



BUSINESS PAPER
ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL

To be held on

Wednesday, 30 March 2016

3:00pm

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/2016/00384

AGENDA

Submitted to Council: 30 March 2016

..... 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, 30 March 2016** commencing at **3:00pm**.

Yours sincerely

Jack O'Hara
GENERAL MANAGER

INDEX

- 1. Apologies
- 2. Confirmation of Previous Minutes
 - 2.1 Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on Wednesday, 17 February 2016 at Walcha Council Chambers. WO/2016/00188
- 3. Business Arising
- 4. Declarations of Interest
- 5. Mayoral Minute
- 6. Senior Officers Reports
 - 6.1 Achievements of Delivery Program to 31 December 2015
WO/2016/00177
 - 6.2 Request for Leave of Absence by Councillor Woods WO/2016/00361
 - 6.3 Concerns about new Emergency Services Property Levy WO/2016/00364
 - 6.4 Timber Bridges Update WO/2016/00311
 - 6.5 Approval for Legal Assistance with Legal Costs for Cowra Shire Council
WO/2016/00343
 - 6.6 Regional Roads Working Group Meeting Update WO/2016/00327
 - 6.7 Committee of the Whole Referral – Walcha Preschool Advisory Committee Membership
WO/2016/00331
 - 6.8 Committee of the Whole Referral – Request to Review Assistance to General Practitioners Policy
WO/2016/00385

Submitted to Council: 30 March 2016

..... General Manager Mayor



- 7. Notice of Motion WO/2016/00391

- 8. Matters of Urgency
(Resolution to admit matters of urgency before being further considered by Council).

- 9. Management Review Report WO/2016/00332

- 10. Committee Reports
 - 10.1 Minutes of the Walcha Council Beautification & Tidy Towns Committee Meeting held on Wednesday, 16 March 2016 at Council Chambers, Hamilton Street, Walcha. WO/2016/00359

- 11. Delegate Reports
 - 11.1 Minutes of the New England Group of Councils Meeting held on Friday, 26 February 2016 at Armidale Dumaresq Council Chambers. WI/2016/1199
 - 11.2 Minutes of the Country Mayors Association Meeting held on Friday, 11 March 2016 at the Country Embassy Sydney. WI/2016/01362

- 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,
17 February 2016:**

**Matters arising from the Ordinary Meeting held on Wednesday, 17 February
2016:**

Submitted to Council: 30 March 2016

..... General Manager Mayor



ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL

held on

Wednesday, 17 February 2016

at

2:00pm

at

Walcha Council Chambers

PRESENT: Clr JM Archdale (Chairman) Mayor together with Councillors KW Ferrier, WJ Heazlett, L Levingston, RS Thomson and MJ Woods.

IN ATTENDANCE: Mr JG O'Hara, General Manager, and Mrs LJ Latham, Environmental Services Manager.

1. APOLOGIES:

101 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Ferrier and Levingston that the apology received from Councillor Lyon, due to business commitments, and Councillor Schmutter arriving late, due to work commitments, be **ACCEPTED**.

MINUTES



2. CONFIRMATION OF THE ORDINARY MEETING MINUTES HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 16 DECEMBER 2015:

102 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Levingston and Heazlett that the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on Wednesday, 16 December 2016, copies of which have been distributed to all members, be taken as read and confirmed a **TRUE** record.

CONFIRMATION OF THE EXTRA ORDINARY MEETING MINUTES HELD ON MONDAY, 21 DECEMBER 2015:

103 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Levingston and Heazlett that the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on Monday, 21 December 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

Nil.

5. MAYORAL MINUTE

104 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillor Archdale that the Mayoral Minute, below, be **ADOPTED** by Council.

It is disappointing that following our Extra Ordinary Meeting held on 21 December 2015 where Council resolved to call the Minister for Local Government to withdraw the proposal for Walcha and Tamworth Regional Councils merger that the Minister declined to consider our request or agree to meet with Walcha Council. The reason being that it would be inappropriate as we were now in the Boundaries Commission process and that process must continue through to completion.

Appointed Delegate of the Office of Local Government Amanda Chadwick held the Public Inquiry into the Merger proposal between Tamworth and Walcha on Wednesday, 10 February 2016. Ms Chadwick could not have been more impressed and Walcha Council more honoured by the support shown from the 6-700 people who attended the meeting. The 60 speakers represented all sectors of the community from service clubs, schools, health, sport, social, rural, art and many more. The importance of services supplied by Council and received every day by our rate payers and the fear of losing the fibre of our community being the common thread.



As we workshop our submission to Ms Chadwick today we must cover all 10 factors the delegate must consider in her report to the Boundaries Commission with emphasise on the adverse impacts a merger would have on the future of the Walcha community. If a merger were to proceed the loss of jobs and the domino effect that has, especially in a rural community and the commitment to the delivery of services in particular to the outer lying areas of Yarrowitch and Nowendoc are of real concern.

The Walcha Community has formed an Action Group and begun a campaign using social media. This Group is working tirelessly and are determined to keep up the momentum. Council must also do the same. We have achieved so many positives that are due for recognition in the coming months including the opening of the Aboriginal Section of the Cemetery, the completion of Thunderbolts Way near Glen Eagle funded by the RDA Grant, the commencement of the rehabilitation / replacement of four (4) major bridges in the shire, the installation of exercise equipment along the levee bank being just a few.

Councillors, after four years of consultation, meetings, workshops and submissions we are edging closer to knowing the future of our fine Council. This gives a feeling of uneasiness as we do not control the outcome. However, each and every one of us can be sure that the decisions made around this table have been made in the best interest of our community and the employees of this Council. Our decisions have been made in good faith, with information that has been provided to us with the results of public consultation with our community.

It will be a resolute government that finds to merge a Council that satisfies the IPART Financial Criteria, is progressive, capable and has already implemented many changes to meet the requirement of Local Government Reform solely because the population is considered not large enough to be sustainable. An arbitrary figure can surely not determine the future of a Council that has survived and been successful for 127 years.

6. SENIOR OFFICERS REPORT

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

**6.1 Landfill Consolidation and Environmental Improvements Grant Funding
WO/2016/00137**

106 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Ferrier and Levingston that Council **ACCEPT** the Landfill Consolidation and Environmental Improvements Grant Funding for Nowendoc and Woolbrook by signing the Deeds of Agreement **FURTHER THAT** approving the Council Funding and In-Kind contribution amounts to be incorporated in the 2016/17 Financial Year Budget.



6.2 Quarterly Review of Operational Plan & Budget as at December 2015

WO/2016/00144

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

6.3 Adopt Amended Model Code of Conduct due to Commencement of the Local Government Amendment (Councillor Misconduct and Poor Performance Act) 2015

WO/2016/00139

108 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Ferrier and Levingston that Council **ADOPT** the **AMENDED Model Code of Conduct for Local Councils in NSW** as presented.

LATE REPORT

1 Formalisation to Acquire Crown Land Lots 1 & 2 DP 1215172 and Lot 242 DP 756502 near the Walcha Sewerage Treatment Plant

109 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Ferrier and Thomson that Council **APPROVE** the acquisition of Crown Land Lots 1 & 2 DP 1215172 and Lot 242 DP 756502 to be consolidated with Council’s land at the Walcha Sewerage Treatment Plant **FURTHER THAT** Council **APPROVE** to making the acquisition application to the Minister and/or the Governor.

7. NOTICE OF MOTION

Nil.

8. MATTERS OF URGENCY

Nil.

9. MANAGEMENT REVIEW REPORTS

WO/2016/00104

110 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Ferrier and Heazlett to send a letter to Loretta Blanch congratulating her on her Scholarship from StateCover to complete her Diploma of Work Health & Safety.

111 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Thomson and Ferrier 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, 15 December 2015 at the Community Care Day Centre Rooms. WO/2016/00147

11. DELEGATE REPORTS

11.1 Minutes of the New England Tablelands (Noxious Plants) County Council Ordinary Meeting held in the Armidale Office on Wednesday, 28 October 2015. WI/2015/00631

11.2 Minutes of the Namoi Councils Joint Organisation General Meeting held at Liverpool Plains Shire Council on Thursday, 2 February 2016. WI/2016/00599

12. COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Nil.

SUSPEND COUNCIL MEETING

112 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Ferrier and Heazlett that Council **SUSPEND** the Meeting at 2:25pm to Workshop Council’s Submission to the Delegate appointed for the Merger Proposal between Tamworth Regional Council and Walcha Council.

Councillor Schmutter arrived at the Meeting at 3:50pm.

113 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Ferrier and Levingston that Council resume the Meeting at 5:14pm.

114 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Schmutter and Levingston that Council **ADOPT** the amended submission to the Delegate appointed by the Acting CEO of the Office of Local Government to review the Minister for Local Government proposed merger of Walcha Council with Tamworth Regional Council.

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



Item 6:
Senior Officers'
Reports

Submitted to Council: 30 March 2016

..... General Manager Mayor



Item: 6.1 **Ref:** WO/2016/00403
Title: Delivery Program Six Monthly Review 2013/2014 – 2016/2017 as at December 2015
Author: General Manager
Previous Items: Not Applicable
Attachment: Yes – given separately.

Report:

In accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Act 1993, and under the Integrated Planning & Reporting legislation, Council is to report six monthly on the progress of the Delivery Program. This report is to formally adopt the Delivery Program December 2015 review.

RECOMMENDATION:

In accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Act, 1993, Council adopt the Delivery Program 2013/2014 – 2016/2017 December 2015 six monthly review.

Submitted to Council: 30 March 2016

..... General Manager Mayor



Item: 6.2

Ref: WO/2016/00361

Title: Request for Leave of Absence by Councillor Woods

Author: General Manager

Councillor Woods requests that Council grant her a Leave of Absence from Council duties in May, June and July 2016 due to personal and family commitments.

Submitted to Council: 30 March 2016

..... General Manager Mayor



Item: 6.3 **Ref:** WO/2016/00364
Title: Concerns about new Emergency Services Property Levy
Author: General Manager
Previous Items: Not Applicable
Attachment: No

Introduction:

Local Government NSW has advised that the NSW Government has announced an Emergency Services Property Levy (ESPL) which will commence on 1 July 2017. Local Government NSW has long advocated replacing the current Emergency Services Levy (ESL) on councils and insurance policies with a broad-based property levy like the ESPL.

Report:

Local Government NSW is concerned that while the ESPL will replace the ESL on insurance policies, it won't replace the 11.7% ESL on Councils. The State Government, in their Media Release dated 10 December 2015 by David Elliott, Minister for Emergency Services, stated "This new levy will be based on unimproved land values and will be collected by local government on behalf of the State. Different property levies will be applied to different categories of land. The Government is considering appropriate land classifications such as residential, commercial, farmland and public benefit land." The proposed reform is not acceptable to local government without the abolition of the ESL on councils.

LGNSW continues to make representations to the Treasure and the Minister for Police and Emergency Services advocating the concurrent removal of the ESL on councils.

LGNSW have also made it clear that agreement to collect the ESPL alongside Council rates is contingent on the removal of ESL on councils and subject to the following conditions:

- ◆ Councils being able to fully recover costs associated with the collection function;
- ◆ The ESPL being separate from council rates, clearly itemised and identified as a NSW Government levy;
- ◆ Council rates having priority over the ESPL in debt recovery; and
- ◆ Councils not bearing the risk of non-payment (liability to remain with the property owner).

LGNSW is encouraging Councils to write directly to the NSW Treasurer and the Minister for Emergency Services as the NSW Government wants to hear Councils' views.

RECOMMENDATION: That Council write to the NSW Treasurer and the Minister for Emergency Services advising of Councils concerns about the proposed operation of the Emergency Services Property Levy.

Submitted to Council: 30 March 2016

..... General Manager Mayor



Item: 6.4 **Ref:** WO/2016/00311
Title: Timber Bridges Update
Author: Director – Engineering Services
Previous Items: Monthly Reports
Attachment: Nil

Introduction:

This report provides Council with an update on the Timber Bridges.

Report:

The 31 Timber Bridges within the Walcha Council had been assessed by Local Government Engineering Solution in 2014/2015. The Results of the assessment were submitted on July 2015 Council meeting which are:

- 3 Bridges – closures required (Campfire Road Bridge, Hartford Road Bridge, Old Brookmount Road Bridge)
- 3 Bridges – very poor in condition (5 tonne)
- 8 Bridges – Poor in condition (35-60 % capacity)
- 4 Bridges – Moderate (64-75 % capacity)
- 8 Bridges – Short term adequate (works required within 12 months) and
- 5 Bridges – Satisfactory.

Based on the priority basis, the work has been carried out to facilitate services. The details are in the table given below.

Submitted to Council: 30 March 2016

..... General Manager Mayor



Asset Number	Road	Bridge Name	Load Limit	2015/16	Remarks
4574	Aberbaldie Road	Spitzbergen Creek Bridge	Single Axle - 10 T Tandem Axle - 15 T Tri-Axle - 15 T (75%)		(1) Fisheries approval has been received. (2) By pass will be installed in April.(3) Concrete bridge Construction will be in 2016/2017 (BRP and FCR funding)
5194	Kangaroo Flat Road	Warnes River	No Limit		
11366	Campfire Road	Tressa Vale	Take out of service	Completed (replaced by culvert)	
5355	Moona Plains Road	Rizzi	Single Axle - 7 T Tandem Axle - 7 T Tri-Axle - 7 T (35%)	Has been scheduled from 14/03/2016 (Concrete deck)	Fisheries approval has been received
5632	Niangala Road	McHatton's	No Limit	Completed	
5099	Glen Morrison road	Wirribilla	Single Axle - 10 T Tandem Axle - 10 T Tri-Axle - 10 T (50%)		
5159	Hartford Road		Out of service	(1) Bypass installed. (2) Construction(Concrete bridge) will be in 2016/2017 (RTR funding)	
5218	Kangaroo Flat Road	Washpool	Single Axle - 10 T Tandem Axle - 13 T Tri-Axle - 13 T (64%)		
5379	Moona Plains Road	Cicilini	Single Axle - 7 T Tandem Axle - 7 T Tri-Axle - 7 T (35%)	(1) Design - nearly completed. (2) construction will be carried out this year- steel pile & head stock	
4919	Flags Niangala Road	Halls Creek Bridge	5T		(1) Waiting for Fisheries approval (2) Construction (concrete bridge)will be in 2016/2017 (Bridge Repair Program)

Submitted to Council:

30 March 2016

..... General Manager Mayor



Asset Number	Road	Bridge Name	Load Limit	2015/16	Remarks
4985	Flags Niangala Road	Avondale Bridge	5T	(1) Bypass installed (2) will be replaced by concrete deck this year (RTR funding)	
5124	Hartford Road	Maineys Creek	Single Axle - 10 T Tandem Axle - 10 T Tri-Axle - 10 T (50%)		(1) Fisheries approval has been received (2) will be replaced by concrete bridge (RTR funding)
5698	Old Brookmount Road	Emu Creek	Out of service	(1) Bypass installed. (2) waiting for survey and hydrological data. (3) Council will design box culvert and construction (RTR funding)	
5764	Sams Flat	Macleods Creek	No Limit		
5414	Mooraback Road	Oldfields Bridge	5 T	has been scheduled from 30/03/2016. Nature of works are replacing timber gireder and piles)	
5010	Glen Morrison road	Stephen's Bridge	Single Axle - 10 T Tandem Axle - 15 T Tri-Axle - 15 T (75%)	has been scheduled from 14/03/2016. Replacing timber deck by concrete deck)	
5729	Old Brookmount Road	Dog Trap Creek	Single Axle - 10 T Tandem Axle - 14 T Tri-Axle - 14 T (70%)	Instal by track	
5792	Sams Flat	Black Gully	No Limit		
6214	Winterbourne	Winterbourne	No Limit		
4739	Bishops Road		No Limit		
4852	Chinnoks Road	Errats Bridge	No Limit		
5852	Tia Diggings Road		No Limit		
10811	Tia Diggings Road		No Limit		
5665	Ohio		No Limit		
11368	Scrubby Gully Road		No Limit		

Submitted to Council:

30 March 2016

..... General Manager Mayor



Asset Number	Road	Bridge Name	Load Limit	2015/16	Remarks
5601	Niangala Road	Herbornes	10T		(1) Fisheries approval has been received (2) Will be repaced by Precast concrete deck this year
6274	Wollun Road	Congi Creek	Single Axle - 10 T Tandem Axle - 12 T Tri-Axle - 12 T (60%)		
5258	Lakes Road		10 T		(1) Bypass installed. (2) will be replaced by culvert in 2016/2017
5461	Niangala Road	Boxley	No Limit		
4878	Englefield Road		No Limit		
5507	Niangala Road	Keatons	10T		

RECOMMENDATION: For Council's information.

Submitted to Council: 30 March 2016

..... General Manager Mayor



Item: 6.5 **Ref:** WO/2016/00343
Title: Request for Assistance with Legal Costs for Cowra Shire Council
Author: General Manager
Previous Items: Not Applicable
Attachment: No

Introduction:

Local Government NSW has advised that the Local Government New South Wales Board approved an application made by Cowra Shire Council for legal assistance under the LGNSW Legal Assistance Policy & Guidelines. Financial contributions will be sought from councils once this matter has been resolved by the Land & Environment Court and the costs of the proceedings have been determined.

Report:

Local Government NSW has advised by letter dated 23 February 2016 that Cowra Shire Council has sought the Association’s assistance in respect of legal costs incurred in current litigation.

Cowra Shire Council is currently defending an appeal matter before the Land and Environment Court which relates to a challenge to Council’s jurisdiction to issue prohibition orders with regards to animal welfare under Section 124 of the Local Government Act 1993 (LG Act).

The LGNSW Board considered that this matter is of importance to all local government throughout the State, as the appeal relates to the interpretation of council powers under the LG Act, and the ability of councils to rely on the LG Act to issue notices and orders in circumstances where animal welfare issues are not covered by other laws. As such on 5 February 2016, the LGNSW Board approved Cowra Shire Council’s requires for financial assistance.

There is no obligation for Council to provide assistance.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council agree in principle to contribute to the Cowra Shire Council’s legal costs as requested by Local Government NSW once the matter is resolved and the costs of the proceedings have been determined.

Submitted to Council: 30 March 2016

..... General Manager Mayor



Item: 6.6 Ref: WO/2016/00327
Title: Regional Roads Working Group meeting Update
Author: Director – Engineering Services
Previous Items: Nil
Attachment: Minutes

Introduction:

This report provides Council with an update on the Regional Roads Working Group Meeting.

Report:

The Regional Roads working Group meeting was held on 8 March 2016. In the meeting, all the members were happy to change its name from Regional Roads Working Group to NAMOI Roads & Transport Working Group Meeting.

In the meeting all the members were requested to submit a copy of their Council’s Asset Management Strategies and Map in DXF file format to the Executive Officer to assess the options for developing a Namoi Joint Organisation Asset Management Strategy.

RECOMMENDATION: For Council’s information.

Submitted to Council: 30 March 2016

..... General Manager Mayor



3. Namoi Roads & Transport Action Brief

Working Group members reviewed and discussed the following Brief given to the Working Group by Joint Organisation Board to develop and define a new *Regional and Local Road Funding Model* for funding regional and local roads to include the following key elements for presentation to the NSW Minister for Local Government:

- Local 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.

RECOMMENDATION

- (i) *That member Councils be requested submit their LGA Regional and Local Roads Hierarchy for the purpose of assessing the options for a common Classification System for Regional and Local Roads;*
- (ii) *That member Councils be requested to submit a copy of their Council’s Asset Management Strategies to the Executive Officer to assess the options for developing a Namoi Joint Organisation Asset Management Strategy;*
- (iii) *That the Roads and Transport Working Group be requested to prepare a brief for interpreting individual member Councils’ Strategic Asset Management Systems to scope the process for developing a Region wide Roads Asset Management System to inform the preparation of Cost Benefit Analyses and applications for road funding by the Joint Organisation and individual member Councils;*
- (iv) *That Namoi Councils provide the resources to develop GIS Mapping of the Roads Hierarchy for the Namoi Region subject to whatever information and data is produced by the Regional Freight Connectivity and Productivity Analysis sponsored by Sponsor Moree Plains Shire Council; and*
- (v) *That member Councils be requested to commence updating road traffic counts to determine local and through traffic for Regional Roads.*

Submitted to Council: 30 March 2016

..... General Manager Mayor



4. Road Maintenance Council Contracts

RECOMMENDATION

That RMS Regional Roads Manager John Alexander be invited to attend the next meeting of the Namoi Roads and Transport Working Group scheduled to be held at Barraba on 19 April 2016 to discuss options and mutually beneficial opportunities a single region wide Road Maintenance Road Maintenance Contract.

5. Risk Management

RECOMMENDATION

That Sally Osland from Statewide Mutual Insurance be invited to the next meeting of the Namoi Roads and Transport Working Group scheduled to be held at Barraba on 19 April 2016 to discuss risk management issues.

6. Date of next Namoi Roads and Transport Working Group - Tuesday 19 April 2016

There being no further business, the meeting concluded at 1.05pm.



Item: 6.7 **Ref:** WO/2016/00331
Title: Committee of the Whole Referral – Walcha Preschool Advisory
 Committee Membership Nominations
Author: General Manager
Previous Items:
Attachment: No

Introduction:

Council approval is sought for matters to be discussed in Committee of the Whole.

Report:

Council approval is requested to refer matters for discussion in Committee of the Whole in accordance with the provisions of Section 10 of the Local Government Act, 1993.

Approval to refer the matters to Committee of the Whole is sought because the reports relate to personnel matters concerning particular individuals (other than Councillors).

RECOMMENDATION:

That, in accordance with the provisions of Section 10 of the Local Government Act, 1993, the matter of “Preschool Advisory Committee Membership” be referred to be discussed in Committee of the Whole for the reason that it relates to personnel matters concerning particular individuals (other than Councillors).



Item: 6.8 **Ref:** WO/2016/00385
Title: Referral to Committee of the Whole – Request by Dr Genevieve Freer to Review Assistant to General Practitioners Policy
Author: General Manager
Previous Items:
Attachment: No

Introduction:

Council approval is sought for matters to be discussed in Committee of the Whole.

Report:

Council approval is requested to refer matters for discussion in Committee of the Whole in accordance with the provisions of Section 10 of the Local Government Act, 1993.

Approval to refer the matter to Committee of the Whole is sought because the reports relate to information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the Council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business.

RECOMMENDATION:

That, in accordance with the provisions of Section 10 of the Local Government Act, 1993, the matter of “Request by Dr Freer to Review Assistance to General Practitioners Policy” be referred to be discussed in Committee of the Whole for the reason that they relate to information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the Council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business.

Submitted to Council: 30 March 2016

..... General Manager Mayor



NOTICE OF MOTION NUMBER:

Item:	7.1	Ref: WO/2016/00391
Title:	Notice of Motion – Change of Meeting day and time	
Author:	Councillor Scott Schmutter	
Previous Items:		
Attachment:	No	

Motion:

I, Cllr Scott Schmutter, together with Cllr Lloyd Levingston give notice of motion for the following:

I. That Walcha Council immediately withdraw its membership from New England regional organisations of Councils.

L. Levingston
LLOYD LEVINGSTON

Clr Scott Schmutter
Walcha Council

Submitted to Council: 30 March 2016

..... General Manager Mayor



Ref: WO/2016/00332

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

Item 9:
Management
Review Reports

Submitted to Council: 30 March 2016

..... General Manager Mayor



FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

1. Librarian’s Report:

No report has been submitted.

Librarian

2. Listing of Bank Balances for the Month of February 2016

The Cash Book for each Fund has been reconciled with the appropriate Bank Pass sheets for the Month of February 2016 and the Reconciliations have been entered in the Cash Book.

	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>
<u>February</u>		
General	\$2,035,205.53	\$1,404,547.99
Interest Earned (YTD)	\$ 35,217.51	\$ 24,874.62

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 February 2016

Please see the following Report for the investments placed in February 2016.

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: 30 March 2016

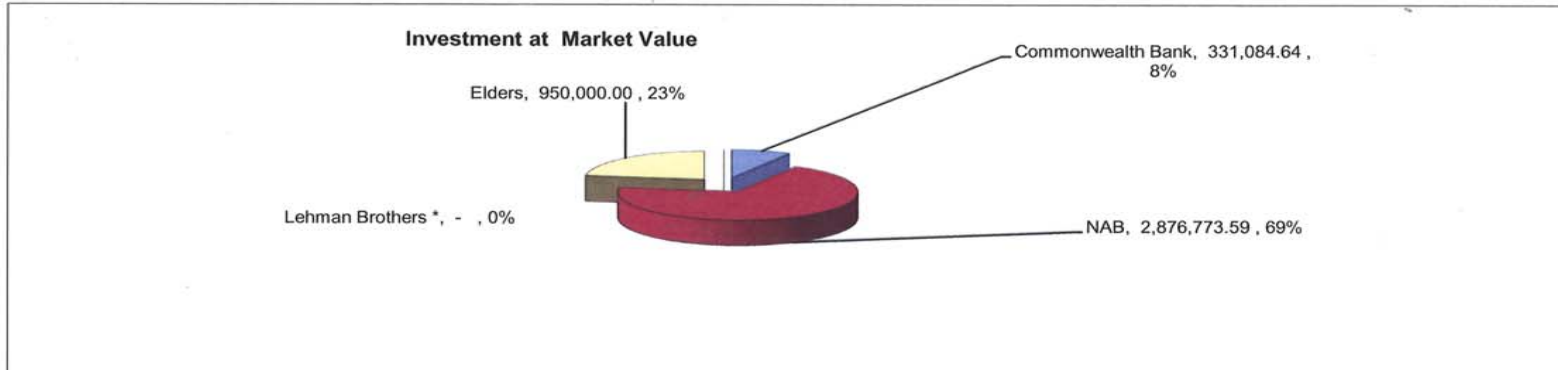
..... General Manager Mayor



REGISTER OF INVESTMENTS TO 29/02/2016

Institution	Type	Placement Date	Term (Days)	Maturity Date	Rate	Est. Interest	YTD Interest	Amount Invested	YTD Redemption	Est. Market Value At 29/02/16	Estimated Loss CDO and FRN	Actual Loss CDO and FRN	MV % of Portfolio
Commonwealth Bank	Term Deposit	17/01/2016	240	17-Sep-16	2.80%	6095.59	6642.18	331,084.64	-	331,084.64	0.00		7.96%
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		22.95%
Elders Rural Bank	Term Deposit	29/02/2016	213	29-Sep-16	2.95%	16354.32	28476.53	950,000.00	-	950,000.00	0.00		22.85%
National Australia Bank	Term Deposit	5/12/2015	183	05-Jun-16	2.90%	13812.74	2778.09	950,000.00	-	950,000.00	0.00		22.85%
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		23.39%
						64,053	49091.77	4,157,858.23	-	4,157,858.23	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%
						-	-	12,000.00	12,000.00	-	0.00	0.00	0.00%
grand totals							49,091.77	4,169,858.23	12,000.00	4,157,858.23	0.00	0.00	100.00%

Capital Value of Portfolio	4,169,858.23
Redeemed Value of Portfolio	12,000.00
Market Value of Portfolio 29/02/16	4,157,858.23
Estimated Profit/(Loss) 29/02/16	<u>0.00</u>



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: 30 March 2016

..... General Manager Mayor



4. Work, Health & Safety

February 2016 – Council recorded two incidents within the workplace.

1 x Physical Injury – a minor injury was sustained while an employee was lifting a heavy item, however the item did not exceed the maximum lifting ratio, this resulted in 17 hours of lost time and a workers compensation claim. Manual Handling refresher training will be rolled out during 2016.

1 x Near Miss Incident – A body of a tipper became entangled in the powerlines. No injuries were sustained. This is a timely reminder however of the importance of awareness to powerline locations and correct procedures. Employees will be refreshed with Working Near Overhead Powerlines training in May.

5. Tourism Report

March 2016

New England High Country

We have drawn up a Memorandum Of Understanding between the seven councils involved in New England High Country. Which I feel is not only a great idea but also a necessity for the working of this group. I will ask the General Manager to review the final draft of the document.

New Walcha Tourism Website

Alternation are still working on upgrading our website, there is a little bit of trouble with the business directory information – we may have to enter this manually which means the process has been a little slower.

The Mikado – Easter Sunday 27 March

The Mikado bookings are coming along well, there are 125 bookings as at Wednesday 16 March, we are anticipating a lot of last minute bookings when people have a little more certainty with the weather predictions. We are using Trybooking.com which is a great site, we are able to draw up reports knowing how many people came from which area for the event which helps us direct our marketing in future years. Lisa Kirton has done a fabulous job with press releases and general advertising. She has marketed it remarkably well.

Marketing Campaigns with New England High Country

We ran a large marketing campaign late last year focusing on the motorbike market. Inland NSW and Bauer Media were meant to have a website up and running to measure bookings of accommodation but they have had a few hiccups. However talking to some of the operators they have noticed an increase in motorcycle visitation and stays. We are looking at other ways to better measure these numbers to meet key performance indicators (KPI's). Especially for smaller centres like Walcha as most of our operators are not bookable online. We are now looking at an "Adventure Touring" campaign which includes caravan and camping, motorcycle, general travellers.

Submitted to Council: 30 March 2016

..... General Manager Mayor



Events

Walcha Farmers Market – Saturday 20 February 2016 – was a successful market, enjoyed by a similar population to most markets. Live music has been a great improvement, reason for enjoyment and drawcard.

Walcha Farmers Market – Saturday 19 March 2016

Walcha Show – Friday - Saturday 11 – 12 March 2016 – Was a great success in terms of Round-up-in the Ring. However numbers all over were down due to there being another three shows being held, Bingara, Gloucester, Coonabarabran within reasonably close distance. The set up for Sydney Royal Easter Show also commenced on the weekend of our show so cattle numbers were down and other exhibits.

Susie Crawford
Walcha Tourism Manager

Submitted to Council: 30 March 2016

..... General Manager Mayor



ENGINEERING SERVICES

6. Wages & Overtime Summary

Pay Period	Week Ending	Overtime Hours	Amount (\$)
33	07/02/2016	67.00	3,101.62
34	14/02/2016	57.00	2,515.32
35	21/02/2016	83.50	3,853.38
36	28/02/2016	68.75	3,197.07
37	06/03/2016	57.00	2,754.65
38	13/03/2016	49.25	2,351.44
TOTAL		382.50	\$17,773.48

7. Water Matters

Level 3 – introduced 4 March 2016 – Target Usage 190 – 230 Litres / Person / Day

Water usage for the month of February 2016 was as follows:

- ❖ Monthly Usage – 12.74 Megalitres (4 week month)
- ❖ Daily Usage – 439 Kilolitres
- ❖ Usage per person per day – 307 Litres

8. Shire Roads Maintenance

The following maintenance activities occurred during the period from 11 February – 11 March 2016:

Gravel Surface:

The following roads received maintenance grading during this period:

- ❖ Geraldine Road
- ❖ Oaklands Road
- ❖ Inglebah Flat Road
- ❖ Brackendale Road
- ❖ Bark Hut Road
- ❖ Baringa Road
- ❖ Niangala Road
- ❖ Old Brookmount Road

Gravel Re-Sheeting:

Gravel re-sheeting occurred on the following roads:

- ❖ Brackendale Road
- ❖ Lakes Road
- ❖ Nowendoc Road
- ❖ Glen Morrison Road
- ❖ The intersection of Baringa and Glen Morrison Roads

Submitted to Council: 30 March 2016

..... General Manager Mayor



Vegetation Maintenance:

Cowsby, Ruby's Knob and Brackendale Roads had intruding branches pruned.

Culvert Replacements:

Culverts were replaced on the Brackendale Road near "Salway".

Rural Addressing:

Rural addressing occurred on the following roads:

- ❖ Florida Road
- ❖ Brackendale Road
- ❖ Oxley Drive

State Highway 11:

- ❖ An urgent request from RMS road safety led to the fast-tracked development and construction of the Segment 3200 Shoulder Widening at Walcha Road, which is now complete. Two culvert replacements were added into the scope of these works by RMS. These culverts were replaced alongside the shoulder widening.
- ❖ Maintenance:
 - ◆ Pothole patching.
 - ◆ Repairing road edges.
 - ◆ Vegetation maintenance.
 - ◆ Servicing rest areas.

Regional Roads:

- ❖ The "Yerrawun" rehabilitation is complete.
- ❖ Maintenance:
 - ◆ Pothole Patching.
 - ◆ Vegetation maintenance.
 - ◆ Shoulder patching

Works In Town:

- ❖ Tree, garden & park maintenance.
- ❖ Sporting grounds maintenance.
- ❖ Pool maintenance is ongoing during the season.
- ❖ The Walcha oval bore is functioning efficiently.

Proposed Works for the Coming Period:

Shire Roads:

- ❖ Grading will occur on Nowencoc, Kangaroo Hills, Glenroy, Niangala and Oaklands Roads.
- ❖ Complete the timber bridge rehabilitations on #5010 Glen Morrison Road Bridge and #5414 Mooraback Road Bridge.
- ❖ Install Bypass tracks on #5355 Moona Road Bridge, #4574 Aberbaldie Road Bridge and #5214 Hartford Road Bridge.



State Highway 11:

- ❖ Complete the seal brought forward to finalise the Segemnt 3200 Widening Project at Walcha Road on the Oxley Highway.
- ❖ Heavy patching program has begun and additional funding was awarded to Council to complete further works. It is now estimated that the program will take 3 weeks to complete.

Regional Roads:

- ❖ Maintenance:
 - ◆ Pothole Patching.
 - ◆ Vegetation Maintenance.
 - ◆ Drainage Works

Works In Town:

- ❖ Tree, garden & park maintenance.
- ❖ Sporting grounds maintenance.
- ❖ Pool Operations.
- ❖ Complete the Jamieson Street Rehabilitation.

Dylan Reeves
Works Manager



ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

9. Development

Development Approvals and Refusals for February 2016

Information is being provided on development approvals and refusals for the months of February 2016. The following data details the development approvals issued by Council and private certifiers 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
10.2015.31	Subdivision of land	217N Uralla Rd, Walcha	Mr JP Sweeney	02/02/2016	Granted (under delegation)
10.2015.35	Change of use to business premises & advertising sign	37W Fitzroy Street, Walcha	Mrs O Nivison & Mrs S Bruce	05/02/2016	Granted (under delegation)
Monthly Estimated Value of Approvals: \$2,500.00					
Refusals:					
DA No.	Description	Location	Applicant	Determined	Determination
Nil					

Development Applications Outstanding				
DA No.	Description	Location	Applicant	Status
10.2016.1	Change of Use	178W Fitzroy St, Walcha	Miss ML Cross	Under assessment
				Total: 1

Construction Certificates					
Approvals:					
CC No.	Description	Location	Applicant	Determined	Determination
11.2016.1	Single new dwelling	529 Tops Rd, Walcha	Mrs NF Hicks	22/02/2016	Issued
Issued by Private Certifier					
CC No.	Description	Location	Applicant	Determined	Determination
Nil.					
Monthly Estimated Value of Approvals: \$150,000.00					

Construction Certificates Outstanding				
CC No.	Description	Location	Applicant	Status
Nil				
				Total: 0

Submitted to Council: 30 March 2016

..... General Manager Mayor



Complying Development Applications					
Approvals:					
CDC No.	Description	Location	Applicant	Determined	Determination
Nil					
Issued by Private Certifier					
18.2016.3	Single dwelling alterations & additions	128 Tallara Road Walcha	Mr M Sweeney	15/02/2016	Issued
Monthly Estimated Value of Approvals: \$174,000.00					

Complying Development Applications Outstanding				
CDC No.	Description	Location	Applicant	Status
18.2016.1	Shed	58N South St, Walcha	Mr N W Goodwin	Under assessment
18.2016.2	Carport	123N Thee St, Walcha	Ms A M Greathead	Under assessment
				Total: 2

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.

Section 149 Planning Certificates Completed 2015/2016	
	Number
July	11
August	6
September	21
October	8
November	14
December	11
January	5
February	6

S149 Planning Certificates Completed Comparative Data	
	Number
2013/2014	91
2014/2015	126
2015/2016 (YTD)	82

Submitted to Council: 30 March 2016

..... General Manager Mayor



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 December 2015 and January 2016		
Barking dogs	3	
Dog attacks	1	
Roaming dogs	1	
Other	1	Stormwater

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.

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
December	1	0	0	3
January	2	0	0	1
February	1	0	0	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.

Submitted to Council: 30 March 2016

..... General Manager Mayor



Immunisation Records 2015/2016	
July	3
August	3
September	1
October	7
November	2
December	1
January	6

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 29 February 2016 is provided.

Food Premises Surveillance 2015/2016				
Category	Number of Premises	Inspections Conducted	Re-inspections Required	Re-inspections Conducted
High Risk	26	5	3	3
Medium Risk	7	0	0	0
Low Risk	6	0	0	0
Mobile	2	0	0	0
Temporary	2	0	0	0

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
Dec	1	1	0	0	0	\$244.00
Jan	2	3	0	0	0	\$680.00
Feb	0	0	2	0	0	\$42.00

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
Dec	2	0	2	0	0	0
Jan	6	1	5	0	1	0
Feb	3	0	0	1	1	1

13. Walcha Council Community Care

February 2016

Groups

Women’s Group and Wanderer’s Group

3 February 2016 – 22 ladies attended morning tea at the Community Day Centre Rooms. The ladies were pleased to have Walcha Council General Manager, Jack O’Hara come along to the morning to inform them about the proposed Council Amalgamation and what they can do both individually and as a group to support Walcha Council against amalgamating with another Council.

10 February 2016 – the Wanderer’s Group morning tea held in the Community Day Centre Rooms. The morning consisted of craft and activities.

17 February 2016 – 16 ladies attended the mystery trip to Tamworth for the day. Morning tea was at the Botanical Gardens, where a stroll around the pathway in the gardens was enjoyed by those people who took part. The View Restaurant at the West Tamworth Golf Club for lunch was also a highlight of the day with a lovely spot on the verandah overlooking the greens. A visit to Spotlight to replenish craft and material supplies for

Submitted to Council: 30 March 2016

..... General Manager Mayor



future use and a small amount of free time to have a quick browse through the shops were fitted in before returning to Walcha.

24 February 2016 – the Wanderers Group away trip was to Budds Mare Lookout in the Oxley Wild Rivers National Park. Four clients attended on the day.

Men’s Group

9 February 2016 – 18 gentlemen attended morning tea at the Community Day Centre Rooms. The Men’s Group welcomed the General Manager for Walcha Council, Jack O’Hara, to speak to about the Walcha Council amalgamation and answer any questions in regard to how the amalgamation could affect the community and what each person can do to support the Council.

23 February 2016 – 22 gentlemen attended the trip to Hanging Rock to visit the Arc-En-Ciel Trout Farm. The first trip for the day was a morning tea stop at Chaffey Dam before continuing our adventure further into the hills of gold. The Group found the day very interesting and informative and as well as having the opportunity to enjoy the beautifully prepared meal of smoked trout for lunch. Leaving the Trout Farm after lunch the Group stopped off at Sheba Dams. The dams have a lot of historical significance with Chinese Gold Miners erecting the dams by hand over a three week period in 1888 to store water, to serve the sluicing needs of the gold miners. Sheba Dams today are pretty, beautifully quite camping reserve on the water’s edge where you can picnic, swim, paddle a canoe and fish for trout. The last stop for the day was at Moonbi where we all treated ourselves to an icecream before returning back to Walcha.

Arc-En-Ciel Trout Farm, Hanging Rock



Submitted to Council: 30 March 2016

..... General Manager Mayor



Sheba
Dams



Transport

February 2016 – Medical drives – 14 clients utilized the service with 29 trips.

Access bus – 9 clients used the service making 44 trips during February 2016.

Bus to Tamworth – 6 clients on 26 February 2016.

Bus to Armidale numbers for February 2016 was as follows:

- ◆ 2 February 2016 – 5 clients – Walcha Service
- ◆ 9 February 2016 – 6 clients – Uralla Service using TCT Bus and Driver
- ◆ 16 February 2016 – 6 clients – Walcha Service
- ◆ 23 February 2016 – 3 clients – Uralla Service using TCT Bus and Driver

Submitted to Council: 30 March 2016

..... General Manager Mayor



Meals on Wheels

12 clients received 161 meals in February 2016.

Rural and Remote Exercise Groups

5 clients attended at Niangala during February 2016.

7 clients attended at Nowendoc during February 2016.

Strength and Balance Exercise Group

The strength and balance exercise group works in partnership with Walcha Physiotherapy and Sports Injury Centre, Sally Rutherford and Prue Morgan delivering the program with Walcha Council Community Care providing the venue and the client base to participate in the program. The program is delivered over a 10 week period. Progress is assessed on each participant by assessment prior to beginning the program and reassessment at completion of the 10 weeks, to measure the improvement to each person’s mobility, muscle strength and balance.

Meetings and Training

11 February 2016 – Dementia Support Group meeting.

18 February 2016 – New England Regional Commonwealth Home Support Program (CHSP) Forum – held at the Community Centre in Tamworth. The Forum provided up-to-date information about the changes and issues present in the current transition stages of the reform. Guest speakers included Paul Saddler (CEO Presbyterian Aged Care NSW & ACT) giving a reform update; Department of Health (DOH) representatives with a CHSP update; Jill McDonnell speaking about the Seniors Rights Service and various other speakers during the breakout sessions.

29 February 2016 – CentaCare – Community Mental Health Workshop – A Rural Adversity Mental Health Program.

The year is already flying by so quickly and the Community Care office has been busy updating brochures and client and volunteer handbooks. The Policy and Procedures have been updated and are we are now working on client reassessments.

The NDIS rollout for the New England area is taking a priority at present as we prepare clients to check on their eligibility and begin working on their plans to be prepared for 1 July 2016.

Cathy 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: 30 March 2016

..... General Manager Mayor



Item 10:

Committee Reports

Submitted to Council: 30 March 2016

..... General Manager Mayor



Walcha Town and District Beautification and Tidy Towns Committee Meeting Minutes

held on

Wednesday, 16 March 2016

at

4:15 pm

at

Walcha Council Chambers

PRESENT:

Clr Clint Lyon (Chair), Raju Ranjit (Director Engineering Services), Alex Smith, Jim Hallenan, Phyllis Hoy, Stephen Sweeney (Works Supervisor – Urban).

1. APOLOGIES: Felicity Nivison, Clr Robert Thomson.

2. CONFIRMATION OF MEETING MINUTES HELD ON WEDNESDAY 02 DECEMBER 2015:

RESOLVED: On the motion of HOY and SMITH that the Minutes of the Walcha Town and District Beautification and Tidy Towns Committee Meeting held on 02 December 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 Fitzroy Street

Possibility of planting Liquid Amber Festeri near the cattle yards.

ACTION BY: Works Supervisor – Urban (Job will be done when a budget is available).

3.2 Semphill Crescent

Committee members inspected the site and decided to replace these trees with the suitable species.





3.3 Middle Street

Committee members inspected the site and will think about suitable species to replace the existing trees.

3.4 Aberbaldie Road

Committee members inspected the site and decided to remove the trees at Essential Energy's cost

3.5 Resignation from Irene Woods

Committee recommended advertising for this committee position.

ACTION BY: Director – Engineering Services (Will discuss with General Manager for the right direction).

4. GENERAL BUSINESS:

4.1. Memorial Park

Jim Hallenan asked if Lone Pine and Gallipoli Trees can be planted in Memorial Park and committee agreed to this.

ACTION BY: Hallenan and Smith – Will report suitable places for planting to the committee at the next meeting.

4.2. Fitzroy Street

Phyllis Hoy enquired about the Ginko tree that used to be near the Fitzroy Street bridge.

ACTION BY: Works Supervisor – Urban

5. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Walcha Town and District Beautification and Tidy Towns Committee will be held on Wednesday, 15 June 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: 30 March 2016

..... General Manager Mayor

MINUTES OF THE NEW ENGLAND GROUP OF COUNCILS MEETING HELD IN ARMIDALE ON FRIDAY, 26 FEBRUARY, 2016, COMMENCING AT 10AM.

PRESENT:

Armidale Dumaresq Council: Cr H Beyersdorf, Mr G Wilcox
Glen Innes Severn Council: Cr C Price, Mr H Basson
Guyra Shire Council: Cr S Murray,
Inverell Shire Council: Cr P Harmon, Mr P Henry
Uralla Shire Council: Cr M Pearce
Walcha Shire Council: Cr B Heazlett

Also in attendance: Ian Scott, NBN Co

APOLOGIES:

Walcha Council: Cr J Archdale, Mr J O'Hara
New England Weeds Authority: Cr M Woods, Mr W Deer
Guyra Shire Council: Cr H Hietbrink, Mr P Stewart
Uralla Shire Council: Mr Glen Inglis

RESOLVED (Price/Beyersdorf) that the apologies as noted above be accepted.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

RESOLVED (Beyersdorf/Murray) that the minutes of the meeting held on 16 October, 2015 be accepted as an accurate record of that meeting.

ALTERNATE DELEGATES

The meeting noted the alternate delegates for today's meeting:

- Cr Simon Murray (Guyra)
- Cr Bill Heazlett (Walcha)

ADDRESS BY IAN SCOTT, NBN CO

Mr Scott provided an update on the Company's plans for this Region and indicated that the 2nd half of 2017 would see construction start on 'Fibre to the Node' system in Glen Innes, Guyra, Inverell, Uralla and Walcha.

The 2nd NBN satellite has been launched but has yet to be activated. When operational, users will have limits placed on downloads to reserve capacity for as many users as possible.

The notification to communities of the commencement of work and the actions that will need to be taken by residents commence 6 month prior to construction and continue for a period after the completion of construction.

A copy of the 'talking points' of Mr Scott's presentation is **attached**.

Important: He stressed the take up rates are 'confidential information'.

REPORTS BY OBJECTIVE

1. NOTES OF GMAC MEETING HELD IN INVERELL - 2 FEBRUARY 2016

Mention was made of the work in progress in relation to training opportunities for elected members. Investigations are being undertaken to determine training providers and course content for the following issues:

- Financial management
- Pecuniary interest
- Code of Conduct
- Responsibilities of Councillors in the Planning approval process.

A report to a future meeting of the Group will be prepared on these matters.

RESOLVED (Pearce/Price) that the information be noted.

2. NEGOC BOUNDARIES/MEMBERSHIP

It was acknowledged that the FFF program could result in a lack of critical mass of members for the JO.

The meeting formed the view that a definitive decision on the issues of boundaries and membership would be difficult to make at this stage due to a lack of information from the Minister on the future directions for JO's. There was certainly some support of the mapping of JO boundaries according to the State Planning Boundaries for this region.

RESOLVED (Beyersdorf/Murray) that the Office of Local Government and the Premier's Department be advised of this Group's concern regarding the number of potential members of the NEJO following the current actions of the FFF program. Further they be requested to give consideration to options for delineating a boundary for delivering a sustainable NEJO.

3. IPART – REPORTING AND COMPLIANCE BURDENS

The members were concerned that the recommendations of IPART may be a precursor to removing local decision making for water/sewerage services then corporatising the functions and then to privatisation of functions.

RESOLVED (Price/Beyersdorf) that:

- a) *NEGOC monitor the development of the IPART recommendations in respect of water and sewerage services and prepare a submission on this organisations position at each opportunity,*
- b) *The overarching principle to guide the preparation of any submission is 'that autonomy of decision making should be retained at the local water utility level', and*
- c) *Glen Innes Severn Council take carriage of this matter.*

5. IPART – RATING SYSTEM REVIEW

It was noted that the State Government Review of the Rating System has only recently been referred to IPART and that an Issues Paper has not yet been released.

A general discussion took place on current idiosyncrasies of the current rating system, particularly around mining rating and impacts of large tracts of non-rateable land on a Council's income stream.

Contact was made with the 'Rating Professional Group' for their comments on this issue. The Group had not considered the terms of reference however the Group is keen to liaise with this Group on the matter.

RESOLVED (Beyersorf/Pearce) that:

- a) NEGOC liaise with the Rating Professional Group on this matter,*
- b) Armidale/Dumaresq take carriage of this matter,*
- c) Members consider the Discussion Paper, when released by IPART and forward comments to Armidale Dumaresq Council.*

GENERAL BUSINESS

Nil.

NEXT MEETING

- The next NEGOC Meeting will be held on Friday, 20 May, 2016 commencing at 10am in Guyra.
- The next GMAC Meeting will be held on Tuesday, 3 May, 2016, commencing at 10am in Uralla.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 1:13pm.

P J HENRY PSM

SECRETARY

Appendix A – NBN Co Update

Agenda



- Since last update
- 3 year plan
- Satellite
- Fixed Wireless
- Map on your website
- Questions and answers

nbn: Since last update

- September - Three-year construction plan
<http://www.nbnco.com.au/3yearplan>
- Planning contact needed
- September - Sky Muster successfully launched
- Council maps-widget

Blayney Shire Council

Home / Residents /

National Broadband Network

Australia's broadband network is here

The nbn™ network is rolling out around Blayney.

It's now available to residents and businesses in the surrounding areas outside of town, and is coming to Blayney, with construction scheduled to commence in early 2017.

The nbn™ network is Australia's new landline phone and internet network, designed to provide you with access to fast and reliable phone and internet services no matter where you live. The nbn™ network can open up many opportunities for homes and businesses.

- Experience fast downloads, with multiple people and devices operating in the home or business at the same time
- Smooth video conferencing takes the frustration out of face to face contact with loved ones or work colleagues
- Kids can unlock their full potential by having fast access to online educational tools
- Access to a fast connection can help businesses and employees enhance productivity

nbn™ will be making residents and businesses when you are able to switch to the nbn™ network, with information about what to do next. You can also find out when the nbn™ network is available by checking your address at nbn.com.au or by calling 1800 697 526. Your experience including the speeds actually achieved over the nbn™ network depends on the technology over which services are delivered to your premises and some factors outside nbn's control like your equipment quality, software broadband plans and how your service provider designs its network.

How to Switch

It's easy to switch to the nbn™ network:

1. Contact a phone or internet provider
2. Ask about switching your phone or internet to the nbn™ network
3. Choose a plan that best suits your needs Visit nbn.com.au/switch to see a list of providers in your area

Enter your address below to see if nbn™ services are available at your home or business

Find out if the nbn is available at your address

Enter your full address

CHECK HOME CHECK BUSINESS

UNCLASSIFIED

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<http://www.nbnco.com.au/3yearplan>



State	Region	Areas where construction scheduled to commence before end Sep 2018	Estimated number of premises within areas	Anticipated technology	Expected time of first site to commence construction
NSW	Glen Innes	Glen Innes	2800	FTTN	H2-2017
NSW	Guyra	Guyra South Guyra	900	FTTN	H2-2017
NSW	Inverell	Inverell	4700	FTTN	H2-2017
NSW	Uralla	Uralla	1100	FTTN	H2-2017
NSW	Walcha	Walcha	1500	FTTN	H2-2017

Satellite

Long Term Satellite Service nearing launch



- Sky Muster successfully launched
- In testing phase now
- First LTSS trials with RSPs planned
- LTSS has 135Gbps of capacity v 4Gbps on ISS
- Aim for RSPs to begin delivering services in 1H16
- Will deliver world leading satellite broadband services to end-users



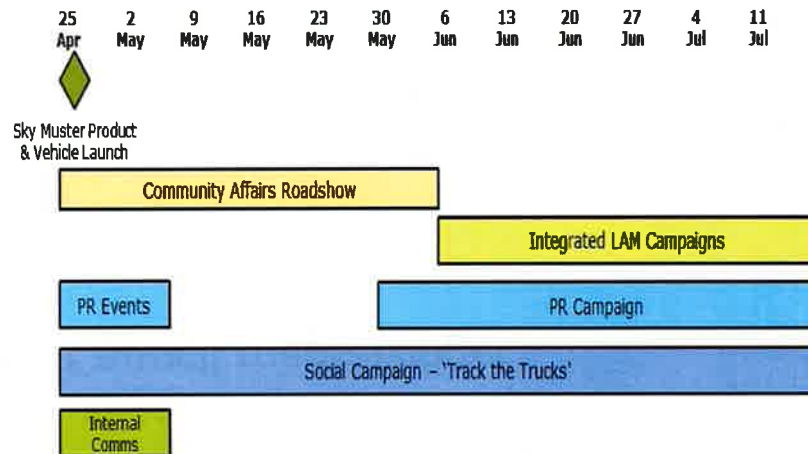
Satellite



Experiential approach to launch:

- Increase **nbn™** awareness, understanding and intention to connect through a highly visual and engaging demonstration truck
- Engage stakeholders and end users within communities where the **nbn™** is available.
- Place the Sky Muster product into the hands of end users to deliver an **nbn™** experience.

nbn community vehicle



Map widget

- Council maps-widget

The screenshot shows the Blayney Shire Council website. At the top is a dark red navigation bar with the council name and a search box. Below this is a main content area with a news article titled "National Broadband Network". The article text includes:

National Broadband Network

Australia's broadband network is here

The nbn™ network is rolling out around Blayney

It's now available to residents and businesses in the surrounding areas outside of town, and is coming to Blayney, with construction scheduled to commence in early 2017.

The nbn™ network is Australia's new landline phone and internet network, designed to provide you with access to fast and reliable phone and internet services no matter where you live. The nbn™ network can open up many opportunities for homes and businesses:

- Experience fast downloads, with multiple people and devices operating in the home or business at the same time
- Smooth video conferencing takes the frustration out of face to face contact with loved ones or work colleagues
- Kids can unlock their full potential by having fast access to online educational tools
- Access to a fast connection can help businesses and employees enhance productivity

nbn™ will be making residents and businesses when you are able to switch to the nbn™ network, with information about what to do next. You can also find out when the nbn™ network is available by checking your address at nbn.com.au or by calling 1500 587 626. Your experience including the speeds actually achieved over the nbn™ network depends on the technology over which services are delivered to your premises and some factors outside nbn's control like your equipment quality, software, broadband plans and how your service provider designs its network.

How to Switch

It's easy to switch to the nbn™ network:

1. Contact a phone or internet provider
2. Ask about switching your phone or internet to the nbn™ network
3. Choose a plan that best suits your needs. Visit nbn.com.au/switch to see a list of providers in your area

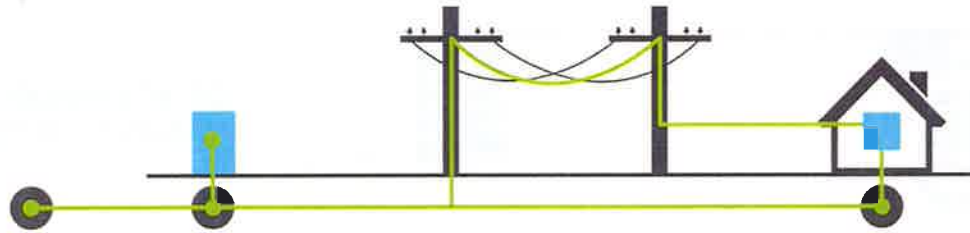
Enter your address below to see if nbn™ services are available at your home or business

Below the article is a map widget with the nbn logo and the text "Find out if the nbn is available at your address". It features a search input field and two buttons: "CHECK HOME" and "CHECK BUSINESS".



Our multi-technology mix **nbn**TM network

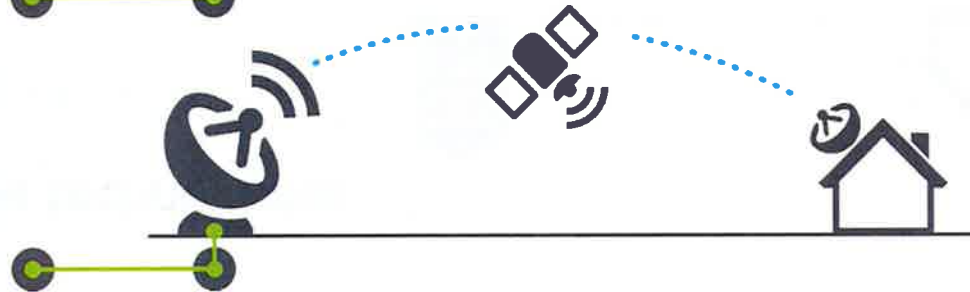
**NBN
FIXED LINE
NETWORK**



**NBN
FIXED
WIRELESS
NETWORK**



**NBN
SATELLITE
NETWORK**



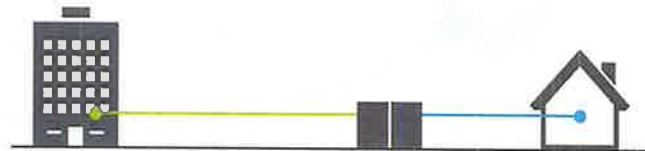


Our fixed line technologies

FIBRE TO THE PREMISES



FIBRE TO THE NODE
(STREET CABINET)



FIBRE TO THE BASEMENT
(NODE IN BASEMENT OF MDU)



Fibre to the Node



Commercial services now launched – very strong results

- FTTN now launched commercially
- Services progressing very well
- Aim of 500,000 premises RFS by June 2016
- Target 3.7 million premises RFS by June 2018
- Scales up very quickly compared to FTTP
- Designed so that 90% of end-users will get at least 50Mbps



FTTN: A great technology for the nbn™



FTTN enables the nbn™ network to deliver great speeds sooner..

- With FTTN fibre is built very deep into the nbn™ network – only the copper tail remains....
 - Each copper line has its own dedicated bandwidth – **it is not shared**
 - End-user speed does not degrade as cabinet usage rises because.....
 - ...noise cancellation Vectoring technology is used to reduce the effects of cross-talk
 - Each cabinet can serve up to 384 premises



Fixed Wireless

Delivering a broadband revolution for regional Australia



- Has 67,000 end-users and covers 300,000 premises in regional areas
- Aims to cover 600,000 premises by end-2020
- Delivers wholesale speeds of 50Mbps/20Mbps
- Announced as 'world leader' by Ovum research



Fixed Wireless



		Premises Covered	Number of Premises Covered by Site	Premises Activated	% takeup
P6 Activity ID →		MS7015			
Site Name	Local Government Authority	Current	Current	Current	Current
Oaklands	Uralla Shire Council	20-Mar-16	191	End Feb	0.0%
Ashford	Inverell Shire Council	18-Dec-15 A	328	17	5.2%
Bundarra	Uralla Shire Council	19-Jun-15 A	285	34	11.9%
Delungra	Inverell Shire Council	19-Jun-15 A	218	36	16.5%
Gilgai Oval	Inverell Shire Council	04-Dec-14 A	230	53	23.0%
Graman	Inverell Shire Council	18-Dec-15 A		0	
Guyra North	Guyra Shire Council	27-Feb-14 A	332	61	18.4%
Inverell	Inverell Shire Council	17-Dec-14 A	630	104	16.5%
Inverell West	Inverell Shire Council	09-Jun-15 A	198	63	31.8%
Inverell South	Inverell Shire Council	04-Dec-14 A	411	93	22.6%
Armidale Grafton Rd	Armidale Dumaresq Council	31-Mar-15 A	131	52	39.7%
Martins Lookout	Glen Innes Severn Shire Council	18-Jun-14 A	515	130	25.2%
Mt Tingha	Guyra Shire Council	09-Jun-15 A		0	
Mt Topper	Inverell Shire Council	18-Dec-15 A		0	
Rockvale Road	Armidale Dumaresq Council	31-Mar-15 A	271	91	33.6%
Tingha	Guyra Shire Council	18-Dec-15 A	383	15	3.9%
Invergowrie	Armidale Dumaresq Council	31-Mar-15 A	534	154	28.8%
Uralla	Uralla Shire Council	16-Dec-13 A	245	73	29.8%
			4,902	976	20.5%



Thank You



Country Mayors Association of NEW SOUTH WALES

Chairman: Cr Rod Kendall
PO Box 20 Wagga Wagga NSW 2650
02 69269111
ABN 92 803 490 533

MINUTES

GENERAL MEETING

FRIDAY, 11 MARCH 2016, COUNTRY EMBASSY, SYDNEY

The meeting opened at 9.33 a.m.

1. ATTENDANCE:

Albury City Council, Mr Frank Zaknich, General Manager
Bathurst Regional Council, Mr David Sherley, General Manager
Bega Valley Shire Council, Cr Michael Britten, Mayor
Bellingen Shire Council, Cr Mark Troy, Mayor
Berrigan Shire Council, Cr Bernard Curtin, Mayor
Bland Shire Council, Cr Neil Pokoney, Mayor
Coffs Harbour City Council, Cr Denise Knight, Mayor
Cooma Monaro Shire Council, Cr Dean Lynch, Mayor
Coonamble Shire Council, Cr Michael Webb, Mayor
Deniliquin Council, Cr Ashley Hall, Mayor
Deniliquin Council, Mr Des Bilske, General Manager
Dubbo City Council, Cr Mathew Dickenson, Mayor
Dubbo City Council, Mr Mark Riley, General Manager
Eurobodalla Shire Council, Cr Lindsay Brown, Mayor
Forbes Shire Council, Cr Phyllis Miller, Mayor
Gunnedah Shire Council, Cr Owen Hasler, Mayor
Harden Shire Council, Cr John Horton, Mayor
Harden Shire Council, Mr Trevor Drowley, General Manager
Kempsey Shire Council, Cr Liz Campbell, Mayor
Lockhart Shire Council, Cr Peter Yates, Mayor
Lockhart Shire Council, Mr Rod Shaw, General Manager
Mid Western/Mudgee Regional Council, Mr Brad Cam, General Manager
Moree Plains Shire Council, Cr Katrina Humphries, Mayor
Murray Shire Council, Mr David Shaw, Administrator
Murray Shire Council, Ms Margot Stork, General Manager
Narrabri Shire Council, Cr Conrad Bolton, Mayor
Shoalhaven City Council, Cr Allan Batiste, Assistant Deputy Mayor
Shoalhaven City Council, Mr Russell Pigg, General Manager

Tamworth Regional Council, Cr Russell Webb, Acting Mayor
Tamworth Regional Council, Mr Paul Bennett, General Manager
Temora Shire Council, Cr Rick Firman, Mayor
Temora Shire Council, Mr Gary Lavelle, General Manager
Tumbarumba Shire Council, Cr Ian Chaffey, Mayor
Tumbarumba Shire Council, Ms Kay Whitehead, General Manager
Uralla Shire Council, Cr Michael Pearce, Mayor
Wagga Wagga City Council, Cr Rod Kendall, Mayor
Wagga Wagga City Council, Mr Alan Eldridge, General Manager
Wakool Shire Council, Cr Neil Gorey, Mayor
Wakool Shire Council, Ms Lea Rosser, Acting General Manager
Walcha Council, Cr Janelle Archdale, Mayor
Warrumbungle Shire Council, Cr Peter Shinton, Mayor
Warrumbungle Shire Council, Mr Steve Loane, General Manager
Local Government New South Wales, Cr Keith Rhoades, President
Local Government NSW, Cr Greg Matthews
Local Government NSW, Cr Lynda Scott

APOLOGIES:

As submitted

SPECIAL GUESTS:

Hon Mark Speakman MP, Minister for the Environment, Minister for Heritage,
Assistant Minister for Planning

Hon John Barilaro MP, Minister for Regional Development, Minister for Skills and
Minister for Small Business

2. ADOPTION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:

RESOLVED that the minutes of the General Meeting held on 5 November 2015 be accepted as a true and accurate record (Eurobodalla Shire Council / Moree Plains Shire Council).

3. Matters Arising from the Minutes

NIL

4. Presentation

**Hon Mark Speakman MP, Minister for the Environment, Minister for Heritage,
Assistant Minister for Planning**

The environmental budget of \$1.6Billion is used to drive investment in renewable energy, to understand the impacts of climate change and to form and continue partnerships with local communities. The Bio Diversity Conservation package has targets up to January 2017 to eliminate over regulation and the Bio Diversity offset encourages farmers to manage their land under the same rules as miners and others. The Contained Deposits Scheme needs to be a cost effective scheme by July 2017. Two options are being considered but none have been adopted as yet. The current kerb side collection will continue. \$8million has been set aside from the Climate Change Fund to look at renewable energy new initiatives. The target is to reduce energy consumption by 20% by 2020. 150 Risk Management Plans for Flood Plain Management have been developed. There is no extra funding for 2016-17 but the government is looking at ways to

increase the funding after 2017. Pest Management priority is to protect livestock on lands adjoining National Parks. Last year 200 wild dogs were destroyed and \$76million was spent on hazard reduction.

5. Presentation

Hon John Barilaro MP, Minister for Regional Development, Minister for Skills and Minister for Small Business

The Government is trying to get rid of blockages to allow development in rural NSW. Small business as collectives are the largest employers. \$208million from Resources for Regions has been invested with \$32million allocated in the current year. Councils are encouraged to apply for funding if their infrastructure is at risk as a result of mining projects. The NSW Government is working with Telecom suppliers to reduce "Black Spots". This assistance is in addition to the resources allocated by the Commonwealth. The way TAFE operates needs to change. It needs to provide the services that the community want. In regional areas some assets will be sold but the proceeds will be recycled and reinvested in areas of need. Poles and Wires money is now becoming available to regional NSW. Regional NSW is growing at a faster rate than Western Sydney.

6. Membership

RESOLVED That Corowa Shire Council be admitted as a member of the Association (Berrigan Shire Council / Eurobodalla Shire Council)

7. CORRESPONDENCE

Outward

- (a) The Hon Niall Blair MLC, Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Lands and Water, thanking for his presentation 5 November 2015
- (b) The Hon Paul Green MLC, thanking him for his presentation 5 November 2015
- (c) The Hon Peter Primrose MLC, Shadow Minister for Local Government, Shadow Minister for Innovation and Better Regulation, thanking him for his presentation 5 November 2015
- (d) The Hon George Brandis QC, Attorney general for Australia, Re compensating Councils for all costs approved for declared emergencies
- (e) The Hon David Elliott MP, Minister for Corrections, Minister for Emergency Services and Minister for Veterans Affairs, re compensating Councils for all costs approved for declared emergencies
- (f) Senate Select Committee on the Murray Darling Basin Plan advising that the Association supported the RAMROC submission
- (g) Riverina and Murray Regional Organisation of Councils advising that the Association supports their submission on the Murray darling Basin Plan

Inward

- (a) Australian Government, Department of Communications and the Arts Re Mobile Black Spot Programme (Copy Attached)
- (b) Moree Plains Shire Council, Yass Valley Council and Carrathool Shire Council supporting the RAMROC submission to the Select Committee on Murray Darling Basin Plan
- (c) Hon Michael Keenan MP, Minister for Justice, Minister Assisting the Prime Minister on Counter Terrorism Re Natural Disaster Costs (Copy Attached)

NOTED

8. FINANCIAL REPORT

RESOLVED That the financial reports for the last quarter were tabled and accepted (Gunnedah Shire Council / Tumbarumba Shire Council)

9. General Business

(a) ARTC Inland Rail

There is a need for the impact of the rail on local roads to be considered which apparently it has not been. Those councils affected need to raise the issue.

(b) LGNSW

President LGNSW Cr Keith Rhoades expressed the view that he does not believe that any council is safe from mergers in light of Gloucester Shires decision not to proceed with a merger with Dungog Shire but to support a merger with Great Lakes Shire and Greater Taree City without reference to those two Councils. This new proposal of Gloucester is being referred to the Boundaries Commission. The Boundaries Commission has four members, one appointed by the Minister, one appointed by the Office of Local Government with LGNSW submitting four names with a Metropolitan and a Country representative appointed from those names. The date of the next Local Government elections has not been announced

(c) Meeting Arrangements for Future Meetings

Arrangements have been made to meet in the Jubilee Room at Parliament House in August and November. Enquiries are being made regarding a meeting venue for the June meeting. The Executive will make a decision and members advised.

(d) Changes to Local Government Act

It should be a requirement that the on line survey should be submitted by resolution of Council and not be submitted by individuals.

(e) Government Interference in Local Government

RESOLVED That the Association write to the Premier and Minister for Local Government with copies to CMA member local members objecting to the continuing undermining of local government by the State Government and expressing the view that 'enough is enough' (Moree Plains Shire Council / Tumbarumba Shire Council)

There being no further business the meeting closed at 12.15pm

Cr Rod Kendall
Chair – Country Mayor's Association of NSW