be pushed to the end of 22/23 FY.	Tender for kerb and gutter replacement/renewal being prepared, aim to advertise before Christmas.
Walsh Street Rehab	Fixing Local Roads R2 - minus kerb and gutter	\$ 403,336	Jan-22	Jun-23	\$ 13,830		Budget increased from \$332,750 to \$403,336 using unspent funds from Moona Plains Road				
Aberbaldie Road Rehab	Rehabilitation of Segment 30 - Fixing Local Roads R3	\$ 703,384	Oct-22	Dec-23	\$ -					The Department have provided extensions for all rounds of the Fixing Local Roads program. Aberbaldie Road Rehab and Forest Way will be pushed to end of 2023.	Conduct pavement investigations, finalise scope and conduct in-house survey & design
Forest Way Phase 2	3.6km of sealing, culvert and drainage works on Forest Way - Fixing Local Roads R3	\$ 841,407	Oct-22	Dec-23	\$ -						Conduct pavement investigations, finalise scope and organise construction.
Walcha Aerodrome	Seal existing access, elec supply improvements, regravell existing runway	\$ 1,610,000	Oct-22	Oct-23	\$ -		Additional milestone request sent to the funding body to reduce the amount of WIP for the project.			Variation request submitted to complete works in 2023. Program deadline is March 2024.	Deliver electrical works first, with access road delivered in 2023
Kerb and Gutter Tender	Several identified areas of kerb and gutter replacement to be packaged together in a single tender. Incl. Middle Street, Walsh Street, North Street.	\$ 595,250	Mar-22	Apr-22	\$ -		Works are grant funded from various sources - FLR2, LRCI3. No previously unfunded works - i.e. not additional to 2022/23 budget.			Schedule will be tight to complete this FY.	Tender for kerb and gutter replacement/renewal being prepared, aim to advertise before Christmas.
BRIDGES											
Army Bridge		\$ 2,050,850		Dec-23	\$ 143,144		The three bridges to go out to open D&C tender as Coastal works are no longer able to complete the works. It is anticipated that current budget may be inadequate and a variation will be required.			TfNSW have extended this program by an additional year. Variations on price need to be approved.	Tender to go out end of November 2022.
Winterbourne Bridge		\$ 643,104		Dec-23	\$ 49,292						
Mooraback Bridge		\$ 526,680		Dec-23	\$ 40,836						
Tia Diggings Bridge 1		\$ 580,000		Jun-23	\$ 22,994		Awarded tender on budget, but with no contingency.			Fulton Hogan have completed 80% Detail Design and program for works received.	Fulton Hogan awarded contract for bridge design and construction. Site meeting with Fulton Hogan next week.
Tia Diggings Bridge 2		\$ 553,000		Jun-23	\$ 21,126						
Niangala Bridge		\$ 655,000		Jun-23	\$ 36,393						
STATE ROADS											
Oxley Highway - 2022/2023 Routine Maintenance	Annual routine maintenance	\$ 585,000		Jun-23	\$ 188,144						Routine road maintenance works continuing. Minor pavement patch scoping in progress. Undertaking Pothole patching, inspections, guideposts, etc.
Oxley Highway - 2022/2023 Resealing Program	Annual routine resealing	\$ 500,000		Mar-23							Works to begin February
Oxley Highway - Heavy Patching	Annual heavy patching works	\$ 897,207		Jun-23	\$ 83,243						Heavy patching program to be completed by March 23.

Capital Works Delivery Update - Dec 2022

Project	Summary Scope/deliverables	Project Value	Original Target Completion Date	Estimated Completed Date	Cost to date	Budget Status	Budget Status	Schedule Status	Schedule Status	Activities for Next Three Months
REGIONAL ROADS										
Rehabilitation of Walcha Township Approaches - Derby Street - (Segments 4710 and 4720)	Rehabilitation, drainage, service replacement, kerb and gutter, parking, sealing	\$ 6,960,000	Jun-22	Jun-24	\$ 394,738		Council has received an additional \$4,560,000 for this project via the Heavy Vehicle Safety and Productivity Program. There is \$2.4M remaining Corridor Strategy funds.		Variation request will be submitted in order to deliver the project next financial year - additional funds received will make meeting June 2023 deadline prohibitively difficult.	Council will need to increase the scope of this project following funding announcement, and apply for a time variation in order to have more time to design the additional elements.
Rehabilitation of Old Crockford - Segment 4170	Rehabilitation; widening of pavement to 8m seal width	\$ 500,000	Jun-23	Jun-23	\$ -		New project, budget from R2R and \$139k REPAIR Grant			Works to begin in March 2022
Thunderbolts Way Heavy Patching Program	Heavy patching - various locations	\$ 350,000		Jun-23			Additional heavy patching on TBW due to block grant no longer being required for Derby Street			Heavy patching program to be completed by March 23.
WATER, SEWER & WASTE										
Walcha Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade		\$ 1,800,000		Sep-22	\$ 1,716,831				1. Identify outstanding scope items with DPE. 2. Plan delivery of outstanding items and report back with updated completion date.	Ongoing liaison with PWA to confirm final scope items another follow up call to them 9/12/22
Walcha Off Creek Storage		\$ 11,000,000	Dec-22	Jun-23	\$ 2,076,224		First 3 Milestone payments (\$6.5M) received. Project tracking under budget with plenty of cash in advance of invoices. \$250K PO send to HH2O for Package 4, approx. \$80K under original estimate.		Package 1 Embankment Construction bulk earthworks almost completed. SOD turning event completed successfully. Package 4 (Design) underway	1. Embankment & Spillway construction on target earthworks due to complete end Dec 22 2. Design Works Stage 2 - Underway with accelerated program. Workshop in early December. 3. Package 6A pipework on order, quote being obtained from KCE as additional scope item to their GC21 contract.
Walcha Waste Strategy 2025				Apr-23					1. Develop additional detailed costing for bin lift rates. 2. Develop CBA for hook bin options 3. Develop plan for additional kerbside collection areas and costs for inclusion 4. Report back next month with revised plan.	1. Present to Councillors at Nov briefing workshop 2. Present final draft Waste Strategy Apr 23 with view of full roll out July 23
Water Meter Replacement		\$ 350,000		Jun-23	\$ -		Grant application submitted 10/02/22 for funding to replace current meter fleet with SMART meters was unsuccessful. Seeking new revenue sources		Works cannot proceed until funding secured.	Council seeking new source of funding via National Water Grid Connections Funding Pathway
Sewer Smoke Testing		\$ 75,000		Jun-23	\$ -		Grant funding unsuccessful, works need to proceed using own source revenue.		EPL Variation for to licence approved, effectively giving Council until June 2023 to complete testing.	1. Preparing scope to undertake works early 2023. 2. Obtain quotes for smoke testing and manhole assessment. 3. CAC approval to fund from reserve funds presented and approved.
COMMUNITY PROJECTS										
Levee Bank Walk Lighting	Installation of solar lighting along both sides of Apsley River Levee Bank, from Blue Hogan to Middle Street	\$ 279,911	Jun-22	Oct-22	\$ 261,816		No further costs to be invoiced. Project within budget.		Some minor defect rectification remaining with three identified lights not working. Cannot claim grant funding until complete.	Continuing to push Highlux to complete project (final lights not working). Defect/Liability period will not start until all works completed.
Walcha Sporting Amenity Upgrades - Walcha Pool	Upgrade of amenities at John Oxley Oval and Walcha Pool	\$ 566,087		Oct-23	\$ -		No costs to date		Design consultants attended first site visit last week to begin design process. 80% design received.	Tender for design awarded to Built Environment Collective Pty Ltd. Tender for construction to go out Jan 2023.

Capital Works Delivery Update - Dec 2022

Project	Summary Scope/deliverables	Project Value	Original Target Completion Date	Estimated Completed Date	Cost to date	Budget Status	Budget Status	Schedule Status	Schedule Status	Activities for Next Three Months
Walcha Sporting Amenity Upgrades - John Oxley Oval	Upgrade of amenities at John Oxley Oval and Walcha Pool	\$ 130,420		Mar-23	\$ -		No costs to date		No works to date	Scope of works and delivery strategy are being developed by the project team.
Walcha Swimming Pool Refurbishment	Further upgrade of Walcha Swimming Pool via BLER Grant	\$ 1,100,000	Oct-22	Oct-23	\$ 181,543		There is not enough money to complete all works identified in condition report, so works will need to be prioritised		Design consultants attended first site visit last week to begin design process. 80% design received.	Tender for design awarded to Built Environment Collective Pty Ltd. Tender for construction to go out Jan 2023.
Renew Walcha Skate Park	New skate park facilities, new fence for John Oxley Oval, CCTV	\$ 966,964		Jun-23	\$ 275,838		Additional \$100K applied for via Stronger Country Communities Round 5.		90% Detailed Design delivered. Fence installation completed. CCTV - variation for pole in McHatten Park, cameras will be operating shortly.	Construction tender will begin being prepared based on 90% Design, aim to advertise before Christmas, award in February .
Upgrade Walcha Lions Park	New park facilities at Lions Park	\$ 410,554		Feb-22	\$ 6,857		Tender within project budget.		Equipment fabricated mid Dec, old equipment removed Jan, construction Feb.	Construction will not begin until next year.
Walcha Gym CCTV & Equipment	Installation of CCTV at Walcha GYM and purchase of additional equipment	\$ 95,000		Jun-22	\$ 94,000				CCTV is ready, cameras operating in Council gym, parks to follow.	CCTV up and running, project close out.



9.3 CORPORATE & COMMUNITY:

Ref: WO/2022/03498

Responsible Executive:

Director Corporate & Community

Attachments:

Under Separate Cover – Monthly Highlights Report
 WO/2022/03574

Community Strategic Plan Reference:

Goal 8.1 – Walcha Council will exemplify good leadership, mutual respect and trust by being inclusive, ensuring open information and communication and encouraging active participation at all levels.

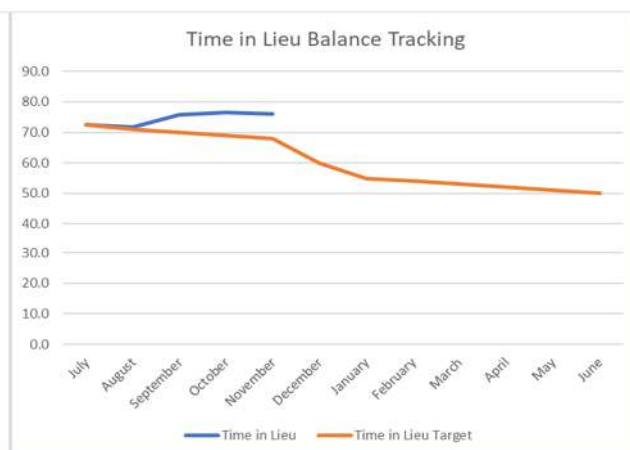
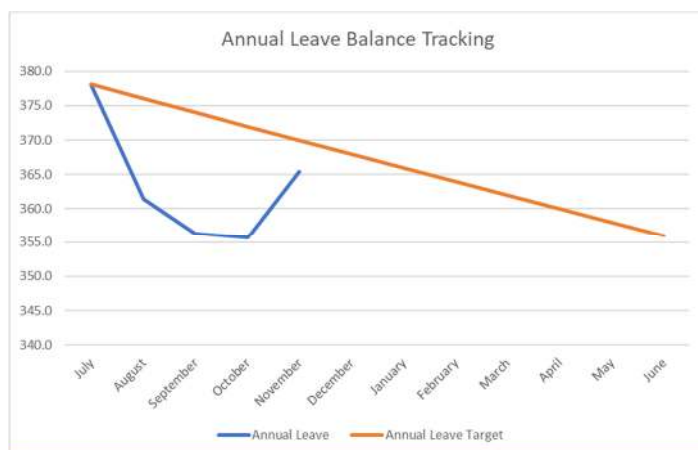
RECOMMENDATION: That items included in the Corporate & Community Review Report be NOTED by Council.

Corporate and Finance

The purpose of this report is to provide confidence to Council that corporate and financial risk are being managed on a monthly basis by improving visibility of key performance indicators. This report also provides an overview of the monthly operations of the Community Services and Tourism areas of Council.

1. Walcha Council Leave Balances

Directorate	NOVEMBER 2022			JUNE 2022			Comments/Reduction Strategy
	Annual Leave Weeks	RDO Weeks	Time in Lieu Weeks	Annual Leave Weeks	RDO Weeks	Time in Lieu Weeks	
Office of the General Manager (14)	99	6	8	102	6	9	Increase in office shutdown will bring leave balances down and is one step to managing Council's leave liability. Leave balances will reduce over the Christmas break however ongoing work is needed to manage balances. A council leave policy would assist with this.
Infrastructure (45)	207	5	64	218	4	58	
Planning & Development (3)	29	2	0	25	1	0	
Community & Tourism (17)	31	2	4	32	2	5	
Totals	365	15	76	378	13	72	





The above table includes June 2022 as a point of comparison to review the movement on leave balances from the end of the 2022 financial year.

The Rostered Day Off (RDO) and Time in Lieu (TIL) weeks are an issue that must be significantly reduced by Council. TIL incurs the same costs as overtime where one extra hour worked equates to two hours leave taken or if paid out 2x. TIL is currently the issue most urgent to address with leave.

With the extended Christmas shutdown Council should see a significant reduction of leave which Council needs to continue to manage into 2023 Christmas.

2. Walcha Council Overtime Paid

	November		Total YTD	
	Hours	\$	Hours	\$
Office of the GM	11	549	63	3,109
Infrastructure	450	24,947	1,655	96,005
Community	92	5,137	165	8,949
Environment	6	310	37	2,020
Total	559	30,943	1,919	110,083
Operating	521	28,926	1,700	96,188
Capital	38	2017	219	13,895

Overtime is a significant issue with overtime costs budgeted \$100K lower for 2022/23. Currently Council is tracking \$23,000 year to date lower in overtime costs for the same time last year however with significant vacancies overtime is increased.

Council needs to further reduce operating overtime in order to achieve budget.

3. Walcha Council Unrestricted Cash Reconciliation

UNRESTRICTED CASH RECONCILIATION

	November 2022	June 2022
Total Cash & Investments	16,581,133	13,521,720
External Restrictions:		
Contract Liabilities - General Fund	3,942,116	3,025,730
Contract Liabilities - Water Fund	3,218,098	3,709,846
Specific Purpose Grants	600,441	986,057
Water Fund (interfunding balance)	759,267	701,274
Sewer Fund (interfunding balance)	528,542	502,588
	<u>9,048,463</u>	<u>8,925,495</u>
Internal Allocations	4,502,641	6,684,560

Unrestricted Cash	3,030,028	(2,088,335)
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Unrestricted cash is still expected to be in deficit by June 2023 as the prepaid Financial Assistance Grant is consumed.

4. Walcha Council Debt Recovery

Walcha Council has the current arrears as follows:

General Rates - \$111,035

Water Rates - \$102,225

Current outstanding percentage is approximately 3.8%

Walcha Council debt recovery agents have now issued letters of demand on which a statement of claim will be applied if no recovery occurs. This step can involve garnish of wages and other forms of enforced collection. We expect a stronger response at this stage.

5. Walcha Council Customer Request Management (CRM)

	1 M	1-2M	2-3M	3-6M	6M+	Total CRM	Nov 22
Planning & Environment	37	28	37	47	21	170	149
Engineering	54	38	3	12	13	120	92
Administration	1	1	0	0	4	6	7
Total Open CRM's	92	67	40	59	38	296	248

A CRM is created with an incoming request via customer service which is then assigned to the relevant area. The CRM is tracked and provides information including CRM status.

Note: CRM's 3 months or greater have increased from 78 in October to 97 in December and there are more open CRM's overall up from 262 to 296 open calls in December 2022.



6. Walcha Council Investment Report

REGISTER OF INVESTMENTS TO 30 NOVEMBER 2022

Institution	Type	Placement Date	Term (Days)	Maturity Date	Interest Rate	Amount Invested	Est. Interest	Est. Market Value At Maturity	YTD Interest	MV % of Portfolio
nab	TD	6/09/2022	90	5/12/2022	3.08%	500,000.00	3,797.27	503,797.27		3.98%
CommonwealthBank	TD	19/04/2022	240	15/12/2022	1.66%	1,049,075.00	11,450.73	1,060,525.73		8.36%
nab	TD	6/09/2022	120	4/01/2023	3.26%	500,000.00	5,358.91	505,358.91		3.98%
nab	TD	6/09/2022	120	4/01/2023	3.23%	533,371.36	5,663.98	539,035.34	1,782.65	4.25%
nab	TD	16/06/2022	210	12/01/2023	3.10%	254,969.77	4,547.54	259,517.32		2.03%
CommonwealthBank	TD	29/07/2022	182	27/01/2023	3.27%	603,774.44	9,886.92	613,661.50	1,151.84	4.81%
nab	TD	10/10/2022	120	7/02/2023	3.55%	557,235.37	6,503.63	563,739.00	2,425.97	4.44%
CommonwealthBank	TD	14/10/2022	122	13/02/2023	3.59%	501,800.00	6,021.33	507,821.33	1,800.00	4.00%
CommonwealthBank	TD	26/09/2022	150	23/02/2023	3.84%	503,057.53	7,938.66	510,996.20	3,057.53	4.01%
CommonwealthBank	TD	26/09/2022	150	23/02/2023	3.84%	503,057.53	7,938.66	510,996.20	3,057.53	4.01%
nab	TD	3/08/2022	210	1/03/2023	3.35%	254,341.40	4,902.17	259,243.57	613.12	2.03%
CommonwealthBank	TD	6/09/2022	181	6/03/2023	3.61%	1,000,000.00	18,001.64	1,018,001.64		7.97%
CommonwealthBank	TD	6/09/2022	181	6/03/2023	3.61%	1,000,000.00	18,001.64	1,018,001.64		7.97%
nab	TD	7/11/2022	150	6/04/2023	3.91%	1,004,416.44	16,139.46	1,020,555.90	4,416.44	8.00%
CommonwealthBank	TD	26/09/2022	210	24/04/2023	4.11%	503,057.53	11,895.59	514,953.12	3,057.53	4.01%
CommonwealthBank	TD	26/09/2022	210	24/04/2023	4.11%	503,057.53	11,895.59	514,953.12	3,057.53	4.01%
nab	TD	15/11/2022	181	15/05/2023	4.05%	635,946.88	12,772.08	648,718.96	4,721.23	5.07%
CommonwealthBank	TD	27/10/2022	210	25/05/2023	4.10%	1,006,460.27	23,741.43	1,030,201.70	9,082.87	8.02%
nab	TD	4/08/2022	365	4/08/2023	3.70%	623,670.25	23,075.80	646,746.05	1,355.46	4.97%
nab	TD	16/09/2022	365	16/09/2023	4.20%	255,778.05	10,742.69	266,520.74	1,380.02	2.04%
nab	TD	4/10/2022	365	4/10/2023	4.40%	255,017.13	11,220.75	266,237.88	1,446.05	2.03%
Average rate					3.60%	12,548,086.50	231,496.47	12,779,583.11	42,405.77	100%

Capital Value of Portfolio	12,548,086.50
Redeemed Value of Portfolio	-
Market Value of Portfolio 30/09/2022	12,779,583.11
Estimated Profit/(Loss) 30/09/2022	231,496.61

The average rate of investments increased from 2.89% in September to 3.60% in November due to increasing TD rates. This is expected to continue in the current market.

PREVIOUS FINANCIAL YEAR COMPARATIVE 30/11/2021

Interest Earned YTD	4,781.29
Market Value of Portfolio	4,348,869.69
Average interest rate	0.31%

Institutional Exposure

	Investment at Market Value	% of Portfolio
CommonwealthBank	7,173,340	57%
nab	5,374,747	43%
	12,548,087	100%

Responsible Accounting Officer's Certification Local Government (General) Regulation 2005 - Paragraph 212

The investments have been made in accordance with the Act, Regulations and Walcha Council's Investment Policy.

Signed Christian Martin (Responsible Accounting Officer)



Community Services and Tourism

Current Grants		
Preschool	Community Grants – Increasing ATSI enrolment and engagement	Extension received until 31/3/2023
Youth	Summer Break Holiday Program	Approved
	Youth Opportunities Grant	Applied
Community Recovery	Greenwaste Grant	Successful - \$804,195
	Disaster Risk Reduction Fund (Infrastructure team)	Successful - \$244,258.52 over 18 months

Operational Overview	
WCCC	<p>Community Care is winding down its' program for the year. The Christmas party will be held at the Bowling Club.</p> <p>Meals on wheels will continue to be delivered throughout the close down.</p>
Preschool	<p>The last day of preschool will be Thursday 15 December 2022.</p> <p>Enrolment numbers are looking good for 2023.</p>
Library & Youth	The Summer Holiday Program is shaping up to be a fantastic program funded once again by Dept Regional NSW.
Early Intervention	Early intervention will close over the December / January school holidays.
Tourism	<p>The Rally was a fantastic success and the advisory committee and tourism staff should be congratulated on the smooth running of the event.</p> <p>Planning is underway for the annual "thank you" and familiarisation tour for the volunteers. The tourism volunteers ensure the office can stay open most of the year, and a thank you lunch is a small way to show our appreciation.</p>
Community Recovery	Brookes last official day was 30 November. Brooke has made a big impact on the communities that she has directly been involved with. Resilience NSW has also written a glowing letter about Brookes work



	ethic and impact she has had on their whole team. She will be missed.
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Priorities for December

- Reviewing payment systems for meals on wheels clients
- Ensuring things are up to date prior to taking planned leave in December



1. Walcha Council Community Care (WCCC)

November 2022

1.1 Groups

We have had a number of fantastic group experiences this month. We started out with our annual Melbourne Cup luncheon for the ladies' group instead of our regular morning tea. We had sweeps, a hat competition, pink champagne and rolling courses over the afternoon. The ladies had a fabulous time and can't wait to do it again next year.

The following week we took a huge group to Copeton Dam to see what it looks like at capacity. 33 clients, two buses and three staff for a massive day that included a bbq, a quick stop at Guyra and Tingha on the way up and Uralla for ice creams on the way home. The roads made for a very bumpy ride but we made it back in one piece, tired but happy.

The men's group took a trip to Inverell to the Transport Museum. This was a fascinating look at some incredible machinery from over the years. We followed this up with lunch at the club before the obligatory ice cream stop in Armidale.

The art group also did an end of year excursion to NERAM to see some local exhibitors as well as some incredible installations from artists all over the country. This was followed up with lunch at the Top Pub in Uralla. A huge thank you to Sue Jackson for her volunteering and dedication to the group.





Women's Group 1/11/22- 17 16/11/22- 7	Men's Group 8/11/22- 12 22/11/22- 9
Art Group 30/11/22- 6	Bingo 12/11/22- 15 26/11/22- 15
Friday Takeaway 4/11/22- 12 11/11/22- 7 25/11/22- cxl due to staff illness	Card Group 8/11/22- 6 15/11/22- 4 22/11/22- 5 29/11/22- 4
Community Café 18/11/22- 8	Joint Excursion 9/11/22- 33

1.2 Transport – November 2022

Medical drives – 37 trips were delivered during the month, including local trips as well as to Tamworth and Armidale.

Walcha Access bus (every Friday) 4/11/22- 0 11/11/22- 0 18/11/22- 2 25/11/22- 0	Bus to Armidale (every Thursday) 3/11/22- 6 10/11/22- 6 17/11/22- 4 24/11/22- 8
Bus to Tamworth (monthly) 25/11/22- 3	
Taxi Vouchers – 23 clients used the service with 190 trips being provided.	



1.3 Meals on Wheels

Meals on Wheels volunteers are back in place and we now have a completed monthly roster for this. All security check ups (including police checks) are being maintained to ensure they are up to date.

This month clients received hot main meals with some of those clients also receiving desserts and frozen meals throughout the 7-day week.

The total number of meals this month was: 621

Main: 325

Frozen: 151

Dessert: 145

1.5 Feedback and Complaints

We had a number of clients thank us for the various excursions we have been on lately, including a thumbs up in the Advocate for our trip to the Peony farm the previous month. We are also seeing great engagement from the clients in their assistance in coming up with creative excursions for us to go on. All of the events in November were at the request of clients and were extremely successful and positive.

Jess Goodwin

Community Care Coordinator

2. Library and Youth

November 2022

- Loans: 560
- Returns: 628
- Reservations placed & issued: 181
- New members: 1
- Door count: 808
- Wi-fi use: 57
- Computer use: 82
- Housebound: 87

Other statistics:

- eLibrary: Borrow Box
 - 77 users
 - 193 eAudiobooks
 - 102 eBooks

The Walcha Library's loans and returns have dropped again this month, compared with October. Reservations placed and issued have remained steady. New member registrations dropped again to only 1, which is well below average. The door count dropped, compared with the previous month which included some school holiday activities and events. Computer usage and public



use of the wifi only changed slightly. The number of members using the Borrow Box eLibrary, and the number of eBook and eAudiobook loans have remained similar to last month.

Outreach & Promotion

Outreach and library promotional activities have allowed Walcha Library to engage with the community this month. They include:

- The notice board in the library window regularly being updated with library and community information and events
- Staff have continued to use a systematic and measured approach to the use of social media to engage with the community and library members this month
- As part of the Walcha Literary Festival, Walcha Library were invited to ‘fill a gap’ in the program, when an author cancelled at the last minute, due to Covid. Council librarian, Cassie McKenna organised to visit the school on both days, to deliver workshops to both Year 5-6 and Years 3-4. School youth worker, Karen, interviewed Cassie in a fun, informal way, to share information about the local ‘town’ library, its collection, facilities and membership. They played an impromptu storytelling game with the students called “Fortunately/Unfortunately”, and worked on a writing task based on the ‘Treehouse Series’ by Andy Griffiths and Terry Denton. Students engaged in the storytelling activities, while also getting to know and further developing a rapport with Walcha Library staff.

Social media

The popularity of the Walcha Library Facebook page only slightly increased this month, with 1 new person following the page - currently 317 followers. Staff have continued to use the systematic approach to ensure the content was engaging, useful and an effective use of staff time. The library shared 11 posts on the Facebook page, reaching 1079 people (reach overall increased by 18%). The 2 Instagram posts shared throughout November received 20 ‘likes’ and 60 views. Library and Youth Instagram posts are now followed by 235 people, with 2 new followers again this month.


The programs, activities and information shared via Facebook and Instagram this month have been broken into two categories below, Engagement & Service content:

Engagement content: fun and interactive posts shared to engage with the library community and/or acknowledge events/themes being celebrated in wider community	# people reached on Facebook	People engaging on Instagram	
Total 1 engagement posts	596		
Share of information from local Stargazer Chris Wyatt about Lunar Eclipse	596		



<p>Promotion of Walcha Library Seed Library</p>	<p>6</p>		
<p>Author & illustrator talks; report and pics of guest speakers at Walcha Library as part of the Walcha Literary Festival</p>	<p>210</p>	<p>20</p>	
<p>Advertising of Walcha Literary Festival guest speakers visiting Walcha Council Library (and updates due to Covid)</p>	<p>679, 86, 136</p>	<p>87, 96,</p>	



<p>Promotional 'boomerang' video: DVD collection targeting youth</p> <p><i>"Low on data? Internet too slow for streaming? Borrow DVD's from Walcha Library."</i></p>		<p>60 views</p>	
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Programs

The Walcha Puzzle Library has now been catalogued & barcoded, and the collection is officially in the CNRL Spydus library system. Data about usage can be collected through the system, rather than the previous manual collection. Donations continue to come in from community members, so that the collection can be fine tuned to include the puzzles in best condition.

Library Volunteer, Veronica, continues to aid at the library on Monday mornings and Friday afternoons. Both shifts are during the peak item processing times at the library and ensures efficient use of the additional assistance. This month she has also worked on projects such as shelf cleaning, filing membership paperwork, barcoding puzzles and filling the seed library display. Veronica was also able to help with the Walcha Literary Festival, by operating the library while library staff were busy with workshops.

Storytime and Baby Booktime was successful this month with one family and one family daycare group attending; 6 children in total. With one new baby visiting for the first time, it was a suitable group for the newborn and his mum to attend. They listened to 3-4 books, participated in songs and games with the librarian, and they set to colouring in a joint colouring in, intended to be sent to the elderly residents of the local nursing home.

Housebound library services were arranged with Riverview and delivered by Walcha Library staff and volunteers this month. A collection hand-picked for the Riverview residents and a number of housebound individuals were ordered and delivered in the last week of the month. On a sad note, a number of library members have passed away recently, and many of those were receiving deliveries as part of this program. In fact, staff discovered with the recent membership audit, that this year alone, 9 of Walcha Library's members have deceased.

The kids-corner activity sheet 'Walcha Library Penpals' for children to colour and send to Riverview with their book delivery, continued this month. A display was created with the illustrations developed by the participants of the Illustrator Sara Acton's workshop, including a display of some of her titles available in the CNRL picture book collection.



The Walcha Library Book club met this month as usual in the library, with 7 members in attendance. There were 3 members at the 'Taphouse' Book club this month. Social media was used to help promote the bookclubs, and encourage new membership.



This promotion will continue over the next few months until the club fills up with active members again.

The Walcha Literary Festival was held this month over two days, Monday 7th and Tuesday 8th of November. It involved a series of workshops and author talks held predominately at Walcha Central School. Both primary and secondary students participated in the program, and the local small schools and St Patricks Primary were invited to participate also. Walcha Council Library engaged the help of colleagues at the Central Northern Regional Library to assist the festival co-ordinator, Walcha Central School Teacher-Librarian John Stanton, to find locally based authors to help fill the program. To include the wider community in the festival, the Walcha Library hosted two of the sessions: author Rowan McAuley and author/illustrator Sara Acton, run two after-school workshops. The workshops were a great opportunity for the children who enjoyed the school-based activity to ask more questions, or seek more advice and knowledge from the guest speakers. It also provided the opportunity for the wider community, parents and students from other schools, and the home-school community, to engage with the festival too. Council library staff also spent some time assisting with promotion of the event through flyers, posters, and social media.



The number of members and visitors using the library facilities for study related purposes has remained high again this month. The free wifi and quiet study areas have been utilised at least 4-5 times per week this month for study purposes. Staff have continued to encourage the increase in afterschool teenage visitors at the library.

Library staff have continued to work with the Walcha Historical Society this month, to help with a project they are working on, to complete a stocktake and confirm cataloguing of their collection. Due to the crossover of the space, and some of the collection, library staff have assisted where possible.

Training

Library coordinator Cassie McKenna didn't complete any training this month, other than a StateCover workshop for all Council leaders. But has organised for first aid training in December, in preparation for the upcoming holiday program.

Youth activities

Youth services staff have spent November busily planning the Summer School Holiday activities. Successful in the application for the NSW Governments Office of Regional Youth's Summer Break Program, an additional \$15,000 was granted for holiday activities. Included in the program is 2 workshops (dance and art), 2 excursions (Stoney Aquapark & Tamworth Paintball) and 2 events (Lego Masters & Pool Party). These activities will be held in addition to the holiday activities provided by the library, which will include Christmas craft, outreach Storytime sessions and STEM



workshops. The ideas for these holiday activities were gathered from young people through Council's Youth Strategy, at the previous Youth Advisory Meetings and through feedback gathered in the Spring school holiday program surveys.

Cassie McKenna
Library Coordinator

3. Preschool

November 2022

During this year we have been reflecting on the possibility of changing the names of our rooms. Currently they are Polar Bears (3-4 years) and Penguins (4-5 years), we wanted to have names that more represent and reflect our local area/community. It was decided that we would use Australian animals, the choices came down to Koala, Kangaroo, Bilby & Kookaburras. To be inclusive of families and the children, we created a voting poll for the parents to have their say and we have been using visual cards for the children also be included in the decision. By doing this we are meeting *Quality Area 6 (Collaborative partnerships with families and communities:*

- Standard 6.1 - Respectful relationships with families and
- Standard 6.2 - Collaborative partnerships enhance children's inclusion, learning and wellbeing of the National Quality Standards (NQS).

There is a set of 7 quality areas that we are assessed on from the Department of Education. We undergo assessment and rating against these standards every 3-5 years and we are assessed on how we meet or do not meet NQS.

We have celebrated Remembrance Day, by making poppies and placing them in our garden at the entrance to the preschool. We read a story called 'Billy's Story' of an Armidale family whose son joined the Australian Army and went off to war in Gallipoli in 1915, the book shares the story of Billy and how other people like him served our country so that we could be safe and free. We are encouraging children and families to discuss and remember the people who fought for our country.

By programming experiences like these for children the Educators are building relationships with the children to support and maintain relationships. This celebration assists us in meeting our *Quality Area 5, Relationships with children* and *Quality Area 1, Educational Program and Practice:*

- Standard 1.1 - The educational program enhances each child's learning and development.

We are also required under our regulations to carry out emergency evacuation and lockdown practices every three months. This can be very daunting for some of our younger children, so we need to plan and discuss these well before we need to do them so they are prepared and confident if an actual emergency was to arise. Debbie was reading a story called Fireman Jake to the younger class (3-4 years) and this sparked a spontaneous discussion, evacuations and fire drills, smoke alarms and ringing 000. Debbie spoke to the children about where they live, if they knew their address or a phone number. Most children knew they lived in Walcha.



We are completing documentation for *Quality Area 1* to meet our NQS requirements.

Mel Clark
Preschool Nominated Supervisor

4. Tourism

November 2022

Number of visitors to Visitor Information Centre (VIC)

NOVEMBER	2022	2021	2020	2019
Walk in's	390	284	VIC closed	334
Phone enquiries	74	35	lockdowns	167
Email enquiries	45	92		350
				Bandaid motorcycle event

WEBSITE STATISTICS	November	October	Sept	August
www.walchansw.com.au				
Visits	24,129	26,981	25,308	20,292
Pages	311,603	239,089	166,669	339,713
Hits	561,735	542,202	434,011	652,097

Note: 2,558 website hits came to the Walcha Tourism website from the Walcha Motorcycle Rally website. I boosted our Walcha Boutique Shopping video on 28 November to encourage shopping in Walcha for Christmas. This generated great reach on Facebook, leading to an increase in website visits. Our Walcha shopping video can be viewed at [\(1\) Wild Walcha: shopping - YouTube](#)

SOCIAL MEDIA – WALCHA TOURISM



Facebook + Instagram Insights

Insight period: 01/11/22 - 30/11/22

Notes:

- Total Facebook Posts: 15/ Total Facebook Posts by EJ Freelance: 5
- Total Instagram Posts: 10 / Total Instagram posts by EJ Freelance: 5
- Total Facebook Stories: 20/ Total Instagram Stories: 20
- Note: Instagram reach and engagement seems to be low for many accounts lately. Good to see Facebook engagement increase, despite reach decrease. Account followers continue to grow and reach is greater than followers, so this is positive.

Facebook Followers	Facebook Reach	Facebook Engagement	Instagram Followers	Instagram Reach	Instagram Engagement
1,554	15,786	5,462	795	1,275	283
Number of accounts that 'like' this page	Number of accounts that saw any of our posts at least once	Number of accounts that interacted with content (e.g. through likes, comments, shares + saves)	Number of accounts that follow this account	Number of accounts that saw any of our posts at least once	Number of accounts that interacted with content (e.g. through likes, comments, shares + saves)
Comparison to Previous Period	Comparison to Previous Period	Comparison to Previous Period	Comparison to Previous Period	Comparison to Previous Period	Comparison to Previous Period
+26	-43.1%	+38.9%	+11	-58.4%	-22.7%

Top 3 Performing Posts (by reach) – Facebook

Recent content	Type	Reach	Likes and reactio...	Comments	Shares	Link clicks
Fantastic write up on our local lege... Wed Nov 9, 2:54am	Post Boost post	8,341	562	58	58	47
Located deep in the Kunderang Br... Sun Nov 20, 10:16pm	Posted by EJ Freelance	3,081	191	25	17	42
A great time was had by all the mo... Thu Nov 24, 6:11pm	Post Boost post	3,063	252	30	18	...

Top 3 Performing Posts (by reach) – Instagram

Recent content	Type	Reach	Likes and reactio...	Comments	Shares
Apsley Falls after last big rain. Wow... Fri Nov 4, 1:35am	Reels	667	84	3	19
Located deep in the Kunderang Br... Sun Nov 20, 10:16pm	Posted by EJ Freelance	517	99	6	28
This festive season, check out ... Tue Nov 15, 10:00pm	Posted by EJ Freelance	454	49	0	0

Walcha Motorcycle Rally

Approximately 1400 people attended the showground during the 2.5 day event, with hundreds more lining the street for the motorcycle street procession. There was a terrific friendly and positive buzz in Walcha during the event, which successfully brought visitors from far and wide to Walcha to enjoy our town, its hospitality, great riding and most importantly inject much needed tourism dollars and encourage return visitation.



The main events and activities were run on Friday and Saturday (to capitalise on when our local businesses are open) with most attendees arriving on Thursday and leaving early Sunday morning. Many stayed in Walcha for 3 nights. There were approximately 430 people staying per night (180 beds in Walcha plus 250 campers at showground) x av. 2.5 nights = 1,075 overnight stays in Walcha. Approx. 400 day trippers attended and approx. 175 locals purchased tickets, with around 60 locals volunteering at the event. Children 16 and under were admitted free with a paying supervising adult. Local food outlets, accommodation providers, supermarkets, fuel and other retailers were well supported by the increase in visitors to the area. Responses to our post-event survey to ticketholders showed that 98% of attendees visited our local businesses.

Using calculations from the Destination NSW National Visitor Survey - Travel to Regional NSW (March 2022), on a per person spend it is estimated that the 2022 Walcha Motorcycle Rally brought an estimated economic benefit to the Walcha community of approximately \$242,700. Source: [Time Series \(destinationnsw.com.au\)](https://www.destinationnsw.com.au)

I would like to thank the voluntary Walcha Motorcycle Rally committee for their work on this event for tourism and also the generous sponsors who financially supported the event. A huge thanks also to the terrific volunteer contingent of "Friends of the Rally" who so generously donated their time during the event. All in all, a great event for Walcha tourism with many positive comments continuing to flow and excitement already building for next year's event.

The Walcha Motorcycle Rally website visitors peaked during November as can be seen in the table below.

Month	Unique visitors	Number of visits	Pages	Hits
Jun 2022	1,282	1,997	5,980	76,224
Jul 2022	1,100	2,627	5,566	50,035
Aug 2022	1,461	2,939	11,979	120,288
Sept 2022	3,620	5,555	11,428	259,788
Oct 2022	3,851	5,702	13,362	304,584
Nov 2022	4,756	7,271	15,125	383,957

Visitor Information Centre – Visitor book comments

Some of the comments from visitors to the Walcha Visitor Information Centre during November include: *Wonderful, helpful, pretty town, friendly locals, lovely town, very helpful.*

Lisa Kirton
Tourism and Visitor Information Services Coordinator



5. Community Recovery Officer

October 2022

This month saw me completing end of program tasks, preparing stakeholders for the end of the Community Recovery Officer program and planning the structure and running of future network meetings that I've been heavily involved in. The **CRO Transition Plan** was used as a working document this month, with tasks and remaining actions being reviewed and allocated and shared with Executive Managers and Directors within council to ensure a smooth handover.

The Regional Drought Resilience Plan (RDRP) Project Control Group (PCG) received the review comments template from CSIRO on the Tamworth-Walcha RDRP. The PCG had a couple of weeks to review the comments and respond which were then for discussion at a virtual PCG meeting later in the month. The PCG agreed that having CSIRO attend a meeting to discuss their comments on the plan would be beneficial to the group. The chair of the group from Tamworth Regional Council is continuing to liaise with the consultant, Regional NSW and arrange PCG meetings. The Director of Infrastructure will continue to represent Walcha Council in this group.

Greenwaste grant – I have been assisting with project management and administration of the EPA Bushfire Greenwaste clean-up program combined with regular monthly reporting and working with the contractor on the project. I have started the final report to assist Council in wrapping up the project. It is expected the project and work will be completed by Tuesday 6 December 2022

Yarrowitch re-build - I was able to attend Kangaroo Flat Road and check on site progress for the re-build taking place under Disaster Welfare Assistance, which is the only one in this area. The modular home is well underway and fit out is taking place inside and cement slabs have been poured for tanks and solar. It was great to see this re-build commence and monumental for the land owner and family as it has now almost been three years since the fires.

Moona Plains Community Group - The Moona Plains Community group continued their mapping exercise during this month, mapping houses/dwellings in their area and encouraging new residents to complete a contact details form. On 27 November 2022, they held a neighbourhood Christmas gathering at a picnic area in nearby National Park area and some new faces and families attended. The organisers were very happy with the turnout and from that afternoon their Facebook group has grown and interest in what they are trying to achieve. The A0 size map of dwellings around their area is complete and being copied and laminated and shared with emergency services in our local area prior to the end of the CRO program.

Community Resilience Network (CRN) - The Walcha Community Resilience Network held the last meeting for the year on 29 November 2022. There were approximately nine people who attended in person and a couple through teams. I was able to distribute the minutes and the draft ToR (Terms of Reference) for the group to review before the next meeting in March 2023.

End of Program - This last month of November I have reflected and spoken to many community members and stakeholders who have been involved in the overall program over the last two and



half years. There were many phone calls, end of program coffees and thank you emails over this month. The gratitude, thank you's and acknowledgment of good work has been overwhelming.

I would like to acknowledgement and thank Walcha Council for embracing the CRO Program and allowing me to utilize and build on skills to support various projects within local government area during the program timeframe. The flexibility and opportunity for me to strive to meet and exceed the deliverables within the Council framework, while working independently, has attributed to the success of this program within the Walcha LGA.

Brooke Jeffery
Community Recovery Officer



Item 10:

Committee Reports

RECOMMENDATION: THAT Council RECEIVE and NOTE the Committee Reports as presented.



Walcha Council Tourism Advisory Committee Meeting

held on

Tuesday, 18 October 2022

at

9:00am

at

Walcha Council Chambers

PRESENT:

Clr Aurora Reilly (Chairperson), Karen Kermode (Executive Manager Community & Tourism), Lisa Kirton (Tourism Coordinator), Corinne Annetts (Tourism Officer), Aaron Simmon (NPWS Area Manager for New England), Jane Morrison.

1. APOLOGIES:

Louise Clarke

2. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 20 May 2021:

The Committee **RESOLVED** on the motion of Kirton and Morrison that the minutes of the meeting of the Walcha Council Tourism Advisory Committee held at Walcha Council Chambers, 20 May 2021, copies of which were distributed to all members, be taken as read and confirmed a **TRUE** record.

Committee Minutes



3. BUSINESS ARISING:

3.1 Purpose of Committee

The Tourism Advisory Committee has been reinstated and the conditions are to be reviewed. The previous function of the committee was to advise Council on high level strategic tourism promotion. Discussion around either changing or adding to the function to include: to formally engage with key tourism stakeholders (i.e. National Parks, Historical Society, indigenous representation) and interested community members on tourism related issues. Executive Manager Community & Tourism stated that the role of the committee is to provide Council with input into matters of tourism. Executive Manager Tourism & Community will email Code of Conduct Policy to all members which will require signing before next meeting.

3.2 Apsley Falls Entrance Upgrade

NPWS Area Manager reported that the Apsley Falls upgrade is a beautiful feature with new trees planted and work done by Council of an excellent standard. One rock wall has been finished and the second wall is a work in progress as funding has run out. NPWS will pursue the concept of a sculpture, incorporating Soundtrail and the rainbow serpent story. Amaroo LALC (indigenous representation) to be approached as advisory and community involvement. Stephen King has been engaged as an onsite artist for assistance in the concept. NPWS will engage the work in collaboration with Amaroo LALC and the community. Executive Manager Tourism & Community will look at cultural grants. NPWS Area Manager to investigate budget required to complete work. May need to be a staged project.

Upgrade to Apsley Falls campground works are almost complete with sealed roads and caravan RV access. Signage in lead up to Apsley Falls has been highlighted as limited for displaying caravan access. Exact signage to be assessed and followed up by NPWS. Possibility of signage 2km from entrance. Original Arch placement to be completed, a site has been decided on, near the BBQ and raised to include an information plaque with image.

Mooraback cabin upgrade has been completed, two-bedroom cabin with paved area and firepit. Will go live for bookings in mid-December.

3.3 EV Charging Station

General Manager had a meeting with two Representatives from NRMA who plan to install two EV charging stations out the front of police station. NRMA will complete work. Discussion around whether they will be user pays? This information not known. Currently limited information available. The committee requests tourism to be updated on this. Renewable energy developers may be a possible sponsor for EV charging.

3.4 Plaque for Mosaic – Rainbow Serpent

Sue Green has queried placing a plaque for the rainbow serpent story. She is working on a grant for maintenance works on this indigenous artwork with assistance from the Walcha



Community Hub (operated by the Walcha Neighbourhood Centre). Update from Sue to be requested.

3.5 Town/Boundary Signage

Carried over from last TAC Meeting in regards to work already done by the Arts Advisory Committee. Request to ensure boundary signage is designed in collaboration with Arts Advisory Committee to ensure it is in keeping with the Walcha look and feel. To be followed up and check previous minutes from Arts Council. Executive Manager, Tourism & Community to discuss with Director Infrastructure & Development.

Current TASAC (Tourist Attraction Signposting Assessment Committee) approved – Walcha entrance to town signage which includes, Welcome to Walcha sign and directional signage to Visitor Information Centre and caravan park are reflective at night and standard in their appearance. Concerns were raised over promotional caravan park signage being placed over the top of the standard approved caravan park directional signage, these promotional caravan park signs are not reflective at night and now promote a commercial business. There is also an indication that Council operates the caravan park, with these promotional signs being on Council signs. Request a review be undertaken. What is Council's policy on private business promotional signage being placed on town entrances?

Note: TASAC (Tourist Attraction Signposting Assessment Committee)

TASAC is a group formed by the NSW State Government to have overall responsibility for the planning and implementation of tourist signposting systems. TASAC is made up of representatives of Destination NSW, the RMS and Destination Networks (DNs).

3.6 Indigenous Handout – Invitation to Amaroo LALC

Sue Green has indicated that there is no indigenous information/handout in the VIC representing the local indigenous history/community. Tourism staff have previously invited Amaroo LALC to provide them with information so a handout can be created. Possibility to transcribe information from Soundtrails and provide in a different format.

Amaroo LALC has been contacted for representation at TAC meetings. Waiting response. To be followed up.

3.7 Caravan Access to Water

Update - dump point is located outside the depot and freshwater is required for caravans/RV as freshwater access is only at McHattan Park. Investigated a *Tap & Go* system with cost being \$20,000. Provide a separate tap with freshwater away from dump point to avoid misuse of freshwater. Investigate grants for funding a *Tap & Go*.

3.8 Tourism Social Media Pages

Promotion through social media is well underway promoting our key tourism sites and events. Historical society Facebook page is being managed and is available to be shared



to tourism and other pages for promotion. Insights from social media has been increasing and Tourism page regularly updated.

3.9 Possible Future Grant Projects

-Sculpture plaques with artwork Title, Artist, date. Ensure future sculptures cost includes plaque.

-*Tap & Go* water.

-NPWS cultural grant, Apsley Falls.

-Heritage Grant, image display on historical buildings.

3.10 Carson's Lookout signage

Carson's Lookout Information and signage requires updating, it was originally installed by Lions Gloucester. To follow up.

4. GENERAL BUSINESS

4.1 Youdales Hut Opening

Open day at Youdales Hut this weekend 22/10/2022. Fully booked over 100 people attending.

4.2 NPWS Virtual Experience Supper

NPWS has engaged a videographer with time-lapse photos and would like to create a virtual experience and photo display over a supper in collaboration with the community. The Museum could be an option to host.

4.3 Mountain Bike Track

Update on Crown Land and land title. Active lease?

Great track requires signage and parking to be provided for tourism to be able to promote.

An event was held recently New England Mountain Bikers (NEMTB).

Chris Feltham may have some insight. To be followed up.

4.4 History Centre – images

Family history centre clean-up has located original images from the old buildings around Walcha. Would be great to have displays outside of each historic building with the original image. Now and then. Opportunity to enhance the historic buildings walk.

Possible grant Local Government Heritage Grant closes December. Executive Manager Tourism & Community to investigate.

5. NEXT MEETING

Tuesday 7 February 2023

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS THE MEETING CLOSED AT 10:04AM



Walcha Council Capital Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

held on

Thursday, 24 November 2022

at

8.00 am

at

Walcha Council Chambers

The Acting General Manager and Chair welcomed all members and declared the meeting open.

PRESENT: Mayor - Eric Noakes, Cllr Mark Berry, Cllr Scott Kermode, Director Infrastructure & Development - Phillip Hood, Director Corporate & Community - Christian Martin and Senior Management Accountant - Rose Strobel.

IN ATTENDANCE: Works Manager Water and Waste – Alan Butler, Hunter H2O - Jeff Staples.

Committee Minutes



RECOMMENDATIONS FROM MEETING

4.1.4 Sewerage Inflow Infiltration (I&I)

RECOMMENDATION: That Council **APPROVE** the use of reserve funds of approximately (based on Q1 quotes) \$35,000 smoke testing, \$55,000 manhole asset inspection for a total of \$90,000.

4.2.1 South Street Pedestrian Crossing

RECOMMENDATION: That Council **APPROVE** the South Street Pedestrian project pending availability of grant funding.

1. APOLOGIES:

General Manager - Barry Omundson (Chairperson)

2. CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES HELD:

Minutes of meeting held 16 September 2022 were reviewed and confirmed.

Actions Arising and Actions Outstanding from the 16 September 2022 Meeting were noted.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

Nil

4. GENERAL BUSINESS:

4.1 Reports

4.1.1 Capital Grant Funding Progress Report and Update – Director Corporate & Community and Senior Management Accountant

Director Corporate and Community provided members with an update on Capital Works and Grant Funding including the following:

- the Lions Park Upgrade funding external restrictions as per the funding deed
- Englefield and Glen Morrison Bridge replacement works completion
- Amended budget totals and current grant funding totals in the context of plant reserves and external restrictions
- Levee Bank Solar Lighting Funding
- Bushfire generated Greenwaste target completion date, noting this has been extended to November 2022
- Englefield Bridge Replacement Final Reporting
- Levee Bank Solar Lighting Installation

4.1.2 Infrastructure Capital Works Progress – Director Infrastructure & Development

Director Infrastructure and Development provided members with an update on Infrastructure Capital Works including:

- Rehabilitation of old Crockford Road (priority project)
- Derby Street Upgrade Funding, including kerb and gutter works. Members discussed proposed geotechnical investigations for sections of water damaged road pavement.



4.1.3 Walcha Off-Creek Storage & HH20 Update – Manager – Water & Waste

Manager – Water & Waste provided members with an update on the Walcha Off-Creek Storage Project. Members discussed the below:

- Current Earthworks progress
- Confirmed the final depth and capacity of the storage - total storage is will be 300ML usable with 20ML dead storage for a total of 320ML
- The details of the sand filter construction and function
- Details of concrete works including the placement of the key
- Current and future water quality monitoring
- Location and functioning of potential outtakes/outlets

HH20 provided an update to members on the project progress and particulars as at November 2023 including:

- Progress of embankment and spillway construction works
- Risk of materially adverse site conditions and details of the process for approval of claims for any materially adverse site conditions
- Minor variations and established triggers for rock refusal
- Spillway construction, function, operation, contingent rates and potential variations
- Spillway crossing and culvert details
- Material quantities and properties (1B & 1A)
- Concrete placement works in the new year (2023)
- The upcoming HH20 Workshop
- Potential Scope and Cost adjustments for the project as a whole
- General progress of Package 1 works
- Topsoil disposal and potential alternative uses
- Moisture content and compaction testing of earthworks
- Earthworks consolidation monitoring
- Programming – (works are currently tracking ahead of program)
- Timeframe for delivery of design elements
- Environmental Management – Erosion and Sediment Control and EPA reporting
- Contingency – proposal to increase to 1.8M (an increase of 70K since the September Budget Report)
- Package 6A rising main construction procurement options
- Potential nomination of the Walcha Off-Creek Storage project for the AWA awards

ACTION: HH20 to obtain a quote from KCE for Package 6A Rising Main Construction Works.

ACTION: That HH20 nominate the Walcha Off-Creek Storage Project for an AWA Award.

4.1.4 Sewerage Inflow Infiltration (I&I) – Manager – Water & Waste

Members discussed the Sewerage Inflow Infiltration including current compliance. Manager – Water and Waste provided members with an update on current Water and Sewerage Treatment Plant Operations, including copper dosing for blue-green algae and reduction of water nutrient levels.



Recommendation: That Council APPROVE the use of reserve funds of approximately (based on Q1 quotes) \$35,000 smoke testing, \$55,000 manhole asset inspection for a total of 90k.

4.1.5 Depot, Plant and Fleet Update – Director Corporate & Community

Director Corporate & Community provided members with an update on matters relating to the Council Depot, plant and fleet operations including:

- Coordinator Plant and Fleet is organising batch plant works in preparation for arrival of the new Jet Patcher in May 2023.
- Light vehicle replacement underway - currently awaiting delivery of new vehicles
- Depot Batch Plant decommissioning and sale
- Underground Fuel Tank compliance and replacement
- The Plant Fund Review including:
 - o External plant hire rate comparison
 - o Proposed new external plant hire rates
 - o Internal plant hire rates
 - o Cost recovery/profit potential of external plant hire rates
 - o Specific items of plant for hire
 - o Review of plant hire policy
 - o Current RMCC rates, Fee for Service and Internal hire rates
 - o Introduction of schedule of rates for private works
 - o Proposed review of the revenue policy
 - o Current RMCC plant hire rates
 - o Potential Flag Fall rates for specific plant
 - o Current financial position of the plant fund
 - o Plant depreciation and indexing
 - o Hire rates for grant funded projects
 - o Plant Utilisation

ACTION: Director Corporate & Community to arrange for the Council Depot Batch Plant to be decommissioned and sold.

ACTION: Director Corporate & Community to circulate a new Schedule of Rates for private works external plant hire rates and update Council's Revenue Policy. The new Schedule of Rates to be tabled at the January CAC and the proposed Policy amendment is to be tabled at the December Council Meeting.

4.1.6 Outdoor Staff and Equipment Resourcing – Director Infrastructure & Development

Members discussed current resourcing challenges for Council including staff and equipment shortages. Members discussed the current RMCC maintenance and capital works including current and proposed Thunderbolts Way works and Oxley Highway works. Director of Infrastructure and Development advise of a likely increase to RMCC works.

Members discussed resourcing in the context of upcoming approved works including:

- o Derby Street Upgrade



-
- o Middle and Walsh Street Rehabilitation
 - o Thunderbolts Way Safety Upgrade Program
 - o Potential need for an additional grader crew

4.1.7 Regional Roads Funding Allocation – Director Infrastructure & Development

Members discussed the current Regional Roads Grant Funding Allocation including:

- Intention to award the construction tender for Derby Street Upgrade Works in June 2023
- Old Crockford Road Rehabilitation

4.1.8 Mill-Hole Levee Bank Restoration Update - Director Infrastructure & Development

Director Infrastructure & Development advised members that an onsite meeting was held with Soil Conservation Services to discuss potential solutions for Levee bank scouring. A bank rock revetment has been proposed, to be funded from Disaster Recovery Funding. There may also be potential for gabion rock installation. All works will be undertaken under the guidance of Soil Conservation Services. The works proposal will be submitted to Public Works prior to approval and commencement of works.

4.2 Project Applications

4.2.1 South Street Pedestrian Crossing – Director Infrastructure & Development

Members discussed the South Street Pedestrian Crossing including:

- o Proposed location of crossing
- o Viability of project as whole
- o Potential for approval of project pending funding

Recommendation: That council APPROVE the South Street Pedestrian project pending availability of grant funding.

5. OTHER BUSINESS:

5.2 Bi-Monthly Meeting Proposal

Members agreed to the CAC being held bi-monthly in 2023.

Next meeting date: **19 January 2023.**

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS THE CHAIR DECLARED THE MEETING CLOSED AT 12:00PM.

Walcha Council Youth Advisory Committee Meeting



Held on

Tuesday 29 November 2022

at

11.35am

at

St Patricks Primary School, Walcha

PRESENT:

Clr Aurora Reilly – Chairperson, Cassie McKenna – Youth Worker and Library coordinator, Karen Kermode - Director Community & Tourism, Hugo Blomfield, Sarah Swanton, Anika McKenna, Troy Hawkins, Simon Wellings and Hannah Swain.

IN ATTENDANCE:

Karen Barnes and Ben Ussher (Walcha Central School), Donna Harrison (St Patricks Primary School).

1. APOLOGIES: Dallas Hyatt.

2. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING HELD 16 AUGUST 2022:

Minutes were taken to be a true and accurate record – Karen Barnes and Cassie McKenna.

Committee Minutes

3. BUSINESS ARISING:

3.1 Skate Park Update – Trees have been removed and construction is due to commence in February 2023

3.2 Lions Park Update – Construction is planned to start in February 2023.

4. GENERAL BUSINESS:

4.1 Summer School holiday program - Cassie gave an overview of the events planned for the December/January Summer School holiday program. We have been successful in obtaining funding, so some higher cost activities have been planned such as:

- Clicking Bricks – hosted by ex Lego Masters contestants
- Stoney Aqua Park – day trip to Port Macquarie
- Paintball
- Pool Party
- Workshops – Resin Art & Dance Fusion

Karen Barnes provided some additional ideas of activities that can be done at the pool party that were collected by youth parliament students at WCS.

4.2 Youth Opportunities Grant – Youth Gym Project

We still have not heard the outcome of this grant application.

4.3 Youth week planning

The Committee has been asked to speak to their friends and classmates and bring back some Youth Week ideas for our next meeting to be held in early February 2023.

Early ideas are go kart derby & a festival similar to last years activity.

4.4 Program review

The Committee was asked for the best way to review our school holiday activities program. The following ways were suggested:

- Meet with groups of interested students at the school
- Meet with School Parliament (meet twice per term)
- Invite interested youth to meet at library (like 2022 Youth Week Working Group)
- The library Instagram page is used to gather ideas from students who attend school outside of Walcha, or who are home schooled.

4.5 Festival Friday

Karen Barnes let the Committee members know about their upcoming Festival Friday. It is for the whole community to be involved in, and is being held at the showground to encourage everyone to attend. It is on the last day of school for 2022, Friday 16 December.

4.6 Safer Driver Program

Council has been contacted to gauge our interest in assisting with delivery of the safer driver program in Walcha. There was interest in this program from the Committee members. The program is for people who are on their L's and allows them to have access

to the safer driver program which takes 5 hours to complete, but is worth 20 hours of "driving hours" against their 120 hour requirement. Council staff and Karen Barnes will meet with the organiser and discuss the options around funding this program.

Councillor Reilly thanked everyone for attending.

5 NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held Term 1 Week 3, 13 February 2023.

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS THE CHAIRMAN DECLARED THE MEETING CLOSED AT 12:10PM.



Item 11:

Delegate Reports

RECOMMENDATION: THAT Council RECEIVE and NOTE the Delegate Reports as presented.

ATTACHMENT 1 – Minutes of the previous Board Meeting

MINUTES

A meeting of the BOARD OF NAMOI JOINT ORGANISATION OF COUNCILS TRADING AS NAMOI UNLIMITED held on Thursday 27th October 2022, commencing at 10.57am at the Tamworth Regional Council Offices and via video conference.

1. WELCOME, ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Mayor Tamworth Regional Council Russell Webb welcomed members and guests to the meeting.

MEMBERS		PRESENT	APOLOGY
Cr Jamie Chaffey	Gunnedah Shire Council	✓	
Cr Doug Hawkins	Liverpool Plains Shire Council	✓	
Cr Russell Webb	Tamworth Regional Council	✓	
Cr Eric Noakes	Walcha Council	✓	

NON-VOTING REPRESENTATIVES

Eric Groth	Gunnedah Shire Council		✓
Joanne Sangster	Liverpool Plains Shire Council		✓
Paul Bennett	Tamworth Regional Council		✓
Barry Omundson	Walcha Council & Namoi Unlimited	✓	

BY INVITATION

Jodie Healy	NSW Office of Local Government	✓	
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2. APOLOGIES AND APPLICATIONS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE

RESOLVED THAT, applications for a leave of absence and apologies for the 27 October 2022 meeting are accepted.

AMENDED

MOVED Liverpool Plains Shire Council

SECONDED Walcha Council

CARRIED

ADDITIONAL
COMMENTARY:

Applications for a leave of absence for this meeting, have been received from:

Paul Bennett

Apologies for this meeting have been received from:

Eric Groth

Jo Sangster

3. PUBLIC FORUM AND/OR PRESENTATIONS

Nil

4. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

RESOLVED THAT, the minutes of the Board meeting held 23 September 2022 are endorsed.

ENDORSED

MOVED Walcha Council

SECONDED Liverpool Plains Shire Council

CARRIED

5. DISCLOSURES OF INTERESTS

Nil

6. CHAIRPERSON MINUTE

A verbal report from the Chairperson stating that it has been a pleasure leading Namoi Unlimited over the last 4.5 years where much has been achieved for the wider Namoi region. The Chairman highlighted multiple projects that have enhanced the Namoi region.

RESOLVED THAT, the Chairperson's verbal report be accepted and further that the Chairperson, Mayor Gunnedah Shire Council, Jamie Chaffey be congratulated and thanked for his efforts as Chairperson Namoi Unlimited.

ENDORSED

MOVED Walcha Council

SECONDED Tamworth Regional Council

CARRIED

7. ELECTION OF CHAIRPERSON

7.1 Appointment of a Returning Officer

- RESOLVED
- I. THAT Barry Omundson is appointed the Returning Officer for a meeting; and
 - II. Voting for the positions will be carried out by open voting (show of hands).

ENDORSED

MOVED Liverpool Plains Shire Council

SECONDED Tamworth Regional Council

CARRIED

7.2 Election of the Chairperson

RESOLVED THAT, Mayor Walcha Council, Eric Noakes is elected Chairperson of Namoi Unlimited.

ENDORSED

MOVED: Gunnedah Shire Council

SECONDED: Liverpool Plains Shire Council

CARRIED

7.3 Election of the Deputy Chairperson

RESOLVED THAT, Mayor Tamworth Regional Council, Russel Webb is elected Deputy Chairperson of Namoi Unlimited.

ENDORSED

MOVED: Gunnedah Shire Council

SECONDED: Liverpool Plains Shire Council

CARRIED

8. NOTICES OF MOTIONS

Nil

9. NOTICE OF MOTION OF RESCISSION

Nil

10. STRATEGIC REGIONAL PRIORITIES

Former Chairperson, Mayor Gunnedah provided a verbal update in relation to progress on wider regional collaboration models.

RESOLVED THAT, the Chairperson write to the Prime Minister to express the disappointment of Namoi Unlimited with respect to discontinuation of the federal Better Regions grant funding.

ENDORSED

MOVED: Gunnedah Shire Council

SECONDED: Tamworth Regional Council

CARRIED

Nil

11.ADVOCACY AND LEADERSHIP

Nil

12. EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORTS

12.1 Action List

RESOLVED THAT, progress on the current action items be noted.

ENDORSED

MOVED: Gunnedah Shire Council

SECONDED: Tamworth Regional Council

CARRIED

12.2 Letter of Support to Port of Newcastle

RESOLVED THAT, the Board approve the letter of support from the former Chairperson with respect the Deepwater Container Terminal at the Port of Newcastle.

ENDORSED

MOVED: Gunnedah Shire Council

SECONDED: Liverpool Plains Shire Council

CARRIED

12.3 Application for In-Kind Support – Freight Resilience

RESOLVED THAT, the Board support the application as an industry partner to provide in kind support for the freight resilience project undertaken with the University of NSW.

ENDORSED

MOVED: Liverpool Plains Shire Council

SECONDED: Gunnedah Shire Council

CARRIED

13. Report on Strategic Regional Priorities

RESOLVED THAT, the report is noted.

ENDORSED

MOVED: Tamworth Regional Council

SECONDED: Liverpool Plains Shire Council

CARRIED

14. Questions with Notice

Nil

15. Closed Reports.

Nil

16. Conclusion of Meeting – 12pm.

.....End October 2022 Board Meeting Minutes.....



**CENTRAL NORTHERN REGIONAL LIBRARY (CNRL)
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
Wednesday 16 November 2022
Quirindi Library
193 George Street Quirindi 2343
Meeting to commence 2.00pm**

MEETING MINUTES

Attendees:

Committee Councillors

Cr Catherine Redding (via Zoom) – Narrabri Shire Council
Cr Aurora Reilly – Walcha Council
Cr Yvonne Wynn – Liverpool Plains Shire Council

Cr Tiffany Galvin – Gwydir Shire Council (alternate delegate)
Cr Judy Coates – Tamworth Regional Council

Staff

Kay Delahunt – Tamworth Regional Council
Shiralee Franks – Tamworth Regional Council
Christine Valencius – Uralla Shire Council
Megan Pitt – Tamworth Regional Council
Belinda Payne – Uralla Shire Council
Jonathan Stilts – Tamworth Regional Council
Carmen Campbell – Gwydir Shire Council
Scott Pollock (via Zoom) – Narrabri Shire Council
Ruth Neave – Liverpool Plains Shire Council

Meeting opened: 2.08pm

1. Acknowledgement of Country – Cr Catherine Redding

“I would like to acknowledge the Kamilaroi, the Dhunghutti people and the Anawain people who are the Traditional Custodians of the lands on which Central Northern Regional Library operates. I would like to pay respect to Elders past and present, and extend that respect to other Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples living in and visiting our Region”

2. Apologies

Cr Lone Petrov – Uralla Shire Council
Cr Catherine Egan – Gwydir Shire Council
Gail Philpott – Gwydir Shire Council
Naomi Radford – Narrabri Shire Council

Motion: *That apologies are accepted*

Moved: Cr Judy Coates

Seconded: Christine Valencius

3. Minutes of previous meeting – 16 March 2022

Motion: That the minutes from the previous Annual General Meeting of the Central Northern Regional Library, dated 16 March 2022, be accepted as a true and accurate record.

Moved: Cr Judy Coates

Seconded: Cr Aurora Reilly

4. Business arising from previous minutes

No matters raised.

5. Election of Central Northern Regional Library Chairperson

Kay Delahunt declared positions vacant and called for nominations.

Nominated: Cr Cathy Redding

Nominated by: Cr Judy Coates

No further nominations – nomination accepted

Cr Catherine Redding was declared CNRL Chairperson

6. Election of Central Northern Regional Library Chairperson

Nominated: Cr Judy Coates *Nominated by:* Cr Catherine Redding

No further nomination – nomination accepted

Cr Judy Coates was declared Central Northern Regional Library Deputy Chairperson.

7. Presentation of Central Northern Regional Library (CNRL) Annual Report 2021/22

Kay Delahunt and Shiralee Franks spoke to the report.

Observations relating to the Annual Report included:

- noting increased physical loans
- the repeat appearance of certain titles when looking at the top 10 borrowed items in each format.
- noting a wide variation in the proportion of loans that are processed via the self-check at each branch.
- general satisfaction with the way CNRL is performing.

Motion: That the CNRL Annual Report of 2021/22 be received and noted.

Moved: Carmen Southwell

Seconded: Cr Judy Coates

8. Annual Financial Statement 2021/22

Motion: That the Annual Financial Statement be received and noted.

Moved: Cr Catherine Redding

Seconded: Cr Judy Coates

9. General Business

No further business

Next AGM: November 2023 – date to be confirmed

Meeting closed: 2.30pm



**CENTRAL NORTHERN REGIONAL LIBRARY (CNRL)
ORDINARY MEETING
Wednesday 16 November 2022
Quirindi Library
193 George Street Quirindi 2343**

MEETING MINUTES

Attendees:

Committee Councillors

Cr Catherine Redding (Chair) (via Zoom) – Narrabri Shire Council
Cr Aurora Reilly – Walcha Council
Cr Yvonne Wynn – Liverpool Plains Shire Council
Cr Tiffany Galvin – Gwydir Shire Council
Cr Judy Coates – Tamworth Regional Council

Staff

Kay Delahunt – Tamworth Regional Council
Ruth Neave – Liverpool Plains Shire Council
Shiralee Franks – Tamworth Regional Council
Christine Valencius – Uralla Shire Council
Megan Pitt – Tamworth Regional Council
Belinda Payne – Uralla Shire Council
Jonathan Stilts – Tamworth Regional Council
Carmen Southwell – Gwydir Shire Council
Scott Pollock (via Zoom) – Narrabri Shire Council

Meeting opened: 2.08pm

1. Acknowledgement of Country – Cr Catherine Redding

“I would like to acknowledge the Kamilaroi, the Dhunghutti people and the Anawain people who are the Traditional Custodians of the lands on which Central Northern Regional Library operates. I would like to pay respect to Elders past and present, and extend that respect to other Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples living in and visiting our Region”

2. Apologies – given at AGM immediately preceding this meeting.

Moved: Carmen Campbell

Seconded: Cr Judy Coates

3. Minutes of previous Ordinary Meeting – 16 March 2022

Motion: That the minutes of the previous Ordinary meeting of the Central Northern Regional Library (CNRL) dated 16 March 2022, be accepted as a true and accurate record.

Moved: Cr Catherine Redding

Seconded: Cr Judy Coates

4. Business arising from previous minutes

No business arising

5. Manager's Report

Kay Delahunt spoke to the Manager's report

5.1 Staff

Two long term regional library staff members, Narelle Lightfoot and Ruth Fermor, have recently retired. Both made a significant contribution to the library service over a period of great change.

5.2 Trove

A new pricing model for Trove Collaborative Services came into effect on July 2022. This will mean CNRL will incur a significant increase in fees charged over the next three years. NSW Public Libraries Association and the State Library of NSW will continue to advocate on behalf of public libraries.

5.3 Interlibrary Loan Resource Sharing Code (ILRS)

As a review of the ILRS Code has recommended that price increases for interlibrary loans will now be in line with inflation, and will therefore vary year to year, councils are advised to advertise their current fees and charges with a disclaimer that fees will be updated in accordance with the code. CNRL passes any ILRS charges to members, however most interlibrary loans are sourced from the State Library of NSW or other public library services and are therefore free.

5.4 Council visits

The Library Co-ordinator and Manager will be travelling to all member Councils in early 2023 to meet with senior staff, seek feedback on CNRL services and to discuss library planning.

5.5 After-hours access to libraries

After-hours access is being trialled in some libraries in NSW. There are various models for unstaffed/after-hours access, some of which may work well in smaller communities

5.6 Indyreads

The State Library of NSW is hosting another Summer Book Club from 1st December until 14th February 2023. The book is *Every Version of You* by Grace Chan. It will be available from the Indyreads platform as a simultaneous download.

5.7 Sydney Writer's Festival

Sessions will again be streamed during the festival next year. Tamworth, Walcha, Quirindi and Nundle libraries have all indicated they will offer sessions for the public. Bingara Library may also participate.

Motion: That the Manager's report be received and noted and that letters from CNRL be sent to Narelle Lightfoot and Ruth Fermor acknowledging their long service and contribution to the library service.

Moved: Cr Catherine Redding

Seconded: Cr Tiffany Galvin

6. Quarterly Report for September 2022

Library Services Co-ordinator – Shiralee Franks spoke to the Quarterly report noting improved library usage since the same period last year.

Motion: That the Quarterly report for September 2022 be received and noted

Moved: Cr Judy Coates

Seconded: Cr Aurora Reilly

7. Draft Budget 2023/4

Kay Delahunt spoke to the Draft Budget 2023/24

Motion: That in relation to the report on CNRL budgets, the CNRL Committee;

(i) receive and note the Budget versus Actual Report for 2021/22

receive and note the Movements in Cash Reserves as at 30 June 2022

(ii) consider the draft budget for 2023/24 and, in accordance with the requirements of the CNRL Regional Agreement, provide written comments to Tamworth Regional Council by 15 January 2023

Moved: Cr Judy Coates

Seconded: Cr Catherine Redding

8. STEM Kits Report

STEAM and Childhood Literacy Co-ordinator, Jonathan Stilts outlined a proposal to provide a collection of STEM kits at each branch which may be borrowed by library members.

Motion: That in relation to the STEM Kits Report, the CNRL Committee:

(i) approve the release of \$20,000 from the CNRL Reserve to establish a STEM Kit lending collection for use across the region.

(ii) approve the borrowing period of two (2) weeks with no renewal

Moved: Cr Judy Coates

Seconded: Cr Yvonne Wynne

9. CNRL Tablet replacement report

Kay Delahunt spoke to a report by Jacob Simmons, Library Technology Offer, recommending the replacement of staff tablets due to their age and decreasing performance.

Motion: That in relation to the CNRL Tablet Replacement Report, the CNRL Committee:

(i) Approve the release of \$10,500 from CNRL Reserves for the purchase of replacement tablets for use by staff across the CNRL region

Moved: Cr Judy Coates

Seconded: Carmen Campbell

10. SWITCH Conference Report

Scott Pollock, Narrabri Shire Council, attended this conference which was held in Albury and provided a report for the Committee. Other CNRL delegates who attended the conference included Cr Cathy Redding (Narrabri), Naomi Radford (Narrabri), and Sarah Ranclaud (LPSC)

Sessions covered topics including: library design, funding, human rights, literacy programs, demographics for marketing and workplace culture.

Motion: That the SWITCH 2022 Report is received and noted.

Moved: Cr Cathy Redding

Seconded: Cr Judy Coates

11. General Business

No general business

12. Delegates Reports

• Christine Valencius & Belinda Payne – Uralla Shire Council

Welcome to Belinda Payne as new Uralla Librarian.

Uralla Library has had displays promoting the collection for Father's Day, Once Upon a Time, Killer Thrillers, Spring and the Home Library Service.

Candle making and mosaic art workshops have been held in the library.

• Carmen Campbell & Tiffany Galvin – Gwydir Shire Council

Gail Philpott has been running Living Classroom sessions and visiting schools.

Carmen has applied for funding for Warialda requiring design advice which has proved difficult to source locally.

- **Cr Judy Coates- Tamworth Regional Council**

The floorspace layout for the Kootingal Library refurbishment I being finalised.

Tamworth Library is now 18 years old. The library will be recarpeted next year.

There is a grant application for an upgrade of Nundle Library/Council Office building.

50 people attended a Refugee Week event held in collaboration with Northern Settlement Services.

During NAIDOC Week, Tamworth Library ran a video slideshow of the 'Dhuurranmay-Gal Dhirrabbou' photography exhibition which was also projected at night outside Ray Walsh House. The exhibition featured photos of local Aboriginal leaders. The library also screened several Indigenous films using the Beamafilm streaming service.

Tamworth Library hosted an event in collaboration with Tamworth Family Support Service for Indigenous Literacy Day with readings, songs and dancers.

The Innovation Studio ran several school holiday sessions both online and in libraries.

Home Schoolers are now attending the library for STEM sessions on Wednesdays.

Tamworth Library hosts a Death Café once a month where people meet in a casual setting to discuss matters relating to death, dying and bereavement. Facilitated by a volunteer, the group follows a model developed in the UK.

The Community Hub runs each Tuesday morning. Local service providers e.g. Tamworth Family Support Service, Aboriginal Employment Strategy, Homes North set up to offer advice and assistance. This is followed by a movie screening and light lunch.

Recent author talks include Julie Bennett, Peter Langston and Fiona MacArthur. The library is hoping to arrange for Wendy McCarthy to talk about her autobiography.

Justices of the Peace now set up in the library each Monday morning. Some staff have also either become JPs or are in the process.

Tech Savvy Seniors sessions have been running at Manilla Library.

TRC recently renewed its commitment to support the Dolly Parton Imagination Library with funding.

- **Cr Aurora Reilly – Walcha Council**

Librarian Cassie McKenna was a guest speaker at the NAIDOC ceremony at Walcha Central School. This provided a great opportunity to promote library resources and services.

Walcha Library/Council offered school holiday activities including Lego, star gazing and an excursion to the escape room in Tamworth.

- **Ruth Neave – Liverpool Plains Shire Council**

Participation in what's on offer at the new Quirindi Library is steadily growing.

Ruth talked about how stats don't always capture the level of service that is provided by library staff. Werris Creek staff recently made it possible for a member to view a relative's funeral via Zoom at the library which is something that would not normally be recorded in statistics.

There were 26 new library memberships as a result of recent school holiday activities.

Quirindi and Werris Creek are hoping to run intergenerational programs.

Motion: That the CNRL delegate reports are received and noted

Moved: Cr Catherine Redding

Seconded: Cr Judy Coates

13. Next ordinary meeting

The date of the next meeting is to be advised.

Meeting Closed: 3.54pm



Country Mayors Association Inc of NEW SOUTH WALES

Chairperson: Cr Ken Keith OAM
PO Box 337 Parkes NSW 2870
02 6861 2333
ABN 92 803 490 533

MINUTES

GENERAL MEETING

FRIDAY, 18 NOVEMBER 2022 THEATRETTE, PARLIAMENT HOUSE, SYDNEY

The meeting opened at 8.32am

1. ATTENDANCE:

Armidale Regional Council, Mayor, Cr Sam Coupland, Mayor
Ballina Shire Council, Cr Sharon Cadwallader, Mayor
Bathurst Regional Council, Cr Robert Taylor, Mayor
Bega Valley Shire Council, Cr Russell Fitzpatrick, Mayor
Bellingen Shire Council, Cr Steve Allan, Mayor
Berrigan Shire Council, Cr Matthew Hannan, Mayor
Bland Shire Council, Cr Brian Monaghan, Mayor
Bland Shire Council, Mr Grant Baker General Manager
Blayney Shire Council, Cr Scott Ferguson, Mayor
Blayney Shire Council, Mr Mark Dicker, General Manager
Byron Shire Council, Cr Michael Lyon, Mayor
Byron Shire Council, Mr Mark Arnold, General Manager
Coolamon Shire Council, Cr David McCann, Mayor
Coolamon Shire Council, Mr Tony Donoghue, General Manager
Coonamble Shire Council, Cr Tim Horan, Mayor
Coonamble Shire Council, Mr Ross Earl, Acting General Manager
Dubbo Regional Council, Cr Mathew Dickerson. Mayor
Dungog Shire Council, Cr John Connors, Mayor
Gilgandra Shire Council, Cr Doug Batten, Mayor
Gilgandra Shire Council, Mr David Neeves, General Manager
Glen Innes Shire Council, Cr Rod Banham, Mayor
Glen Innes Shire Council, Cr Troy Arandale, Deputy Mayor
Goulburn Mulwaree Council, Cr Bob Peter Walker, Mayor
Goulburn Mulwaree Council, Mr Aaron Johansson, CEO
Gunnedah Shire Council, Cr Jamie Chaffey, Mayor
Gunnedah Shire Council, Mr Eric Growth, General Manager
Gwydir Shire Council, Cr John Coulton, Mayor
Hilltops Council, Cr Margaret Roles, Mayor
Inverell Shire Council, Cr Paul Harmon, Mayor
Kempsey Shire Council, Cr Leo Hauville, Mayor
Kempsey Shire Council, Mr Craig Milburn, General Manager
Kiama Municipal Council, Cr Neil Reilly, Mayor
Kiama Municipal Council, Ms Jane Stroud, General Manager

Kyogle Council, Cr Kylie Thomas, Mayor
Lachlan Shire Council, Cr John Medcalf, Mayor
Liverpool Plains Shire Council, Cr Doug Hawkins, Mayor
Liverpool Plains Shire Council, Ms Joanna Sangster, General Manager
Lockhart Shire Council, Cr Greg Verdon, Mayor
Lockhart Shire Council, Mr Peter Veneris, General Manager
Mid-Western/Mudgee Regional Council, Cr Des Kennedy, Mayor
Mid-Western/Mudgee Regional Council, Mr Brad Cam, General Manager
Murray River Council, Cr Christopher Bilkey, Mayor
Murray River Council, Mr Terry Dodds, General Manager
Narrabri Shire Council, Cr Ron Campbell, Mayor
Narrandera Shire Council, Mr George Cowan, General Manager
Narromine Shire Council, Cr Craig Davies, Mayor
Parkes Shire Council, Cr Ken Keith, Mayor
Port Stephens Council, Cr Ryan Palmer, Mayor
Port Stephens Council, Mr Tim Crosdale, General Manager
Shoalhaven City Council, Cr Paul Ell, Deputy Mayor
Singleton Council, Cr Sue Moore, Mayor
Snowy Valleys Council, Cr Ian Chaffey, Mayor
Tamworth Regional Council, Cr Russell Webb, Mayor
Temora Shire Council, Cr Rick Firman, Mayor
Temora Shire Council, Mr Gary Lavelle, General Manager
Tenterfield Shire Council, Cr Bronwyn Petrie, Mayor
Upper Lachlan Shire Council, Cr Pam Kensit, Mayor
Uralla Shire Council, Cr Bob Crouch, Deputy Mayor
Uralla Shire Council, Ms Christine Valencius,, Director Corporate and Community
Wagga Wagga City Council, Cr Dallas Tout, Mayor
Walcha Council, Cr Eric Noakes, Mayor
Walcha Council, Mr Barry Omundson, General Manager
Warren Shire Council, Cr Milton Quigley, Mayor
Warrumbungle Shire Council, Cr Ambrose Doolan, Mayor
Warrumbungle Shire Council, Mr Roger Bailey, General Manager
Weddin Shire Council, Cr Craig Bembrick, Mayor
Weddin Shire Council, Ms Noreen Vu, General Manager
Wingecarribee Shire Council, Mr Viv May, Interim Administrator
Wingecarribee Shire Council, Ms Lisa Miscamble, General Manager
LGNSW, Cr Darriea Turley, President
ALGA, Cr Linda Scott, President
Office of Local Government, Ms Ally Dench, Executive Director
Office of Local Government, Ms Karen Purser, Manager Engagement

APOLOGIES:

As submitted

SPECIAL GUESTS

- (a) Cr Linda Scott, President, ALGA
- (b) Cr Darriea Turley Am, President, LGNSW
- (c) Mr Craig Carmody, CEO, Port of Newcastle
- (d) Hon Wendy Tuckerman MP, Minister for Local Government
- (e) Ms Carmel Donnelly PSM, Chair, Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (IPART) NSW

2. ADOPTION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:

RESOLVED that the minutes of the General Meeting held on 5 August 2022 be accepted as a true and accurate record (Lachlan Shire Council / Kiama Municipal Council).

3. Matters Arising from the Minutes

NIL

4. Mr Craig Carmody, CEO, Port of Newcastle

Mr Carmody thanked councils for their support which made a historic difference in seeking the removal of the financial penalty to build the container terminal. Newcastle is the largest port on the east side of Australia and the only port to access inland rail. The port currently is only being 50% utilized. Coal is 70% of the ports income and by 2030 50% of income will come from non coal. Special mention was given to the support from the member of Northern Tablelands, Lake Macquarie, Upper Hunter and the Treasurer Matt Kean. The Bill has passed parliament and is awaiting the Governors assent. The container terminal will cost \$2.4billion to build and will be fully automated on 90 hectares and will take 5 years to get to operational status. The northwest and central west are the ports catchment areas and intermodals are planned for Moree, Narrabri, Gunnedah and Tamworth which will result in lower freight costs, use direct rail to the port, an opportunity to establish storage and packing facilities and be a rail heavy port.

5. Clr Linda Scott, President, ALGA, Update

Clr Scott reported on wins from the Federal Budget, the replacement of the building Better Regions Fund with Growing Regions Program and the Precincts Partnership Program, the new Housing Accord, the Independent Inquiry into Australia's Response to COVID 19, Regional Banking Closures and new Childcare Legislation, the National State of the Assets Report and the Final Report-SGS-Local Government -Productivity-Research Report

6. Clr Darriea Turley Am, President, LGNSW, Update

Clr Turley AM provided a report on the work of LGNSW since the last meeting including the Annual Conference 2022, and Severe Flooding in NSW and gave an advocacy update on Statewide Roads Emergency, the Federal Budget, IPART Rate Peg 2023/24 and review of Methodology, RFS Assets, and Agritourism Reforms. The Association had advocacy wins with Pothole Funding, IPART Review of Domestic Waste Management Charges, Standard Conditions of Consent Implementation, New Cemetery Licensing Scheme and Unlocking Homes Program

4. Membership

RESOLVED that Byron Shire Council and Lismore City Council be admitted as members of the Association (Gunnedah Shire Council / Singleton Council)

5. Immediate Past President

RESOLVED that notice of 2 months be given to members to change the Associations Constitution to provide for the position of Immediate Past President to be a member of the Executive (Gunnedah Shire Council / Goulburn Mulwaree Council)

6. CORRESPONDENCE

Outward

- (a) Mr Tom O'Dea, Head of NBN Local NSW, thanking him for his presentation at our meeting held on the 5 August 2022
- (b) Cr Jacob Cass, Centre Manager, Parkes Country Universities Centre, thanking him for his presentation at our Skills Forum on the 4 August 2022
- (c) Cr Rick Firman thanking him for his participation in the Skills Forum held on the 4 August 2022
- (d) The Hon Fiona Hash, National Commissioner for Rural Education, thanking her for her presentation at our Skills Forum held on the 4 August 2022
- (e) The Hon Alister Henskens MP, Minister for Skills and Training, Minister for Science, Innovation and Technology, thanking him for his presentation to our Skills Forum held on the 4 August 2022
- (f) Mr Edward Cavanough, Executive Director and Director Policy, McKell Institute, thanking him for his presentation at our Skills Forum held on the 4 August 2022
- (g) Mr Tim Crakanthorp MP, Shadow Minister for Skills and TAFE and Shadow Minister for Tertiary Education, thanking him for his presentation at our Skills Forum held on the 4 August 2022
- (h) The Hon Anthony Roberts MP, Minister for Planning and Minister for Homes, thanking him for his presentation at our meeting held on the 5 August 2022
- (i) Ms Amy Dumbrell, Acting Director, Biodiversity Offsets Scheme and Dr Louisa Mamouny, Acting Executive Director, Biodiversity Credit Supply Fund and Taskforce, thanking them for their presentation at our meeting held on the 5 August 2022
- (j) Mr Justin Clancy MP, Parliamentary Secretary for Health, thanking him for his presentation at our meeting held on the 5 August 2022
- (k) The Hon Paul Toole MP, Deputy Premier, Minister for Regional NSW and Minister for Police, requesting a meeting to discuss regional and rural policing
- (l) The Hon Dominic Perrottet MP, Premier, extending an invitation to attend and present at our meeting to be held on the 18 November 2022
- (m) Mr Chris Minns MP, Leader of the Opposition, extending an invitation to attend and present at our meeting to be held on the 18 November 2022
- (n) The Hon Kristy McBain MP, Minister for Regional Development, Local Government and Territories, extending an invitation to attend and present at our meeting to be held on the 18 November 2022
- (o) The Hon Anthony Roberts MP, Minister for Planning and Minister for Homes, requesting a review of the Biodiversity Offset Scheme to overcome current difficulties being experienced in regional and rural NSW
- (p) The Hon James Griffin MP, Minister for Environment and Heritage, requesting a review of the Biodiversity Offset Scheme to overcome current difficulties being experienced in regional and rural NSW
- (q) Mr Vik Naidoo, Chief Strategy and Commercial Officer, TAFE NSW, outlining the Skills Forum suggestions for positive change and as the officer responsible for emerging market opportunities seeking ways to work together to improve skills acquisition in regional and rural NSW
- (r) The Chief Executive Officer, Australian Local Government Association, seeking a meeting to discuss the overturning by the Board of the adopted resolution to conduct a review of the Financial Assistance Grant Act 1995
- (s) The Hon Alister Henskens MP, Minister for Skills and Training, Minister for Science, Innovation and Technology, seeking a meeting with him to discuss skills issues that affect regional and rural NSW
- (t) The Hon Kristy McBain MP, Minister for Regional Development, Local Government and Territories requesting a review of the FAD's ACT

- (u) The Hon Andrew Gee MP, Shadow Minister for Regional Development, local Government and Territories requesting support for a review of the FAG's Act
- (v) The Hon Wendy Tuckerman MP, Minister for Local Government advising that the Association does not believe that councils are owners of RFS assets and that councils should maintain their position not to include them in their accounts if they wish to do so
- (w) Clr Linda Scott, President, ALGA forwarding copy of the letter to Minister McBain regarding a review of the FAG's Act

Inward

- (a) The Hon Mark Butler MP, Minister for Health and Aged Care regarding the Distribution Priority Area (DPA) changes
- (b) The Hon Bronnie Taylor MLC, Minister for Women, Minister for Regional Health, and Minister for Mental Health regarding regional and rural health initiatives
- (c) Cr Darriea Turley AM, President LGNSW, regarding The Building Better Regions Fund
- (d) Craig Carmody, CEO, Port of Newcastle, regarding the development of Newcastle Deepwater Container Terminal
- (e) Julie Briggs, CEO, Riverina JO, forwarding copy of correspondence sent to the Premier regarding construction times for major infrastructure works
- (f) Julie Briggs, CEO, Riverina JO, forwarding correspondence to Minister Roberts regarding introduction of Local Activation Precincts
- (g) Gwydir Shire Council thanking Country Mayors for our continuing efforts in respect of RFS Asset ownership
- (h) Cr Darriea Turley AM, President LGNSW to Clr Ken Keith OAM, on behalf of the LGNSW Board, Executive, our staff and members, thank you for your dedicated and highly respected service leading the CMA, and we look forward to continuing our strong alliance with the association.

NOTED

7. FINANCIAL REPORT

RESOLVED That the financial reports for the last quarter were tabled and accepted (Inverell Shire Council / Kiama Municipal Council)

8. Hon Wendy Tuckerman MP, Minister for Local Government

The Minister thanked the Association for the opportunity to speak to members and advised that major efforts were going into advocacy for the rural roads emergency but current funding is not touching the surface. Approaches are being made to the Commonwealth Government for assistance. Legislation has passed for a Reconstruction Authority and there has been a focus on sustainability and input into the IPART rate increase. Legislation is to be enacted on misconduct after a consultancy period. The Emergency Services Levy will need to be increased

The General Meeting adjourned at 10.45am for the Annual General Meeting and resumed at 11.07am

9. Ms Carmel Donnelly PSM, Chair, Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (IPART) NSW

IPART have been asked to investigate and make recommendations on:

1. options to set the rate peg methodology to ensure it is reflective of inflation and costs of providing local government goods and services

2. options to stabilise volatility in the rate peg and options for capturing more timely changes in council costs and inflation
3. alternate data sources to measure changes in councils' costs
4. options for capturing changes in councils' costs caused by external factors outside councils' control
5. the effectiveness of current Local Govt Cost index approach
6. the effectiveness of the population growth factor in achieving its intended purpose.

The current rate components are Rate Peg, Change in LGCI, Population Factor, Productivity Factor and Other Adjustments

Key issues so far are reflecting changes in inflation and costs, accuracy and predictability, accounting for new services and responsibilities, is the population factor working as intended, is climate change driving up costs and reducing complexity. The final report is expected to be available in May 2023. Workshops will be held at Wagga Wagga, Sydney, and Tamworth as well as online specifically for regional and rural and metropolitan

The General Meeting was adjourned at 11.52am for Annual General Meeting election results and resumed at 11.54

10. Presentation

Clr Jamie Chaffey Chairman, thanked outgoing Chairman Clr Ken Keith for his contribution to the Association and to the Executive Committee and for his leadership over the past two years and Clr Rick Firman Vice Chairman, presented a gift to Clr Keith on behalf of the members of the Association

11. CMA State Election Priority – March 2023

The Executive have endorsed a discussion paper on the March 2023 State Election Priorities and Clr Chaffey Chairman outlined the "Asks" that the Association proposes to put to political leaders in the leadup to the State election in respect to

Skills and Education

Health Services

Roads and Transport

Water Security

Housing

Crime, Law and Order

Telecommunications Blackspot Coverage

Disaster Preparedness and Funding

A number of suggestions were received by members such as comparing Bocsar crime statistics with other states with more police, reviewing why police are not coming to Regional and Rural NSW and to add the Red Fleet

It is important that Country Mayors get the Governments and Oppositions responses to the "Asks"

RESOLVED that the Country Mayors Association adopt the discussion paper in principle and members be asked for feedback to be received by the Secretariat by the 2 December 2022 (Gunnedah Shire Council / Gilgandra Shire Council)

12. Hon Adam Marshall MP

Mr Marshall thanked members for their efforts in supporting the Port of Newcastle container terminal. The change was made in a bipartisan way. He stressed that Country Mayors will have a lot of influence in getting changes for the benefit of Regional and Rural NSW. There are a lot of opportunities to get commitment from political parties. Speak to parliamentarians and get change

13. Bland Shire Council RFS Assets

A motion was moved by Bland Shire Council / Inverell Shire Council that Country Mayors forward a letter to all NSW MP's asking for their position on the RFS assets and how the depreciation should be handled

An amendment was moved by Gunnedah Shire Council / Lachlan Shire Council that a letter be written to all political parties asking their position on the RFS assets and how the depreciation should be handled

The amendment was put and was lost. The motion was put and was carried

RESOLVED that a media release be prepared on the RFS assets (Goulburn Mulwaree Council / Bland Shire Council)

14. Scholarships Sub Committee Report

RESOLVED that the Scholarships Sub Committee Report on providing a scholarship to an existing CMA member staff be adopted (Temora Shire Council / Gunnedah Shire Council)

15. Use of Building Better Regions Fund Round 6

RESOLVED that Due to the removal of the Federal Building Better Regions Fund and the criteria for the new Growing Region Program (yet to be released) members of the Country Mayors Association call on the Federal Government to establish a supplementary round of the Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Fund. This supplementary funding will assist Local Councils to fund the renewal and replacement of roads and community infrastructure damaged by weather events over the past two years.(Goulburn Mulwaree Council / Bland Shire Council)

There being no further business the meeting closed at 1.05pm.

Cr Ken Keith OAM
Chairman Country Mayor's Association of NSW



Country Mayors Association of NEW SOUTH WALES Inc

Chairperson: Cr Ken Keith
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AGM MINUTES

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

FRIDAY, 18 NOVEMBER 2022, THEATRETTE, PARLIAMENT HOUSE, SYDNEY

The meeting opened at 10.45 a.m.

1. ATTENDANCE:

Armidale Regional Council, Mayor, Cr Sam Coupland, Mayor
Ballina Shire Council, Cr Sharon Cadwallader, Mayor
Bathurst Regional Council, Cr Robert Taylor, Mayor
Bega Valley Shire Council, Cr Russell Fitzpatrick, Mayor
Bellingen Shire Council, Cr Steve Allan, Mayor
Berrigan Shire Council, Cr Matthew Hannan, Mayor
Bland Shire Council, Cr Brian Monaghan, Mayor
Bland Shire Council, Mr Grant Baker General Manager
Blayney Shire Council, Cr Scott Ferguson, Mayor
Blayney Shire Council, Mr Mark Dicker, General Manager
Byron Shire Council, Cr Michael Lyon, Mayor
Byron Shire Council, Mr Mark Arnold, General Manager
Coolamon Shire Council, Cr David McCann, Mayor
Coolamon Shire Council, Mr Tony Donoghue, General Manager
Coonamble Shire Council, Cr Tim Horan, Mayor
Coonamble Shire Council, Mr Ross Earl, Acting General Manager
Dubbo Regional Council, Cr Mathew Dickerson, Mayor
Dungog Shire Council, Cr John Connors, Mayor
Gilgandra Shire Council, Cr Doug Batten, Mayor
Gilgandra Shire Council, Mr David Neeves, General Manager
Glen Innes Shire Council, Cr Rod Banham, Mayor
Glen Innes Shire Council, Cr Troy Arandale, Deputy Mayor
Goulburn Mulwaree Council, Cr Bob Peter Walker, Mayor
Goulburn Mulwaree Council, Mr Aaron Johansson, CEO
Gunnedah Shire Council, Cr Jamie Chaffey, Mayor
Gunnedah Shire Council, Mr Eric Growth, General Manager
Gwydir Shire Council, Cr John Coulton, Mayor
Hilltops Council, Cr Margaret Roles, Mayor
Inverell Shire Council, Cr Paul Harmon, Mayor
Kempsey Shire Council, Cr Leo Hauville, Mayor
Kempsey Shire Council, Mr Craig Milburn, General Manager
Kiama Municipal Council, Cr Neil Reilly, Mayor

Kiama Municipal Council, Ms Jane Stroud, General Manager
Kyogle Council, Cr Kylie Thomas, Mayor
Lachlan Shire Council, Cr John Medcalf, Mayor
Liverpool Plains Shire Council, Cr Doug Hawkins, Mayor
Liverpool Plains Shire Council, Ms Joanna Sangster, General Manager
Lockhart Shire Council, Cr Greg Verdon, Mayor
Lockhart Shire Council, Mr Peter Veneris, General Manager
Mid-Western/Mudgee Regional Council, Cr Des Kennedy, Mayor
Mid-Western/Mudgee Regional Council, Mr Brad Cam, General Manager
Murray River Council, Cr Christopher Bilkey, Mayor
Murray River Council, Mr Terry Dodds, General Manager
Narrabri Shire Council, Cr Ron Campbell, Mayor
Narrandera Shire Council, Mr George Cowan, General Manager
Narromine Shire Council, Cr Craig Davies, Mayor
Parkes Shire Council, Cr Ken Keith, Mayor
Port Stephens Council, Cr Ryan Palmer, Mayor
Port Stephens Council, Mr Tim Crosdale, General Manager
Shoalhaven City Council, Cr Paul Ell, Deputy Mayor
Singleton Council, Cr Sue Moore, Mayor
Snowy Valleys Council, Cr Ian Chaffey, Mayor
Tamworth Regional Council, Cr Russell Webb, Mayor
Temora Shire Council, Cr Rick Firman, Mayor
Temora Shire Council, Mr Gary Lavelle, General Manager
Tenterfield Shire Council, Cr Bronwyn Petrie, Mayor
Upper Lachlan Shire Council, Cr Pam Kensit, Mayor
Uralla Shire Council, Cr Bob Crouch, Deputy Mayor
Uralla Shire Council, Ms Christine Valencius,, Director Corporate and Community
Wagga Wagga City Council, Cr Dallas Tout, Mayor
Walcha Council, Cr Eric Noakes, Mayor
Walcha Council, Mr Barry Omundson, General Manager
Warren Shire Council, Cr Milton Quigley, Mayor
Warrumbungle Shire Council, Cr Ambrose Doolan, Mayor
Warrumbungle Shire Council, Mr Roger Bailey, General Manager
Weddin Shire Council, Cr Craig Bembrick, Mayor
Weddin Shire Council, Ms Noreen Vu, General Manager
Wingecarribee Shire Council, Mr Viv May, Interim Administrator
Wingecarribee Shire Council, Ms Lisa Miscamble, General Manager
ALGA, Cr Linda Scott, President
Office of Local Government, Ms Ally Dench, Executive Director
Office of Local Government, Ms Karen Purser, Manager Engagement

APOLOGIES

AS READ

2. ADOPTION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Adjourned Annual General Meeting held on 11 March 202 be accepted as a true and accurate record (Temora Shire Council / Bathurst Regional Shire Council).

3. Chairman's Report

Chairman Cr Ken Keith outlined the years highlights and thanked everybody for their support during his terms

RESOLVED That the Chairman's report be received and noted (Parkes Shire Council /Bathurst Regional Council)

4. Secretaries Report – Financial Report

RESOLVED That the financial reports for the 2021/22 year as tabled be accepted (Narromine Shire Council Council/ Bland Shire Council)

5. Position of Immediate Past President

RESOLVED that notice of 2 months be given to members to change the Associations Constitution to provide for the position of Immediate Past President to be a member of the Executive (Singleton Council / Goulburn Mulwaree Council)

6. Returning Officer

RESOLVED That the Returning Officer for the conduct of the elections be Mr Allan Burgess (Inverell Shire Council / Bland Shire Council)

7. Election of Office Bearers

7.1 Chairperson

The Returning Officer advised that nominations closed on the 15 November 2022 and that he had received one nomination in writing for Cr Jamie Chaffey, Gunnedah Shire Council, who was nominated by Temora Shire Council and Narromine Shire Council. As there was only one nomination the Returning Officer declared Cr Jamie Chaffey elected Chairman for the 2022/23 and 2023/24 years

7.2 Vice Chairperson

The Returning Officer advised that nominations closed on the 15 November 2022 and that he had received one nomination in writing. for Cr Rick Firman, Mayor, Temora Shire Council who was nominated by Gunnedah Shire Council and Narromine Shire Council As there was only one nomination the Returning Officer declared Cr Rick Firman elected as Vice Chairperson for the 2022/23 years

7.3 Secretary/Public Officer

RESOLVED That Mr Eric Growth General Manager Gunnedah Shire Council, be appointed Secretary/Public Officer (Parkes Shire Council / Uralla Shire Council)

7.4 Executive

Twelve nominations were received for the eight ordinary members of the Executive Committee. Nominations were received for Clr Sam Coupland Armidale Regional Council, Clr Craig Davies, Narromine Shire Council, Clr Russell Fitzpatrick, Bega Valley Shire Council, Clr Matthew Hannan, Berrigan Shire Council, Clr Paul Harmon, Inverell Shire Council, Clr Pam Kensit, Upper Lachlan Shire Council, Cr Ken Keith, Parkes Shire Council, Clr John Medcalf, Lachlan Shire Council, Clr Phyllis Miller, Forbes Shire Council, Clr Sue Moore, Singleton Council, Clr Kylie Thomas, Kyogle Council and Clr Russell Webb, Tamworth Regional Council As it

was resolved earlier in the meeting that the Immediate Past President shall be a committee member when the constitution is changed Cr Ken Keith withdrew his nomination from the ballot leaving eleven nominations for eight positions. Ballot papers were distributed and a count of the ballot papers was conducted by Clr Linda Scott and Ms Ally Dench. The meeting continued

8. Signatories to CMA Bank Accounts

RESOLVED that the signatories to the CMA Bank Accounts No 260210575727 and No 250210246625 be the General Manager, CFO (Accountant), and Director Corporate Services of Gunnedah Shire Council (Gwydir Shire Council / Upper Lachlan Shire Council)

9. SETTING OF ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP FEES

RESOLVED That the fees for the 2022/23 year remain at \$750 for Councils with a population of 10,000 and over, and Councils with a population of less than 10,000 paying 75% \$562.50 (Lockhart Shire Council / Inverell Shire Council)

8. Secretariat

RESOLVED That Allan Burgess trading as Alkanat Consulting be appointed the Secretariat (Gwydir Shire Council / Dubbo Lachlan Council)

9. Meeting dates for 2021

RESOLVED that the meeting dates for 2023 be 10 March, 26 May, 4 August and 3 November (Coonamble Shire Council / Inverell Shire Council)

10. Executive

To allow the counting of votes to continue the AGM was adjourned at 11.07am and resumed at 11.52am

Following the count of the votes the Returning Officer declared the following delegates elected to the Executive for the 2022/23 and 2023/24 years

- Clr Russell Webb Tamworth Regional Council
- Clr Sam Coupland Armidale Regional Council
- Clr Craig Davies Narromine Shire Council
- Clr Russell Fitzpatrick Bega Valley Shire Council
- Cr Kylie Thomas Kyogle Council
- Clr Sue Moore Singleton Council
- Clr John Medcalf Lachlan Shire Council
- Clr Phyllis Miller Forbes Shire Council

There being no further business the meeting closed at 11.54 am.

Cr Ken Keith
Chairman Country Mayor's Association of NSW



Item 12:

Questions with Notice



12.1 July 2022 Mayoral Minute – Resolution 02/20222023 – Clr Hicks

As per the Action List: Letters to various Ministers and Departments –
Have these been sent?

12.2 July 2022 Notice of Motion – Resolution 08/20222023 – Clr Kermode:

Action List: Vegetation Regrowth on Roadside Verges – Clr Kermode
stated he noticed Dead saplings along highway – is this part of the
RMCC?



Item 13:

**Referral to
Closed
Council
Meeting**



There are no Closed Council items for
December 2022