



BUSINESS PAPER
ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL

To be held on

Wednesday, 16 December 2015
4:00pm

at

Walcha Council Chambers

Members:

Mayor – Councillor Janelle Archdale
Deputy Mayor – Councillor Scott Schmutter
Councillor Kevin Ferrier
Councillor Bill Heazlett
Councillor Lloyd Levingston
Councillor Clint Lyon
Councillor Robert Thomson
Councillor Maria Woods

Quorum – 5 Members to be Present

WO/2015/02305

AGENDA

Submitted to Council: 16 December 2015

..... General Manager Mayor



Dear Mayor and 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, 16 December 2015** commencing at **4:00pm**.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Jack O'Hara'.

Jack O'Hara
GENERAL MANAGER

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6. Senior Officers Reports
 - 6.1 Public Feedback to Request to Rename McKeatons Bridge WO/2015/02291
 - 6.2 Request from Rotary Club of Walcha to Consider Toilet Amenities being Installed in John Oxley Cairn WO/2015/02295
7. Notice of Motion
8. Matters of Urgency
(Resolution to admit matters of urgency before being further considered by Council).
9. Management Review Report WO/2015/02289

Submitted to Council: 16 December 2015

..... General Manager Mayor



10. Committee Reports

- 10.1 Minutes of the Walcha & District Beautification & Tidy Towns Committee Meeting held on Wednesday, 2 December 2015. WO/2015/02272

11. Delegate Reports

- 11.1 Minutes of the Namoi Councils Joint Organisation Annual General Meeting held at Tamworth Regional Council on Friday, 27 November 2015. WI/2015/07339
- 11.2 Minutes of the Namoi Councils Joint Organisation General Meeting held at Tamworth Regional Council on Friday, 27 November 2015. WI/2015/07339

12. Committee of the Whole

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

Resolution to move into Open Council.

Resolution to adopt Committee of the Whole Report and Recommendations.



Present:

Apologies:

Confirmation of the Ordinary Meeting Minutes held on Wednesday,
25 November 2015:

Matters arising from the Ordinary Meeting held on Wednesday, 25 November
2015:

Submitted to Council: 16 December 2015

..... General Manager Mayor



ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL

held on

Wednesday, 25 November 2015

at

2:03pm

at

Walcha Council Chambers

PRESENT: Clr SJ Schmutter (Chairman) Deputy Mayor together with Councillors KW Ferrier, WJ Heazlett, L Levingston, CM Lyon and RS Thomson.

IN ATTENDANCE: Mr JG O'Hara, General Manager, Dr K Kamalarasa, Director – Engineering Services, and Mrs LJ Latham, Environmental Services Manager.

1. APOLOGIES:

74 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Heazlett and Levingston that the apology received from Clr Archdale, being personal reasons, and the apology received from Clr Woods, being at a Food Authority Meeting in Sydney, be **ACCEPTED**.

MINUTES



2. CONFIRMATION OF THE ORDINARY MEETING MINUTES HELD ON 28 OCTOBER 2015:

75 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Heazlett and Levingston that the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on Wednesday, 28 October 2015, copies of which have been distributed to all members, be taken as read and confirmed a **TRUE** record.

76 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Heazlett and Levingston that the Minutes of the Extra Ordinary Meeting held on Wednesday, 11 November 2015, copies of which have been distributed to all members, be taken as read and confirmed a **TRUE** record.

3. BUSINESS ARISING

Nil.

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Late Report Item: 1 – Exercise Equipment on Levy Banks WO/2015/02196
Clr Ferrier declared a pecuniary interest in this matter due to being the Secretary of Walcha Rotary Club.

Late Report Item 2 – Request to Rename Woolbrook Bridge WO/2015/02197
Clr Levingston & Clr Ferrier declared non-serious non pecuniary interest in this matter as they are members of the Committee.

Item: 12.2 Relocation of Visitor Information Centre WINT/2015/03039
Clr Lyon declared a pecuniary interest as he is the owner of one of the locations.

5. MAYORAL MINUTE

Nil.

6. SENIOR OFFICERS REPORT

77 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Lyon and Levingston that the Senior Officers' Reports be **RECEIVED** for further consideration.

**6.1 Change of Meeting Date for December 2015 & January & February 2016
WO/2015/02154**

Motion

It was **MOVED** Councillor Thomson **SECONDED** Councillor Levingston that the December 2015 Ordinary Council Meeting be held on Wednesday, 23 December



2015 **FURTHER THAT** the January 2016 Ordinary Council Meeting be cancelled and the February 2016 Ordinary Council Meeting be held on Wednesday, 10 February 2016.

An **Amendment** was **MOVED** Councillor Ferrier **SECONDED** Councillor Heazlett that the December 2015 Ordinary Council Meeting be held on Wednesday, 16 December 2015 **FURTHER THAT** the January 2016 Ordinary Council Meeting be cancelled and the February 2016 Ordinary Council Meeting be held on Wednesday, 10 February 2016.

The Amendment was put to the **VOTE** was **CARRIED**.

78 It became the **Substantive Motion** and was put to the **VOTE** and **CARRIED**.

6.2 Re-Establishment of the Alcohol Free Zone at Walcha Skate Park WO/2015/02141

79 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Heazlett and Ferrier that continue the Alcohol Free Zone for a further period of four (4) years.

6.3 Arrangements for Staff over Christmas 2015 WO/2015/02155

80 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Lyon and Ferrier that Council allow the Outdoor Staff Christmas Party to be held during working hours on Thursday, 17 December 2015 at 12.30pm **FURTHER THAT** a donation of \$1,000 be made towards the cost of the function **STILL FURTHER THAT** a donation of \$750 be made towards the Indoor Staff Christmas function.

6.4 Participation in NSW Food Authority Scores on Doors Program WO/2015/02142

81 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Lyon and Thomson that Council not participate in the Scores on Doors Program.

6.5 Changes to Neighbour Notifications for Complying Development in Rural and Regional Areas WO/2015/02153

The Report was **NOTED** by Council.

6.6 Review of Ward Boundaries – Submit to NSW Electoral Commission WO/2015/02111

82 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Ferrier and Lyon that Council **ADOPT** the publicly exhibited Ward Boundaries **FURTHER THAT** Council submit them to the NSW Electoral Commission before 14 December 2015.



- 6.7 Working Funds 2014-2015 Annual Financial Statements WO/2015/02367
- 6.8 Quarterly Review of Operational Plan & Budget as at September 2015
WO/2015/02191

At this stage there was a **MOTION** Moved by Councillor Lyon Seconded Councillor Levingston that Council defer the consideration of Items 6.7 and 6.8 until after the Auditors presentation.

83 On being put to the **VOTE** the motion was **CARRIED**.

- 6.9 Committee of the Whole Referral – Proposed Tourism Event AND
Proposed Relocation of Visitor Information Centre WO/2015/02159

84 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Lyon and Thomson that, in accordance with the provisions of Section 10 of the Local Government Act, 1993, the matter of the Proposed Tourism Event AND Proposed Relocation of Visitor Information Centre be referred to be discussed in Committee of the Whole for the reason that they confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the Council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business.

LATE REPORTS

- 1. Exercise Equipment on Levy Banks WO/2015/02196

Clr Ferrier declared a pecuniary interest in this matter and left the Chambers and therefore took no part in the debate.

85 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Lyon and Heazlett that Council **ACCEPT** the donation from Rotary Club of Walcha of \$10,000 **FURTHER THAT** purchase and install the Exercise Equipment on the Levy Bank of Walcha.

Councillor Ferrier returned to the Chambers and the Chairman conveyed Council’s resolution to him.

- 2. Request to Rename Woolbrook Bridge WO/2015/02202

Clr Levingston and Clr Ferrier declared a non-serious non-pecuniary interest in this matter as they are both members of the Committee.

86 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Heazlett and Lyon that Council agree to **RENAME** the Woolbrook Bridge to “Agnes Scott Bridge” **FURTHER THAT** approach Tamworth Regional Council seeking their approval **STILL FURTHER THAT** Council **AGREE** To undertake the renaming process.



7. NOTICE OF RESCISSION MOTION

Nil.

8. MATTERS OF URGENCY

Nil.

9. MANAGEMENT REVIEW REPORTS

WO/2015/02132

87 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Levingston and Lyon that items included in the Management Review Report, numbered 1 to 13 inclusive, be **NOTED** by Council.

10. COMMITTEE REPORTS

10.1 Minutes of the Walcha Council Community Care Advisory Committee Meeting held on Tuesday, 20 October 2015. WO/2015/02138

11. DELEGATE REPORTS

11.1 Minutes of the New England Weeds Authority Meeting held on Tuesday, 25 August 2015 at Armidale WI/2015/06873

11.2 Minutes of the Mid North Weight of Loads Group held on Monday, 14 September 2015 at Taree City Council. WI/2015/05996

11.3 Minutes of the Namoi Councils Joint Organisation Meeting held on Thursday, 29 October 2015 at Narrabri Shire Council Chambers. WI/2015/06423

11.4 Briefing on the Central Northern Regional Libraries Annual Meeting and Ordinary Meeting held on Wednesday, 4 November 2015 at Tamworth Regional Council. WO/2015/02149

11.5 Minutes of the Country Mayors Association General Meeting held on Thursday, 5 November 2015 at Country Embassy, Sydney WI/2015/06961

11.6 Minutes of the Country Mayors Association - Annual General Meeting held on Thursday, 5 November 2015 at Country Embassy, Sydney. WI/2015/06961

Auditors Presentation & Afternoon Tea

The Meeting was **ADJOURNED** for the Auditors presentation. Afternoon tea then commenced at 3:10pm and the Meeting resumed at 3:40pm.



6.7 Working Funds 2014-2015 Annual Financial Statements

WO/2015/02367

88 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Lyon and Ferrier that the Report be **ADOPTED** by Council.

6.8 Quarterly Review of Operational Plan & Budget as at September 2015

WO/2015/02191

89 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Ferrier and Levingston that Council adopt the September 2015 Quarterly Budget Review Statements **FURTHER THAT** Council approve the variations in Income and Expenditure votes as detailed.

12. COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

90 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Ferrier and Levingston that Council resolve into Committee of the Whole and that the press and public be excluded from the entire proceedings of the Meeting of the Committee of the Whole for the reason that it relates to information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the Council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business.

91 The Meeting resumed in **OPEN** Council on the Motion of Councillors (name) and Heazlett and Levingston.

The Mayor reported whilst in Committee of the Whole the following matters were discussed.

PRESENT: Present and IN Attendance were the same as listed in the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting with the exception of the press and the public.

12.1 Proposed Tourism Event – “The Mikado” Opera WINT/2015/03037

The Committee **RECOMMENDED** on the Motion of Councillors Ferrier and Lyon that Council agree to market the proposed Opera, “The Mikado”, to a value of \$5,000 on the condition that the cost be reimbursed from the promoters share of ticket sales.

12.2 Proposed Relocation of Visitor Information Centre

WINT/2015/03039

Clr Lyon declared a pecuniary interest in this matter and left the Chambers and took no part in the debate.



The Committee **RECOMMENDED** on the Motion of Councillors Ferrier and Thomson that Council approach the owner of Frog Crossing and attempt to negotiate the rent for a lower amount and request they repair the rising damp and enter into a lease for 12 months with an offer to extend.

Clr Lyon returned to the Chambers and the Chairman conveyed Council's recommendation to him.

ADOPTION OF COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

92 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Heazlett and Levingston that the Report and Recommendations of the Meeting of the Walcha Council Committee of the Whole held on Wednesday, 25 November 2015 be **ADOPTED** by Council.

The Chairman publicly declared the recommendations passed by the Committee whilst in Committee of the Whole.

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS THE CHAIRMAN DECLARED THE MEETING CLOSED AT 4:10PM.



Item 6:

Senior Officers'
Reports

Submitted to Council: 16 December 2015

..... General Manager Mayor



Item: 6.1 **Ref:** WO/2015/02291
Title: Public feedback regarding renaming of McKeaten's Bridge
Author: Director – Engineering Services
Previous Items: OCT15 - Request to rename McKeaten's Bridge
Attachment: No

Introduction:

In April Council received a request to rename McKeaten's bridge to Sgt Andrew Russell Bridge as Mr Russell was a member of the 2nd Troop 1st Field Squadron of the Royal Australian Engineers that came to Walcha and built the bridge over the Macdonald River just over 24 years ago, he was the first Australian soldier killed in conflict since Vietnam and it will be 25 years on Anzac Day 2015 since the bridge was completed.

Advertisements were placed in both local papers requesting feedback on the proposed bridge renaming.

Report:

Council received no feedback.

The renaming of McKeaten's bridge to Sir Andrew Russell bridge under the Roads Act 1993 requires the following steps by Council as outlined in the Roads Regulation 2008:

1. Publish notice of its proposal in a local newspaper, which has been done.
2. Council will now proceed with the proposed name, and shall, as per the Regulations:
 - ❖ publish notice of the new name in the NSW Government Gazette and in a local newspaper.
 - ❖ inform the prescribed authorities listed in Reg. 9 (b) of the Regulation of the new name, giving sufficient particulars to enable the bridge to be identified.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council continue with the renaming process as per regulations.



Item: 6.2 **Ref:** WO/2015/02295
Title: Request from Rotary Club of Walcha to Consider Toilet Amenities being installed in John Oxley Cairn
Author: Environmental Services Manager
Previous Items: Nil
Attachment: No

Introduction:

A request has been made by the Rotary Club of Walcha for Council to consider toilet amenities being installed at John Oxley Cairn as a project by the Rotary Club. Rotary would like Council's support for the project and for an estimated cost of the works to be provided.

Report:

John Oxley Cairn is situated on south Derby Street on the outskirts of Walcha, opposite Legge Street, as pictured below. The park has a picnic table and is well supported by travellers stopping at the scenic location with frontage to the Apsley River.



Rotary have flagged this Park as a suitable location in need of toilet amenities to service the travelling motorists who frequently stop there; it has also been said that the residents utilising the bicycle path along the levies for exercise may require toilet facilities at this end of the path.

Toilets near to this location are situated at Captain Cook Park, less than 500 metres away and at McHattan Park, less than 600m away, which would be considered a short distance whether by foot, cycling or motor vehicle.

Submitted to Council: 16 December 2015

..... General Manager Mayor



Consideration needs to be given to the practicality and need for amenities in this area, along with ongoing building maintenance and cleaning, whilst also balancing the priorities of the Park and adjacent land by assessing impacts and aesthetics; such as materials used, orientation, visual prominence / intrusion, and potential for increased late night activity, so as not to detract from the amenity of the area.

Having toilet facilities available in the town centre rather than the fringes promotes and encourages visitors to stop in town and perhaps spend a few dollars whilst there, whether it be browsing the local stores or grabbing a bite to eat, as opposed to stopping on the outskirts simply for a toilet break and then continuing the drive.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council do not support the construction of a toilet block at this time at John Oxley Cairn **FURTHER THAT** Council respond in writing to the Rotary Club of Walcha advising of Council's decision, noting that the work that the Rotary Club accomplishes is appreciated by Council.



Ref: WO/2015/02289

Title: Management Review Report
Author: General Manager
Previous Items: Not Applicable
Attachment: No

Item 9:

Management Review Reports

Submitted to Council: 16 December 2015

..... General Manager Mayor



FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

1. Librarian's Report:

No report is available.

Librarian

2. Listing of Bank Balances for the Month of November 2015

The Cash Book for each Fund has been reconciled with the appropriate Bank Pass sheets for the Month of November 2015 and the Reconciliations have been entered in the Cash Book.

	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>
General	\$3,887,393.59	\$238,587.69
Interest Earned (YTD)	\$ 23,677.78	\$ 11,506.86

The current Interest Rate on the General Fund held with the National Australia Bank is 3.00%.

3. Investments (Local Government (Financial Management) Regulation 1993, Clause 19 (3) (A) For September 2015

Please see the following Report for the investments placed in November 2015.

Overdraft Limit

An Overdraft Limit of \$200,000 has been arranged with the National Australia Bank. When utilised an Overdraft Interest Rate of 10.32% applies.

Jack O'Hara
GENERAL MANAGER

Submitted to Council: 16 December 2015

..... General Manager Mayor

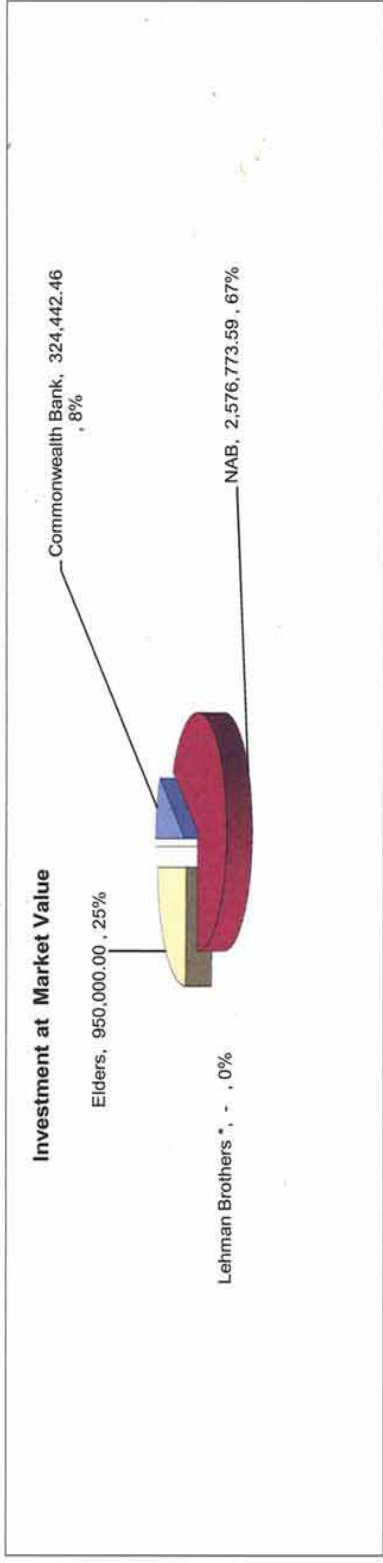


REGISTER OF INVESTMENTS TO 30/11/2015

Institution	Type	Placement Date	Term (Days)	Maturity Date	Rate	Est. Interest	YTD Interest	Amount Invested	YTD Redemption	Est. Market Value At 30/11/15	Estimated Loss CDO and FRN	Actual Loss CDO and FRN	MV % of Portfolio
Commonwealth Bank	Term Deposit	17/05/2015	240	17-Jan-16	3.05%	6506.63	0.00	324,442.46	-	324,442.46	0.00	0.00	8.42%
National Australia Bank	Term Deposit	17/09/2015	180	17-Mar-16	2.95%	13882.96	4290.42	954,290.42	-	954,290.42	0.00	0.00	24.78%
Elders Rural Bank	Term Deposit	28/08/2015	180	28-Feb-16	2.85%	13352.05	14839.52	950,000.00	-	950,000.00	0.00	0.00	24.67%
National Australia Bank	Term Deposit	6/10/2015	60	05-Dec-15	2.60%	2778.08	0.00	650,000.00	-	650,000.00	0.00	0.00	16.88%
National Australia Bank	Term Deposit	9/09/2015	180	09-Mar-16	2.90%	13907.84	6904.55	972,483.17	-	972,483.17	0.00	0.00	25.25%
						50,428	26034.49	3,851,216.05	-	3,851,216.05	0.00	0.00	100.00%

Lehman Brothers		Prior to											
Morgan Stanley	CDO	30/06/2009	365	20/06/2015	4.20%	-	0.00	12,000.00	12,000.00	-	0.00	0.00	0.00%
						-	-	12,000.00	12,000.00	-	0.00	0.00	0.00%
grand totals										3,863,216.05	12,000.00	0.00	100.00%

Capital Value of Portfolio 3,863,216.05
 Redeemed Value of Portfolio 12,000.00
 Market Value of Portfolio 30/11/15 3,851,216.05
 Estimated Profit/(Loss) 30/11/15 0.00



Responsible accounting Officers 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 Rosemary Strobel (Responsible Accounting Officer)

Submitted to Council: 16 December 2015

..... General Manager Mayor



4. Work, Health & Safety

During the month of November Council recorded the following incidents within the workplace.

1 x vehicle incident – no injuries were sustained and only minor damage to the vehicle was recorded – Occurred 20 November 2015.

From a previous incident Council has had a worker Recovering At Work (RAW) previously known as Return to Work (RTW) and that worker has now been fully rehabilitated and is back to pre-injury duties with no restrictions. This is a positive outcome for both Council and the injured worker.

5. Tourism Report

November/December 2015

Walcha Tourism Website

Walcha Tourism has engaged the services of a local Information Technology (IT) company to redo our website; we have hopes that it will be operational in the coming weeks.

Inland NSW, Bauer Media opportunity

During December Channel Nine are airing a series called *Australian Geographic Adventure Summer Series*. New England High Country has been given the opportunity to create a prize for a competition connected to the show. The prize is 14 days touring the New England High Country region in a Britz Camper. Each LGA, excluding Inverell as they are not members of Inland NSW, has approached operators for contributions to the prize in the way of meals, accommodation and experiences. The competition will be promoted several times through each episode. This show is aired nationally on Channel Nine so this is a fantastic and exciting opportunity that we would not otherwise be able to afford access to.

VIC Volunteer Christmas Party – Wednesday 9 December

Each year for our Christmas party we try to incorporate a famil-tour to enhance our volunteers' knowledge of the tourism assets in and around Walcha. This year we are going to *Antipodean Tynker* (new shop in old Telecottage building) *Sunhill Goats* for morning tea and *Go Create*, a new craft and art workshop studio in Kentucky for lunch. Normally it is quite difficult to come up with new things to familiarise our volunteers with however we have been lucky this year with so many new things on offer.

Susie Crawford
Walcha Tourism Manager

Submitted to Council: 25 November 2015

..... General Manager Mayor



ENGINEERING SERVICES

6. Wages & Overtime Summary

Pay Period	Week Ending	Overtime Hours	Amount (\$)
21	15/11/2015	60.00	2,829.96
22	22/11/2015	65.00	3,088.76
23	29/11/2015	95.75	4,907.85
24	06/12/2015	55.00	2,692.13
TOTAL		275.75	\$13,518.70

7. Water Matters

Water usage for the month of November 2015 was as follows:

- ❖ Monthly Usage – 12.6 Megalitres (4 week month)
- ❖ Daily Usage – 407 Kilolitres
- ❖ Usage per person/day – 244 Litres

NB: The Pool was filled during the second week of November

Level 3 – introduced 3 December 2015 – Targe Usage 190 – 230 Litres / Person / Day

8. Shire Roads Maintenance

The following maintenance activities occurred during the period from 11 November 2015 – 11 December 2015:

Gravel Surface:

The following roads received maintenance grading during this period:

- ❖ Upper Yarrowitch River
- ❖ Morton Road
- ❖ Springvale Road
- ❖ Chandlers Road
- ❖ Carey's Road
- ❖ Mitchel Hill Road

Bridge Works:

Glen Morrison Road Bridge repairs have begun (5099 – Wirrabilla).

Bridge Side Tracks:

The Flags Niangala Road Bridge (4985) bypass track in under construction.

Vegetation Maintenance:

- ❖ Moona & Niangala Roads have been sprayed for saplings.

Submitted to Council: 25 November 2015

..... General Manager Mayor



- ❖ Aberbaldie, Moona, Niangala, Wollun, Emu Creek, Winterbourne, Bukeiro, Brackendale, Bergen, Darjeeling and Saleyards Roads have had shoulder slashing completed.

Rural Addressing:

Rural addressing occurred on Scrubby Gully, Chandlers and Brackendale Roads.

Pothole Patching:

Pothole patching occurred on Scrubby Gully and Ruby Hills Roads.

Guide Post Maintenance:

Guide post maintenance occurred on Aberbaldie and Brackendale Roads.

State Highway 11:

- ❖ The Oxley Highway Reseal Program is close to completion, 2 reseals remain.
- ❖ The "Nowendoc Rehabilitation" adjacent to the Brackendale Road turnoff on the Oxley Highway is nearing completion. All major works will be complete by Thursday the 17th of December. Remaining works will include installing the wire rope fence barrier on the eastern end of the project.
- ❖ Maintenance:
 - ◆ Pothole Patching.
 - ◆ Repairing road edges.
 - ◆ Vegetation maintenance.
 - ◆ Culvert Cleaning

Regional Roads:

- ❖ The "Yerrawun" rehabilitation requires guard rail to be installed, limited availability of staff has led this works to be postponed.
- ❖ The Regional Roads reseal program has been completed. Line marking will occur in early January.
- ❖ Maintenance:
 - ◆ Pothole Patching.
 - ◆ Vegetation maintenance.

Works In Town:

- ❖ Tree, garden & park maintenance.
- ❖ Pool maintenance has been completed for the impending season.
- ❖ The pool shade sail project has commenced, with works expected to be completed by the 11th of December. The shade cloth will be installed when made available.

Proposed Works for the Coming Period:

Shire Roads:

- ❖ Further vegetation maintenance on sealed roads we be completed, including spraying and shoulder slashing.
- ❖ Bypass tracks for the bridge replacement program will be progressively installed.
- ❖ The Bridge Rehabilitation program, which includes three bridges - Glen Morrison (5099 & 5010) and Mooraback (5414) will continue.



State Highway 11:

- ❖ The state reseal program will be completed by the 11th of December (Including initial line marking).
- ❖ The "Nowendoc Rehabilitation" will be completed, including a new slip lane for the Brackendale Road turnoff by the 17th of December.
- ❖ Maintenance:
 - Crack Sealing
 - Pothole Patching

Regional Roads:

- ❖ Maintenance:
 - ◆ Crack Sealing
 - ◆ Pothole Patching
 - ◆ Vegetation Maintenance

Works In Town:

- ❖ Tree, garden & park maintenance.
- ❖ Pool Operations
- ❖ Complete the installation of the Shade Sail at the pool

Dylan Reeves
Works Manager



ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

9. Development

Development Approvals and Refusals for November 2015

Information is being provided on development approvals and refusals for the month of November 2015. The following data details the development approvals issued by Council and private certifiers for November 2015 for the entire Local Government Area. A listing of development applications outstanding with a status has also been provided.

Development Applications					
Approvals:					
DA No.	Description	Location	Applicant	Determined	Determination
10.2015.26	Single dwelling alterations & additions	Avondale, 3061 Niangala Rd, Walcha	M J Rose	16/11/2015	Granted (under delegation)
10.2015.29	Single dwelling alterations & additions	13S Pakington St, Walcha	N Reid	5/11/2015	Granted (under delegation)
10.2015.18.2	Shed (minor modification)	19W Churchill St, Walcha	G A Dick	16/11/2015	Granted (under delegation)
Monthly Estimated Value of Approvals: \$190,000.00					
Refusals:					
DA No.	Description	Location	Applicant	Determined	Determination
Nil					

Development Applications Outstanding				
DA No.	Description	Location	Applicant	Status
10.2015.30	Single new dwelling	Littlemoor, Brackendale Rd, Nowendoc	N F Hicks	Under assessment
10.2015.31	Subdivision of land	217N Uralla Rd, Walcha	J P Sweeney	Integrated referral
10.2015.32	Shed	110W Apsley St, Walcha	S M Lockyer	On notification
Total: 3				

Construction Certificates					
Approvals:					
CC No.	Description	Location	Applicant	Determined	Determination
11.2015.10	Single new dwelling, shed & occupy temporary dwelling	199 Oxley Dr, Walcha	A K McDarmont	6/11/2015	Issued

Submitted to Council: 25 November 2015

..... General Manager Mayor



11.2015.16	Demolish existing shade structure & erect new shade structure	11N Middle St, Walcha	Walcha Council	30/11/2015	Issued
11.2015.18	Single dwelling alterations & additions	13S Pakington St, Walcha	N Reid	5/11/2015	Issued
11.2015.19	Single new dwelling	35 Church St, Woolbrook	H Greenwood	30/11/2015	Issued

Issued by Private Certifier

CC No.	Description	Location	Applicant	Determined	Determination
11.2015.18	Single new dwelling	195W Hill St, Walcha	Buildwise Certification	16/11/2015	Issued

Monthly Estimated Value of Approvals: \$834,000.00

Construction Certificates Outstanding

CC No.	Description	Location	Applicant	Status
Nil				
				Total: 0

Complying Development Applications

Approvals:

CDC No.	Description	Location	Applicant	Determined	Determination
Nil					

Issued by Private Certifier

Nil

Monthly Estimated Value of Approvals: \$0

Complying Development Applications Outstanding

CDC No.	Description	Location	Applicant	Status
Nil				
				Total: 0

s149 Planning Certificates

Section 149 Certificates are issued under the provisions of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*, it provides information on the relevant planning regulations which apply to any particular piece of land. It is compulsory for every property sold to be accompanied by a s149 Planning Certificate.

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..... General Manager Mayor



Section 149 Planning Certificates Completed 2015/2016	
	Number
July	11
August	6
September	21
October	8
November	14

S149 Planning Certificates Completed - Comparative Data	
	Number
2013/2014	91
2014/2015	126
2015/2016 (YTD)	60

10. Environment

Environmental & Public Health Complaints

Council performs a number of regulatory functions to control and manage matters of public health and environmental concern to the community, some of these include:

- *Companion Animals Act 1998* e.g. dogs not under effective control & nuisance dogs (barking),
- *Local Government Act 1993* e.g. overgrown land, and
- *Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997* e.g. dumping of rubbish.
- *Food Act 2003* e.g. hygiene and handling

For information purposes a summary of the number of complaints received is provided.

Environmental Services Complaints November 2015		
Barking dogs	3	
Dog attacks	1	Notice given of intent to declare dog dangerous
Roaming dogs	1	
Stray Stock	1	
Overgrown land	1	

Tree Management Applications

A Tree Preservation Order exists over the town of Walcha to promote the retention of trees and tree cover and to conserve as far as is practical the existing pattern of vegetation, for information purposes a summary of the tree management applications lodged with Council is provided.

Submitted to Council: 25 November 2015

..... General Manager Mayor



Tree Management Applications 2015/2016				
	Approved – Delegation	Approved – Council	Refused	Undetermined
July	1	0	0	2
August	0	0	0	4
September	3	0	0	1
October	0	0	0	1
November	2	0	1	1

11. Public Health

Immunisation Clinic

Free Immunisation Clinics are held weekly at the Walcha MPS; for information purposes a summary of the number of attendances at the clinic is provided.

Immunisation Records 2015/2016	
July	3
August	3
September	1
October	7

Food Premises Surveillance

Under the Food Regulation Partnership Council is appointed as an enforcement agency under the *Food Act 2003*. As an enforcement agency Council is responsible for food surveillance within the Walcha LGA and Council is required to report our food surveillance activity to the NSW Food Authority annually.

For information purposes a summary of the food surveillance activities undertaken for the 2015/2016 as at 30 November 2015 is provided.

Food Premises Surveillance 2015/2016				
Category	Number of Premises	Inspections Conducted	Re-inspections Required	Re-inspections Conducted
High Risk	26	1	1	1
Medium Risk	7	0	0	0
Low Risk	6	0	0	0
Mobile	2	0	0	0
Temporary	2	0	0	0

Submitted to Council: 25 November 2015

..... General Manager Mayor



12. Animal Control

Council encourages responsible pet ownership in the community, as well as at home. Pet owners should make sure their animals don't disturb their neighbourhood and threaten or harm any other person, pets or wildlife.

Council is required to enforce the registration laws, and the other areas of pet ownership covered by the *Companion Animals Act 1998*.

Companion Animals Registrations 2015/2016						
	Desexed	Non desexed	Pensioner desexed	Recognised breeder	Working	Value \$
Jul	1	2	1	0	0	\$457.00
Aug	6	3	0	15	8	\$1,668.00
Sep	1	1	0	0	1	\$244.00
Oct	1	1	0	0	0	\$244.00
Nov	0	0	1	0	0	\$21.00

Companion Animals Seizures 2015/2016						
	Seized	Surrendered	Released	Rehomed	Euthanased	Stolen
Jul	3	0	3	0	0	0
Aug	5	1	3	1	1	0
Sep	1	1	0	1	0	0
Oct	2	1	1	1	0	0
Nov	1	0	1	0	0	0

13. Walcha Council Community Care

November 2015 Report

Groups

Women's Group and Wanderer's Group

4 November 2015 – 21 clients attended morning tea in the Community Day Centre rooms.

11 November 2015 – The Wanderers Group enjoyed morning tea at the Community Day Centre Rooms. The morning consisted of craft and game activities.

18 November 2015 – 11 clients came along on the mystery trip for the day. Those people that were unable to do the Nambucca trip were pleased to still have an outing organised. Denise and the group travelled in the community bus to Woolbrook and then along Wollun Road to Kentucky where they stopped for morning tea. From Kentucky they travelled onto Uralla where they enjoyed lunch before travelling back to Walcha along the back roads through Blue Mountain. Those people that attended had a great day out and thanked Denise for the lovely day.

Submitted to Council: 25 November 2015

..... General Manager Mayor



17 – 19 November 2015 – 46 people attended the 3 day Nambucca Heads and Slim Dusty trip. The coach left Walcha early Tuesday morning with the first stop being the Ebor Falls for morning tea. Dorrigo Rainforest Centre was a popular destination to visit where the view was spectacular with the clear weather conditions allowing us to see the ocean to the east.



Margaret Carter, Mary Watson and Pat Laurie on the lookout to the falls



Morning tea at the Ebor Falls



Mary Natty, Irene Simpson, Nancy Fisher and Shirley Martin at the Ebor Falls



Dick Bowden, Mary Natty and Rob Steel at the Dorrigo Rain Forest Centre

Submitted to Council: 25 November 2015

..... General Manager Mayor



Mary Haines, Fay Griffiths and Syreene Kitchener at Dorrigo



Coach driver Tony Hazlewood



Bellingen was the next break where we all had free time to explore and eat lunch. After a few hours of Bellingen we set out for Nambucca Heads to settle into the accommodation at The Destiny Motor Inn. The group enjoyed some more free time before meeting for happy hour and dinner in the restaurant at the motel.

Submitted to Council: 25 November 2015

..... General Manager Mayor



The accommodation at the Destiny Motor Inn

Day two began with a tour of the water front area at Nambucca Heads and a stroll along the break wall or commonly known as the V-Wall before embarking on the boat to cruise up the Nambucca River. The group enjoyed taking in the lovely sights while relaxing to the gentle motion of the water and a lovely Devonshire morning tea.

The river cruise completed we boarded the coach to travel out to Taylors Arm to visit the famous "Pub with No Beer". Everyone was thrilled to see the Slim Dusty memorabilia and pleased when they could catch up with a few of the locals. Back on the bus we take a detour back to Nambucca Heads along the coast to visit Scotts Head. Happy hour and dinner at the motel restaurant topped off an exciting day.



Submitted to Council: 25 November 2015

..... General Manager Mayor



Submitted to Council: 25 November 2015

..... General Manager Mayor



Submitted to Council: 25 November 2015

..... General Manager Mayor



Day three was the highlight of the trip with a visit to the new Slim Dusty Centre at Kempsey. Leaving Nambucca Heads early Thursday morning we made a slight detour into South West Rocks for a quick look and a morning tea break on the river at Frederickton. The day also turned out to be the Official Opening of the Centre and we were among hundreds of other people that flocked into the Centre on the day. Special guests and celebrities were there to do the honors of opening the centre and we all had a fabulous day rubbing shoulders with the cream of country music artists. The museum and collection of memorabilia were amazing and was well worth the visit.

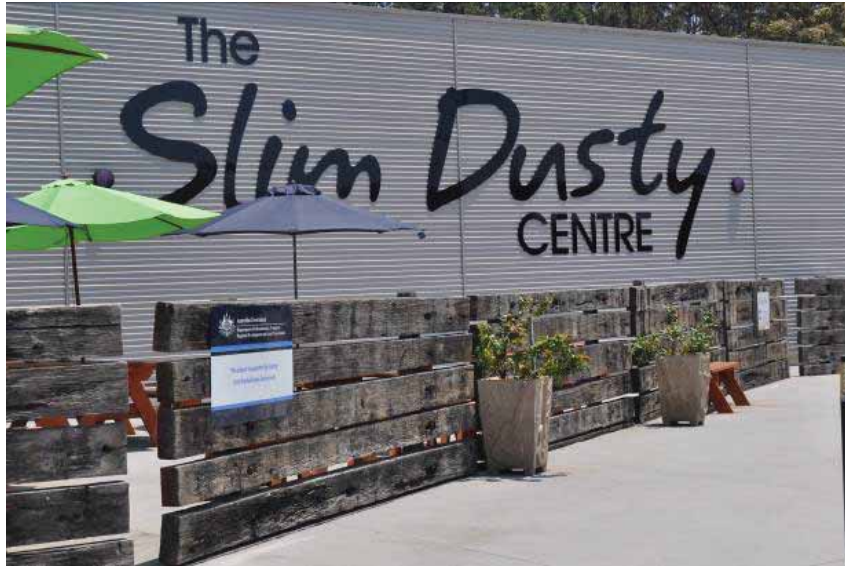


Morning tea stop at Frederickton



Submitted to Council: 25 November 2015

..... General Manager Mayor



Dick Bowden and Peter Sendall



Nancy Fisher and Troy Casser-Daley

Submitted to Council: 25 November 2015

..... General Manager Mayor



Lloyd and Pauline Levingston



Carol Marchant



Cathy Noon, Shirley Martin, Troy, Margaret Carter and Hope Strudwick

Submitted to Council: 25 November 2015

..... General Manager Mayor



25 November 2015 – the Group visited the Apsley Falls where they also visited the Aboriginal site which consisted of Aboriginal grooves in the rocks on the river bank. The ladies then went for a walk. At the Tia Falls they observed the bush tucker all along the walkway. The rest of the time was spent yarning out in the bush. A barbeque lunch was enjoyed and then they returned on the bus.

Men's Group

13 November 2015 – 19 gentlemen attended morning tea at the Community Day Centre Rooms.

27 November 2015 – 18 gentlemen attended the barbeque lunch held under the trees at the back of the Community Day Centre rooms.

Transport - November

Medical drives – 9 clients utilized the service with 25 trips to medical appointments.

Access bus – 9 clients used the service making 44 trips for the month.

Bus to Tamworth – 5 clients use the service on 27 November 2015.

Bus to Armidale numbers were as follows:

- ◆ 3 November 2015 – 10 clients – Walcha Service
- ◆ 10 November 2015 – 6 clients – Uralla Tablelands Community Transport Service
- ◆ 17 November 2015 – 6 clients – Walcha Service
- ◆ 24 November 2015 – 8 clients – Uralla Tablelands Community Transport Service

Meals on Wheels

12 clients received 165 meals.

Rural and Remote Exercise Groups

6 clients attended the exercise groups at Niangala.

7 clients attended the exercise groups at Nowendoc.

Brain Training

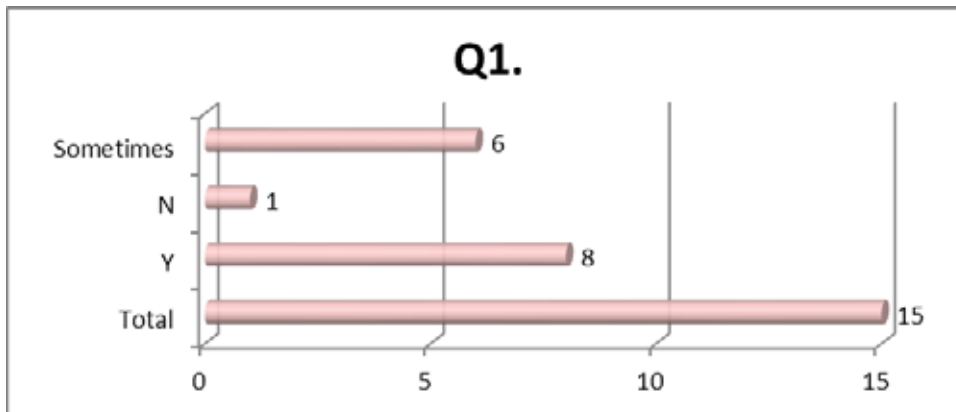
14 clients have now finished the 8 week Brain Training Program in the Community Day Centre Rooms that have been held every Monday. The Group had lots of fun and found the activities extremely challenging and beneficial to their brain health. The Group are looking forward to recommencing again next year.

Feedback and Complaints

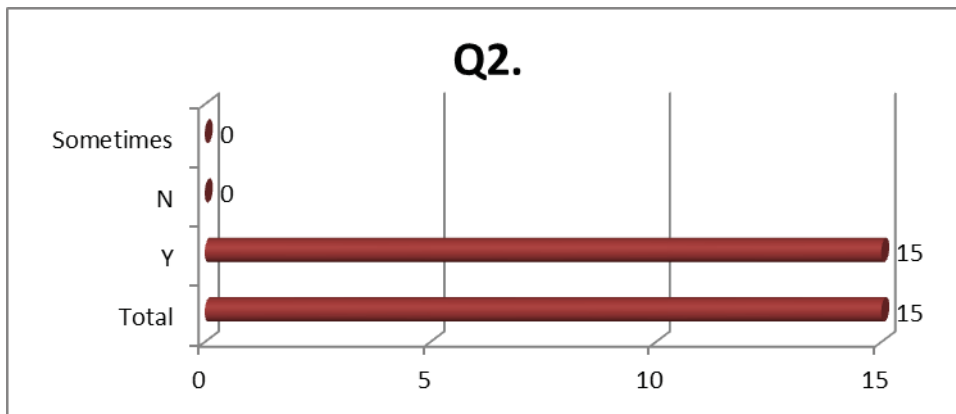
Feedback is provided from conducting a recent survey for the Nowendoc and Niangala Rural and Remote Exercise Group. The following results were obtained from 15 participants:



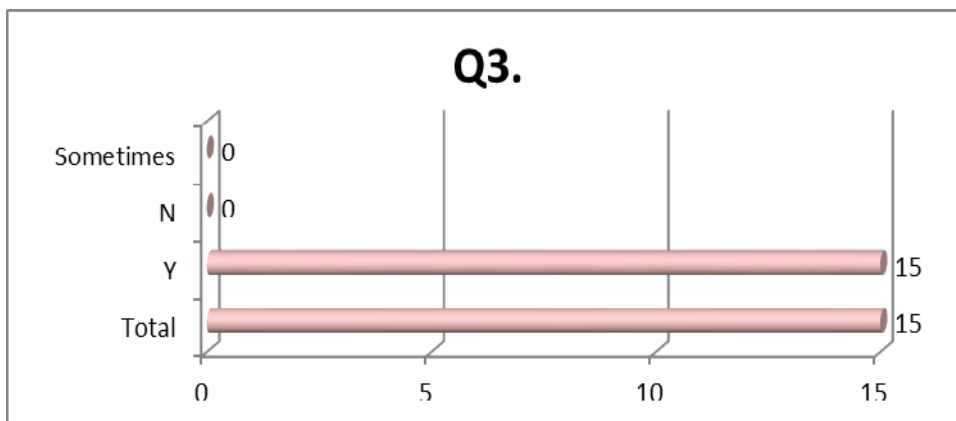
Q1. Do you attend the exercise groups each week?



Q2. Do Tuesdays suit you to attend the exercise group?

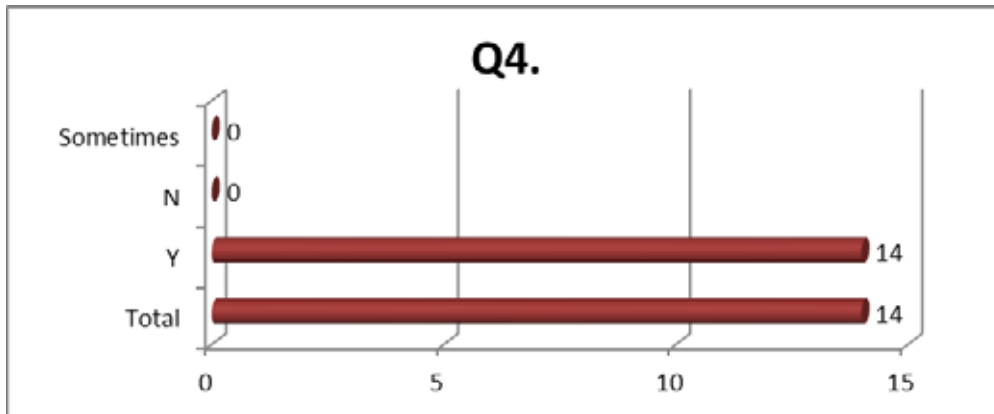


Q3. Is the time slot the exercise group is held convenient for you?

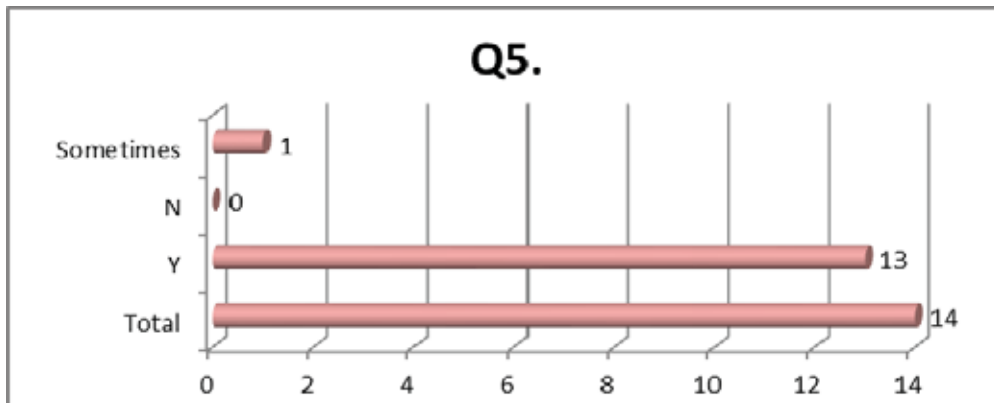




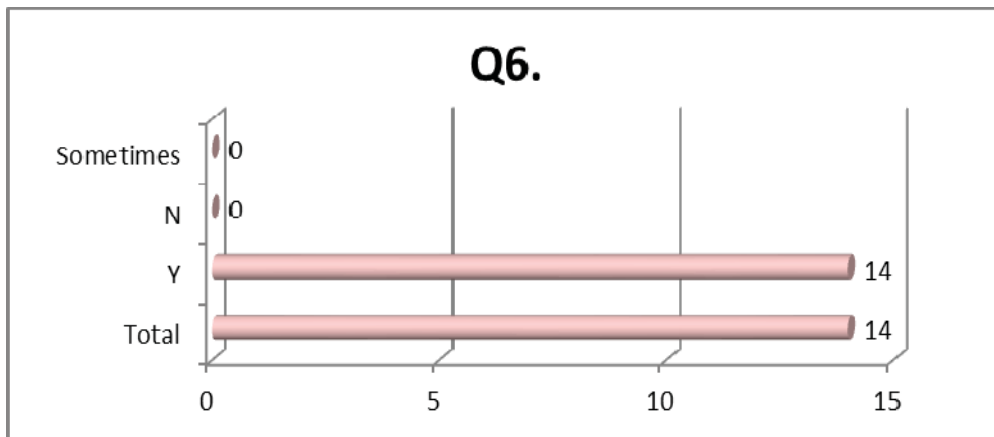
Q4. Do you feel the exercises and activities are suitable for your needs?



Q5. Is there enough variation in the classes to keep your interest?

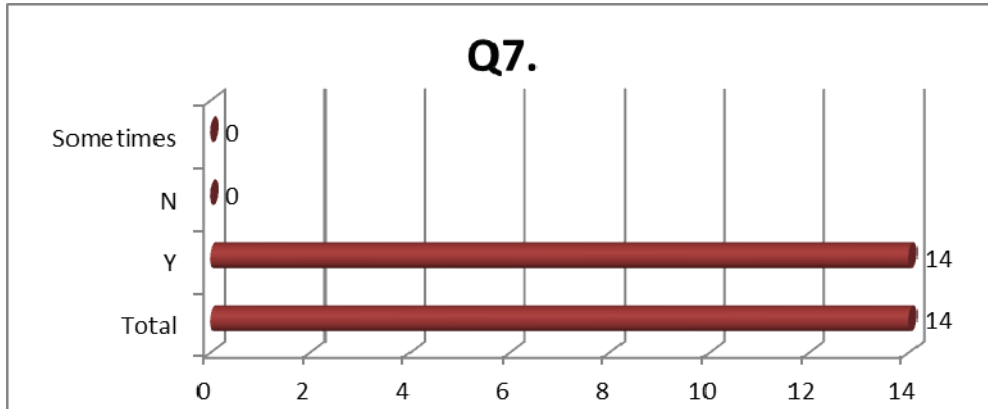


Q6. Is the exercise equipment available suitable for the classes?

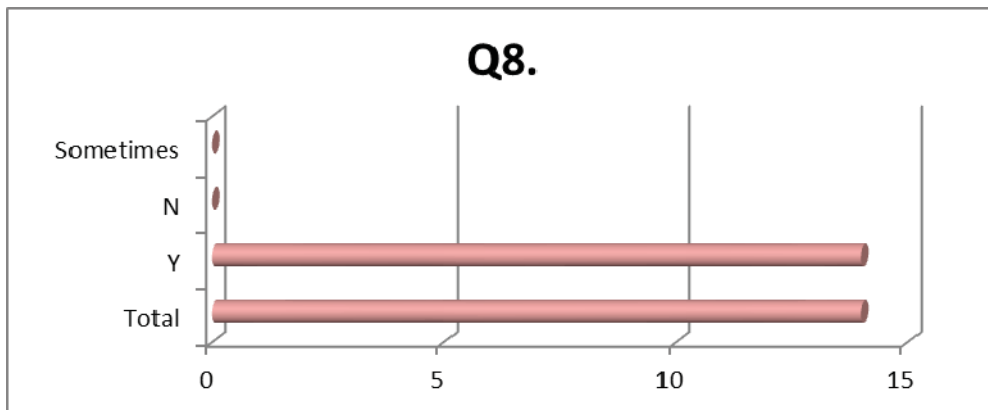




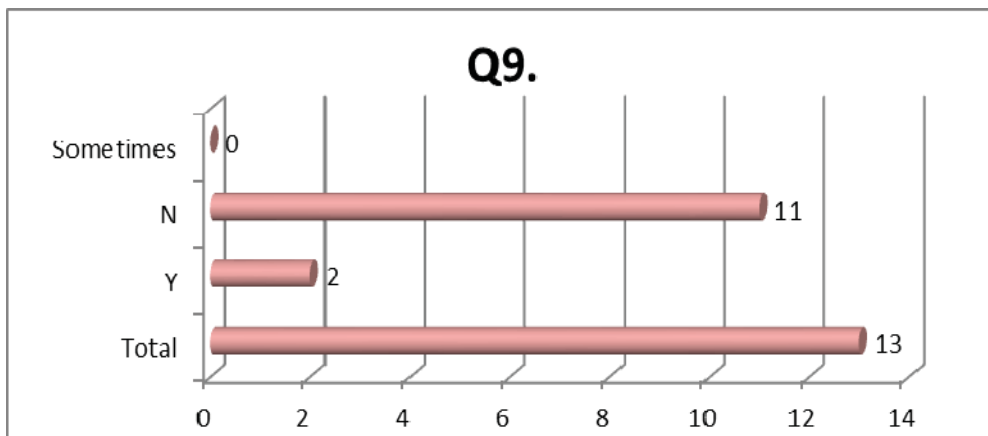
Q7. Do you feel the exercise program offered is good value for the \$5.00 you pay?



Q8. Would you be interested in participating in a brain training program that would run over a 4 week period in Nowendoc and Niangala?

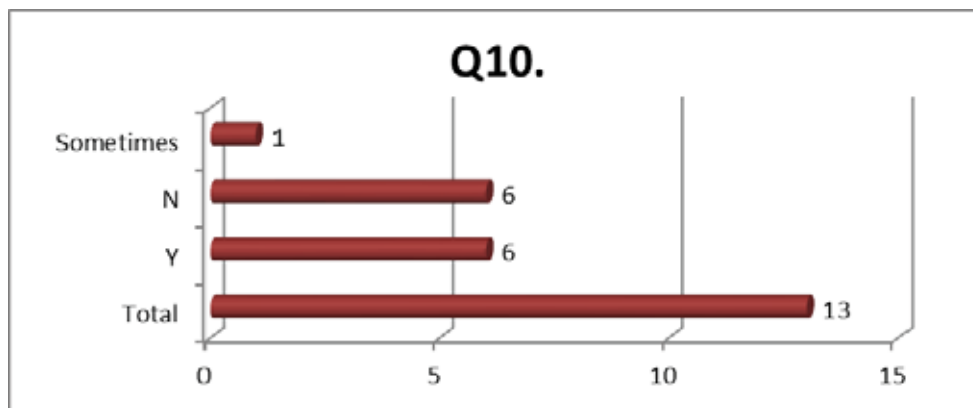


Q9. Do you think there is enough information about available programs that you could attend or participate in?





Q10. Would you like to attend a social support bus trip, where an overnight stay is required, joining the mixed group (the Women's Group, Men's Group and Wanderer's Group)?



Q11. If you were to join the group, do you have any ideas or suggestions for places that could be of interest for the social support group to visit?

Somewhere that is completely different from our interests and lifestyle

The Breathing Lady in Armidale - Healthy Tack - Podiatrist - Physio talks - Incontinence nurse

I am new to the district and don't know much

Eva Knowles - Health visits - Incontinence Nurse - Allergy talks - Podiatrist visit - Community nurse now and then, you come and visit us

Nurse, Health checks - Incontinence nurse

Q12. Do you have any further comments?

Busy program at home and not always able to attend. (paraphrased). "It is a very important and great service you provide and although I may not always participate in your programs, I do appreciate their value."

I haven't been attending the Niangala group for sometime and so not able to answer some of the questions. I hope to be able to go again in the future.

Come and see us

Funding to purchase exercise equipment that is needed to replace equipment that was provided by a private individual and has now been reclaimed, would be appreciated.



Other health & motivational activities to keep the mind and body active either it be "hands on" (practical) or theory (stimulating).

Nowendoc needs more information visits from health organisations. I realise some of these would be 'refresher' visits - but we need that as well as anything new.

I am very glad to have the opportunity to meet people, as well as get fit and do other activities.

A bit more variable information would be good. Would love an in service from "Eva Knowles" in Armidale. It would be beneficial for the whole community. Could she come to Nowendoc?

Cathy come and see us SOON!

The \$5 is a voluntary payment and covers the cost of hall rental - and is not in association with the exercise class.

Meetings and Training

2 – 4 November – Community Transport Organization Annual Conference; CTO on Track: the Might and Power of Reform, held at Sydney Olympic Park, Homebush. The 3 day conference was a great opportunity for all community transport providers to get together to participate in workshops and listen to information about changes in the sector which was the theme topic for the conference.



Stavros Koufis CEO CTO &
Kate Toohey, CTO Sector Development
Manager



Smoking Ceremony at the opening
of the Conference



Sharron Tibbs, Karina Wight & Cathy Noon



CTO Chairperson Bethany Simmonds, NSW Minister for Transport the Hon Andrew Constance & CTO CEO Stavros Koufis



Mark Tonga – a Director on the Board of Organisations that act for people with disabilities. Mark suffered a C3 spinal injury during a routine rugby training exercise



John Hartley – Assistant Commissioner for NSW Police



CTO 2015 Conference



9 November – Local Government NSW Disability Inclusion and Livable Communities Forum held in Sydney. Local Government are required to undertake disability action planning by 1 July 2017. NSW is currently undergoing a period of major reform in the disability sector, within this; there is an ongoing commitment to improving inclusion for people with a disability.

The National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) is a major reform that will deliver a national system of disability support focusing on the individual needs and choices of people with disabilities. The NDIS gives participants more choice and control over how, when and where supports are provided. Funding is allocated to each eligible individual, rather than block funding being allocated to service providers. Disability action planning is complementary to the NDIS, and will assist councils in breaking down local barriers to participation by people with disabilities in the community.

The forum provided a range of speakers from both Government and Councils who talked about how and what they have undertaken to make their community's disability inclusive.

11 & 12 November – Transport Forum at Craigdon, Narrabri.

12 November – Dementia Support Group get together held in the Community Day Centre Rooms.

Catherine Noon
Community Care Coordinator

RECOMMENDATION: that items included in the Management Review Report, numbered 1 to 13 inclusive, be **NOTED** by Council.

Submitted to Council: 25 November 2015

..... General Manager Mayor



Item 10:

Committee Reports

Submitted to Council: 16 December 2015

..... General Manager Mayor



Walcha Town and District Beautification and Tidy Towns Committee Meeting Minutes

held on

Wednesday, 02 December 2015

at

4:00 pm

at

Walcha Council Chambers

PRESENT:

Clr Robert Thomson (Chair), Kamal Kamalarasa (Director Engineering Services), Alex Smith, Jim Hallenan, Stephen Sweeney (Works Supervisor – Urban).

1. **APOLOGIES:** Felicity Nivison

2. **CONFIRMATION OF MEETING MINUTES HELD ON WEDNESDAY 09 SEPTEMBER 2015:**

RESOLVED: On the motion of SMITH and HALLENAN that the Minutes of the Walcha Town and District Beautification and Tidy Towns Committee Meeting held on 09 September 2015, copies of which have been distributed to all members, be taken as read and confirmed as a true record.

3. **BUSINESS ARISING:**

3.1 **Tree Species List Consideration**

The town map showing street tree species and services is not available at this stage and is being developed. This map will be completed and presented at a future meeting.

ACTION BY: Director - Engineering Services.





4. GENERAL BUSINESS:

4.1. Items for Discussion

Site inspections were carried out at three locations:

(A) Tamworth Entrance to Town

A recommendation was made to plant Liquid Amber trees along the Northern side of Oxley Highway. These new trees should be in alignment with the existing trees and at the mid point between these existing trees. Urban Works Supervisor to present a cost estimate.

ACTION BY: SWEENEY

(B) Middle Street

Consideration was given to replacing the existing row of trees (old) on the Western side of Middle Street with a suitable new species. The alignment is constrained by the existing power line and sewer/water pipes. Tree type to be discussed in next meeting.

(C) Semphill Crescent

Consideration was given to the possible removal of the Box Elder trees and replacing with Canadian Maples. To be discussed in next meeting.

5. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Walcha Town and District Beautification and Tidy Towns Committee will be held on Wednesday, 16 March 2016. The meeting will commence at 4:00pm.

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS THE CHAIR DECLARED THE MEETING CLOSED AT 5:15PM.

CONFIRMED _____ (Signed)

Date: ___ / ___ / ___ Chairman



Item 11:

Delegate Reports

Submitted to Council: 16 December 2015

..... General Manager Mayor



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

MINUTES

held at

TAMWORTH REGIONAL COUNCIL

FRIDAY 27 NOVEMBER 2015 commencing at 9.00am

-
- PRESENT:**
- Tamworth Regional Council**
Cr Col Murray, Mayor and Namoi Councils Chairperson and Paul Bennett, General Manager
 - Narrabri Shire Council**
Cr Conrad Bolton, Mayor and Namoi Councils Deputy Chairperson and Stewart Todd, General Manager
 - Gunnedah Shire Council**
Cr Owen Hasler, Mayor
 - Gwydir Shire Council**
Cr John Coulton, Mayor and Max Eastcott, General Manager
 - Moree Plains Shire Council**
Cr Mick Cikota and Lester Rodgers, General Manager
 - Liverpool Plains Shire Council**
Cr Andrew Hope, Mayor and Ron Van Katwyk, Acting General Manager
 - Walcha Shire Council**
Cr Janelle Archdale, Mayor
 - Uralla Shire Council**
Cr Mick Pearce, Mayor and Damien Connor, General Manager
-

1 APOLOGIES

Apologies were announced as having been received from Cr Katrina Humphries, Mayor, Moree Plains Shire Council, Jack O'Hara, General Manager, Walcha Council and Eric Groth, General Manager, Gunnedah Shire Council.

2 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

MOTION

Moved Cr Bolton, Narrabri and seconded by Cr Archdale, Walcha

AGM1/15 RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the 2014 Annual General Meeting of Namoi Councils held on 11 December 2014, as circulated to member Councils, be confirmed as a correct record of the proceedings of the Annual General Meeting.

3 BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Nil

4 CHAIRPERSONS REPORT 2015

The Chairperson's 2015 Annual Report was tabled in relation to the activities and operations of Namoi Councils Joint Organisation for the past 12 months.

MOTION

Moved Cr Hasler, Gunnedah and seconded Cr Bolton, Narrabri

AGM2/15 RESOLVED

That the Namoi Councils 2015 Chairperson's Report be received and noted.

5 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2015

The Executive Officer advised that the Annual Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2015 incorporating an Independent Audit Report, Statement by Members of the Committee, Income Statement, Balance Sheet, Statement of Changes in Equity and Cash Flow Statement were nearing completion and would be circulated to all member Councils.

6 RETURNING OFFICER

Damien Connor, General Manager, Uralla Shire Council performed the role of Returning Officer.

7 ELECTION OF CHAIRPERSON

The Returning Officer invited nominations for the position of Chairperson of Namoi Councils for the ensuing 12 month term.

A nomination was received for Cr Col Murray who indicated his acceptance to nomination for the position of Chairperson of Namoi Councils for the ensuing 12 month term.

As there were no other nominations, Cr Murray was appointed Chairperson of Namoi Councils for the ensuing term.

8 ELECTION OF DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON

The Returning Officer invited nominations for the position of Deputy Chairperson of Namoi Councils for the ensuing 12 month term.

A nomination was received for Cr Conrad Bolton who indicated his acceptance to nomination for the position of Namoi Councils Chairperson for the ensuing 12 month term.

As there were no other nominations, Cr Bolton was appointed Deputy Chairperson of Namoi Councils for the ensuing term.

9 APPOINTMENT OF AUDITOR

MOTION

Moved Cr Bolton, Narrabri and second by Cr Hope, Liverpool Plains

AGM3/15 RESOLVED

That Tamworth Regional Council be appointed the Auditor for Namoi Councils Joint Organisation for the ensuing term.

10 DETERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP FEES

Cr Pearce, Mayor, Uralla Shire Council advised that his Council wished to revert back to full membership of the Namoi Councils Joint Organisation.

MOTION

Moved Cr Archdale, Walcha and seconded by Cr Hope, Liverpool Plains

AGM4/15 RESOLVED

That Uralla Shire Council be accepted as a full member of the Namoi Councils Joint Organisation and the following membership fees be adopted for the 2015/2016 Financial Year:

Membership Fee 2015/2016:

Council Full Member:	\$25,000 plus GST
Associate (Non-Voting) Member	\$ 6,250 plus GST

11 DATE FOR 2016 NAMOI COUNCILS BOARD MEETINGS

MOTION

Moved Cr Hasler, Gunnedah and seconded by Cr Hope, Liverpool Plains

AGM5/15 RESOLVED

That the date and venue for 2016 Namoi Councils Board Meetings be fixed as follows:

Monthly – 1st Thursday of every month commencing February 2016:

MEETING DATE	MEETING LOCATION
Thursday 4 February 2016	Liverpool Plains
Thursday 3 March 2016	Gunnedah
Thursday 7 April 2016	Narrabri
Thursday 5 May 2016	Gwydir
Thursday 2 June 2016	Moree Plains
Thursday 7 July 2016	Walcha
Thursday 4 August 2016	Uralla
Thursday 1 September 2016	Liverpool Plains
Thursday 6 October 2016	Gunnedah
Thursday 3 November 2016	Narrabri
Thursday 1 December 2016	Tamworth
Thursday 1 December 2016 - AGM	Tamworth

12 MINISTER FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT

The Hon Paul Toole MP, Minister for Local Government addressed the Joint Organisation Board in relation to the following matters:

- Legislation for the roll-out of Joint Organisations would occur in the first half of 2016.
- The Office of Local Government had issued the JO Emerging Directions Paper which has received wide input from Councils and Joint Organisations.
- The JO Emerging Directions Workshop was well attended and clarified a number of issues.
- The Minister invited further comment from Councils on any proposed local government boundary changes.
- The legislative and policy framework for JOs will provide flexibility from one region to another.
- State Agencies are engaging and collaborating well with Councils through Joint Organisations and comment has been received

from Pilot JOs that the level of engagement and collaboration has never been better.

- A Question and Answer Forum was held with the Minister and JO Board Members.

Closure: There being no further business the Namoi Councils Annual General Meeting concluded at 9.45am.

Cr Col Murray, Namoi Councils Joint Organisation Chairperson
- oOo -



MEETING

Held at

Tamworth Regional Council

Friday 27 November 2015 commencing at 9.30pm

MINUTES

-
- PRESENT:**
- Tamworth Regional Council**
Cr Col Murray, Mayor and Namoi Councils Chairperson, and Paul Bennett, General Manager
 - Narrabri Shire Council**
Cr Conrad Bolton, Mayor and Namoi Councils Deputy Chairperson and Stewart Todd, General Manager
 - Gwydir Shire Council**
Cr John Coulton, Mayor and Max Eastcott, General Manager
 - Gunnedah Shire Council**
Cr Owen Hasler, Mayor
 - Moree Plains Shire Council**
Cr Mick Cikota and Lester Rodgers, General Manager
 - Walcha Council**
Cr Janelle Archdale, Mayor
 - Uralla Shire Council**
Cr Mick Pearce, Mayor and Damien Connor, General Manager
-

Regional Development Australian Northern Inland
Russell Stewart, Chairperson

1 REGIONAL GOVERNANCE

1.1 APOLOGIES

Apologies were announced as having been received from Cr Katrina Humphries, Mayor, Moree Plains Shire Council, Jack O'Hara, General Manager, Walcha Council and Eric Groth, General Manager, Gunnedah Shire Council.

Declaration of Interest

Nil

1.2 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

MOTION

Moved Cr Archdale, Walcha and seconded Cr Hope, Liverpool Plains

139/15 RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the Meeting of Namoi Councils held on 29 October 2015, copies of which were circulated to all members, be taken as read and confirmed as a correct record of the proceedings of the Meeting.

1.3 BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Nil

1.4 OUTSTANDING ACTION LIST 29

MOTION

Moved Cr Bolton, Narrabri and seconded Cr Hope, Liverpool Plains

140/15 RESOLVED

That Outstanding Action List 29 be received and noted.

1.5 FINANCE REPORT

MOTION

Moved Cr Bolton, Narrabri and seconded Cr Archdale, Walcha

- (i) That the Namoi Councils JO Finance Report as at 31 October 2015 be received and noted;
- (ii) That it be noted the Namoi Councils JO Bank Account has been set up to allow internet banking transactions and the investment of funds; and
- (iii) That it be noted the Namoi Councils JO Bank Account has a balance of \$24,766.43 as at 23 November 2015 following the payment of a number invoices and the investment of a further \$50,000 during the month.

2 REGIONAL ADVOCACY

2.1 ISSUES SUBMITTED BY MEMBER COUNCILS

Nil

2.2 REGIONAL MEDIA ISSUES

A number of Board Members referred to a recent visit to the Region of a NSW Government Land Use Conflict Taskforce established to resolve problems in 'hot spot' areas and involved developing and presenting options to State Ministers for better managing and resolving conflicts between mining, coal seam gas and agriculture.

The Liverpool Plains has been identified as the desktop case study for the Taskforce as the site of two proposed major new coal mines. The Chinese government-owned Shenhua mine has recently received conditional approval from the Federal Government for its open cut coal mine, and is awaiting final approval by the State Government.

BHP Billiton is still working on its environmental impact statement for its underground mine at Caroonah.

The Taskforce was formed in response to almost a decade of opposition from farmers in the region while over the past couple of years businesses in the towns of Gunnedah and Quirindi have expressed support for the economic benefits the mines could bring to their towns and the region generally.

Reference was made to comments from the Premier Mike Baird and a recent visit to the Region by the Premier that creation of the Taskforce was an acknowledgement by the Government that it could do better in terms of resolving strategic land use conflicts. A number of Board members said they were taken by surprise and has no prior knowledge of the formation of the Taskforce.

The Taskforce is made up of the Department of Premier and Cabinet, the Department of Planning and Environment, Department of Industry, the Director General of the Department of Primary Industries, the CEOs of the Office of Environment and Heritage and the NSW Environment Protection Agency.

It is understood that the Taskforce proposes to submit a Cabinet proposal by December 18.

MOTION

Moved Hope, Liverpool Plains and seconded Cr Hasler, Gunnedah

141/15 RESOLVED

That the Chairperson be authorised to issue a Media Release in respect of the visit to the Namoi Region of NSW Government Land Use Conflict Taskforce.

2.3 MEDIA RELEASES ISSUED

MOTION

Moved Pearce, Uralla and seconded Cr Hasler, Gunnedah

142/15 RESOLVED

That the Media Release issued in respect of the position of Namoi Councils JO members in regard to “Fit for the Future” Reforms be received and noted.

2.4 OUTWARD CORRESPONDENCE

MOTION

Moved Cr Hope, Liverpool Plains and seconded Cr Archdale, Walcha

143/15 RESOLVED

That Outward Correspondence Items 2.4.1 to 2.4.3 be noted

2.5 INWARD CORRESPONDENCE

MOTION

Moved Cr Cikota, Moree Plains and seconded Cr Pearce, Uralla

144/15 RESOLVED

That in Inward Correspondence Item 2.5.1 be received and noted.

3 INTERGOVERNMENTAL COLLABORATION

3.1 NSW Department of Premier & Cabinet, Regional Coordinator, Alison McGaffin

The NSW Department of Premier & Cabinet Regional Coordinator, Alison McGaffin, addressed the Board in relation to the following matters and issues:

- The Hon Sarah Mitchell MLC, Parliamentary Secretary for Western NSW, has been appointed Chairperson of the Western Region Mining Taskforce which will continue work in maximising the net social and employment benefits for communities in western NSW arising from growth in mining activity.
- The next meeting Western Region Mining Taskforce is scheduled to be held on Monday 7 December next in the NSW Parliament Building, Macquarie Street, Sydney.
- NSW Department of Premier & Cabinet is currently preparing a 2016 Mining Taskforce Work Program.
- Department of Premier & Cabinet Secretary, Blair Comley, recently visited Gunnedah and Narrabri Councils, and the North West Local Land Service and inspected the Shenhua Coal Project, the proposed BHP Billiton Caroon Coal Project, Santos CSG fields, Maules Creek Coal Mine, G S

Kidd Special School, Winanga-Li Aboriginal Child and Family Centre, both located in Gunnedah.

- Regional Leadership and Regional Managers Group meetings had recently been held and the Parliamentary Secretary for Western NSW, Sarah Mitchell MLC, had been able to attend and was impressed the Leadership Meeting and the level of engagement with Councils in the Region.

3.2 PILOT JOINT ORGANISATION UPDATE

MOTION

Moved Cr Bolton, Narrabri and seconded Cr Hope, Liverpool Plains

145/15 RESOLVED

That in relation to the Pilot Joint Organisation Update Report, the Board:

- support an Intergovernmental Agreement providing for, amongst other things, recognition of the paradigm shift to a partnership between State and Local Government and a mature relationship based on shared information approach and a culture of collaborative strategic regional planning, negotiation and trust for regional growth and development;
- note the Pilot Joint Organisation Grant Expenditure to date;
- adopt the Namoi Councils Joint Organisation Communication Strategy;
- received and note the Report from the Executive Officer in relation to the resolutions passed in respect of the Regional Freight Connectivity and Productivity Analysis Project sponsored by Moree Plains Shire Council;
- the "Scope of Work" for the Regional Freight Connectivity and Productivity Analysis Project include identification of vehicle routes used for the transportation of meat products from Abattoirs operating within the Region;
- allocate \$75,000 from the Pilot Joint Organisation Grant of \$300,000 to fund the Regional Freight Connectivity and Productivity Analysis Project; and
- the Namoi Investment Prospectus Project Plan be adopted.

4 REGIONAL STRATEGIC PLANNING AND PRIORITISATION

4.1 REGIONAL PLANNING GROUP MEETING REPORT –27 OCTOBER 2015

MOTION

Moved Cr Coulton, Gwydir and seconded Cr Pearce, Uralla

146/15 RESOLVED

That the recommendations of the Report of the Regional Planning Group Meeting held on 27 October 2015 be received and noted.

5.1 NAMOI WATER ALLIANCE TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING – 28 OCTOBER 2015

MOTION

Moved Cr Archdale, Walcha and seconded Cr Bolton, Narrabri

147/15 RESOLVED

That the report of Namoi Water Alliance Technical Advisory Committee Meeting held on 28 October 2015 be received and noted.

5 NAMOI COUNCILS SHARED SERVICES

Nil

6 GENERAL BUSINESS

6.1 REGIONAL AND LOCAL ROAD FUNDING MODEL

The JO Chairperson, Cr Col Murray, tabled an Executive Brief in respect of the funding of regional and local roads by Councils proposing the adoption of a strategic united approach to road funding but also identifying a commitment to a recurrent funding source, agreed to by all levels of government, and based on a “user pays system” divided equitably between Councils (ratepayers), State and Federal Governments.

MOTION

Moved Cr Bolton, Narrabri and seconded Cr Hope, Liverpool Plains

148/15 RESOLVED

(i) That Namoi Councils construct and define a new model for funding regional and local roads to include the following key elements for presentation to the NSW Minister for Local Government:

- Urban roads within the boundary of a defined urban area not be included in “user pays” model and construction, reconstruction, maintenance and repair continue to be funded by Councils.
- Local and Regional Roads be the focus of an equitable “user pays” funding model.
- Adoption of a regionally accepted hierarchy of Local and Regional Roads for the Namoi JO region and member Councils.
- Adoption of a regional and consistent asset management strategy for the Namoi JO region and member Councils.
- Road traffic counts to determine local and through traffic.
- Road length and industry accepted funding benchmarks for different roads categorised within a consistent and uniform regional hierarchy.
- Determinations made on what is a reasonable and acceptable level of funding yielded from:
 - population of JO member Council LGAs.
 - wider regional road users
 - wider State road users

- Agreed funding based on the various categories of road users as a percentage of fuel excise paid by all NSW road users.
- (ii) That the Executive Officer be requested organise a Workshop prior to Christmas if it can be arranged and representatives of Mid Coast and Orana Regional Organisation of Councils invited to attend to discuss the New Funding Model for regional and local roads and the merit of proceeding to build and define such a model.

7 DATE AND VENUE FOR NEXT NAMOI COUNCILS BOARD MEETING

Date: Thursday 4 February 2016 commencing at 9.30am

Venue: Liverpool Plains Shire Council

Closure: **There being no further business, the Namoi Councils Joint Organisation Meeting concluded at 2.05pm**

Cr Col Murray, Namoi Councils, Chairperson

27 November 2015

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