



BUSINESS PAPER
ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL

To be held on

Wednesday, 28 March 2018

2:00pm

at

Walcha Council Chambers

Members:

Mayor – Councillor Eric Noakes
Deputy Mayor – Councillor Clint Lyon
Councillor Peter Blomfield
Councillor Kevin Ferrier
Councillor William Heazlett
Councillor Jennifer Kealey
Councillor Scott Kermode
Councillor Rachael Wellings

Quorum – 5 Members to be Present

AGENDA

Submitted to Council: 28 March 2018

..... General Manager Mayor



Dear Mayor & Councillors

You are requested to attend the Ordinary Meeting of the Walcha Council to be held in the Council Chambers, Hamilton Street, Walcha on **Wednesday, 28 March 2018** commencing at **2.00pm**.

Yours sincerely

Jack O'Hara
GENERAL MANAGER

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Submitted to Council: 28 March 2018

..... General Manager Mayor



9. Management Review Report WO/2018/00440

10. Committee Reports

- 10.1 Notes of the Walcha Council Arts Advisory Committee Meeting held on Tuesday, 20 February 2018 at the Walcha Council Chambers, 2W Hamilton Street, Walcha WO/2018/00483
- 10.2 Minutes of the Walcha Council Tourism Advisory Committee Meeting held on Wednesday, 21 February 2018 at the Walcha Council Chambers, 2W Hamilton Street, Walcha WO/2018/00321
- 10.3 Minutes of the Walcha & District Beautification & Tidy Towns Committee Meeting held on Wednesday, 21 February 2018 at the Walcha Council Chambers, 2W Hamilton Street, Walcha. WO/2018/00482
- 10.4 Minutes of the Walcha Council Community Care Meeting held on Monday, 19 March 2018 at the Walcha Council Community Care Room. WO/2018/00476

11. Delegates Reports

- 11.1 Confirmed Minutes of the New England Tablelands (Noxious Plants) County Council Meeting held in Armidale on Wednesday, 24 October 2017. WI/2018/02386
- 11.2 Minutes of the Namoi Unlimited Board Meeting held at Tamworth Regional Council on Thursday, 1 March 2018. WI/2018/02387
- 11.3 Minutes of the Country Mayors Association of NSW General Meeting held at Parliament House Sydney on Friday, 2 March 2018. WI/2018/02438

12. Committee of the Whole

- 12.1 Tender for the Supply and Delivery of Guard Rail End Terminals Tender No.: WAL-2018-01 WINT/2018/00995

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.

Submitted to Council: 28 March 2018

..... General Manager Mayor



Present:

Apologies:

**Confirmation of the Ordinary Meeting Minutes held on Wednesday,
14 February 2018:**

**Matters arising from the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on Wednesday,
14 February 2018:**

Submitted to Council: 28 March 2018

..... General Manager Mayor



ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL

held on

Wednesday, 14 February 2018

at

3:30pm

at

Walcha Council Chambers

PRESENT: Clr EH Noakes (Chairman) Mayor together with Councillors PR Blomfield, KW Ferrier, WJ Heazlett, JM Kealey, SJ Kermode and RL Wellings.

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

1. APOLOGIES:

96 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Ferrier and Kermode that the apology received from Clr Lyon, due to an emergency on his property, be **ACCEPTED**.

MINUTES



2. CONFIRMATION OF THE ORDINARY MEETING MINUTES HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 13 DECEMBER 2017:

97 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Ferrier and Kermode that the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on Wednesday, 13 December 2017, copies of which have been distributed to all members, be taken as read and confirmed a **TRUE** record.

3. BUSINESS ARISING

Council request the Ramps Policy be reviewed after 12 months.

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Nil.

5. MAYORAL MINUTE

Nil.

6. SENIOR OFFICERS REPORT

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

6.1 Joint Organisation Nomination – Walcha Council WO/2018/00052

99 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Kealey and Kermode that in accordance with Part 7 of Chapter 12 of the Local Government Act, 1993, the Walcha Council resolves:

1. That the Council inform the Minister for Local Government, the Hon Gabrielle Upton MP, of the Council's endorsement of the Minister recommending to the Governor the establishment of a Joint Organisation Namoi Unlimited in accordance with this resolution.
2. To approve the inclusion of the Council's area in the Joint Organisation's area.
3. that the Joint Organisation be established to cover the Council's area and any one or more of the following council areas:
 - a) Gunnedah Shire Council
 - b) Gwydir Shire council
 - c) Liverpool Plains Shire Council
 - d) Narrabri Shire Council
 - e) Tamworth Regional Council
 - f) Walcha Council.
4. That before 28 February 2018 the General Manager provide the Minister with a copy of this resolution including the date on which Council made this resolution.
5. That, on the expiry of a period of 28 days from the making of this resolution, the General Manager inform the Minister that this resolution has not been rescinded for the purpose of the Minister issuing a certificate under Section 400P of the Act.



6.2 Quarterly Review of 2017/2018 Budget as at 31 December 2017

WO/2018/00119

100 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Kermode and Heazlett that Council adopt the December 2017 Quarterly Budget Review Statements **FURTHER THAT** Council approve the variations in Income and Expenditure votes as detailed.

6.3 Final Audit Management Letter Year Ending June 2017 WO/2018/00117

101 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Heazlett and Kealey that Council **NOTE** the Report.

6.4 Delivery Program Six Monthly Review 2017/2018 – 2020/2021as at December 2017 WO/2018/00166

102 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Kermode and Heazlett that in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Act, 1993, Council **ADOPT** the Delivery Program 2017/2018 – 2020/2021 December 2017 six monthly review.

6.5 2019 Rural Women’s Gathering – Request for Financial Sponsorship and In-Kind Support WO/2018/00379

103 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Kealey and Wellings that Council agree to establish a Rural Women’s Gathering Committee under Section 355 of the Local Government Act, 1993, to facilitate the auspicing of the Rural Women’s Gathering and with the following specifications:

Function of the Committee

The purpose of the Committee is to prepare and submit an Expression of Interest to host the Rural Women’s Gathering. If successful, the Committee will also be required to organise and run the event.

Membership

2 Councillors – Clr Kealey (Chairperson) & Clr Wellings
8 – 10 Community Members

Meetings

The Committee is to meet as required until the EOI is submitted and then if successful, bi-monthly. The appointed Councillor is to act as the Chairperson and the Quorum will be half the number of the members of the Committee plus one.

104 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Kealey and Kermode that Council declines the financial request of \$20,000 donation but agree to the in-kind assistance requested.



6.6 Reintroduction of the Dust Suppression Program

WO/2018/00181

105 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Heazlett and Wellings that Council adopt the following model for the Dust Suppression Program:

Criteria	Description	Score
Volume of Passing Traffic	High	3
	Medium	2
	Low	1
	Property Owner Only	0
Through Road or Non Through Road	Through Road	2
	Non Through Road	0
Distance of Dwelling from Road	Less than 60m	5
	61 to 100m	4
	101 to 150m	3
	151 to 200m	2
	201 to 250m	1
	More than 250m	0
Vegetative Cover Between The Road & Household.	Clear	2
	Sporadic Tree Cover	1
	Dense Tree Cover	0
Property /Area Average Recorded Rainfall	Less than 750mm	2
	Between 750mm & 1000mm	1
	Greater than 1000mm	0
Dwelling Permanently Occupied	Yes	2
	No	0
Heavy Vehicle Movements	Frequent	2
	Infrequent	0
Length of Seal Required	Less than 100m	2
	101m to 150m	1
	More than 150m	0
Extenuating Circumstances	Recognition of further circumstances is required, however this must be impartial. It is recommended that residents that have any further considerations approach Council and a report is written for Council's consideration. The impact upon the residents place on the list will be deciphered by Council.	N/A
Total possible points	-	20



6.7 Walcha Council Community Care & Early Intervention Policies

WO/2018/00170

106 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Kermode and Kealey that the Walcha Council Community Care and Early Intervention Policies be **ADOPTED** by Council.

6.8 Review and Adoption of Walcha Council’s Asbestos Policy

WO/2018/00102

107 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Ferrier and Kermode that Council **ADOPT** the Walcha Council Asbestos Policy as presented.

6.9 Affix Common Seal to Transfer of Closed Road Lot 4 DP 1152715 to NT & E Higgins

WO/2018/00053

108 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Kealey and Wellings that Council approve the affixing of the Common Seal to all documentation relating to the Lot 4 DP 1152715 Closed Road between Council and NT & E Higgins **FURTHER THAT** the affixing of the Common Seal be attested to by the Mayor and the General Manager.

6.10 Council Office Building Heating Upgrade

WINT/2017/02689

109 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Kermode and Kealey that Council move the replacement of the current heating system in the Council Office Building, 2W Hamilton Street, Walcha from the 2019/2020 Capital Works Program to the current 2017/2018 Capital Works Program.

LATE REPORT

1. Request for Sponsorship – Bobby Jack’s Festival Inc

WO/2017/00222

110 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Ferrier and Wellings that Council agree to sponsorship of \$1,500 towards the Bobby Jack’s Festival with the cost to be funded from the Tourism vote.

6.11 Committee of the Whole Referral – Shared Panel of Conduct Reviewers – Expression of Interest

WO/2018/00055

111 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Kermode and Kealey that, in accordance with the provisions of Section 10 of the Local Government Act, 1993, the matter of Shared Panel of Conduct Reviewers be referred to be discussed in Committee of the Whole for the reason that it would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the Council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business.

7. NOTICE OF MOTION

Nil.



8. MATTERS OF URGENCY

Clr Heazlett raised the issue of Walcha Water Security as a matter of urgency. It was ruled by the Chairman to be a matter of urgency.

Motion:

It was Moved by Clr Heazlett that Walcha Council ask Kevin Anderson MP to take a delegation to the Minister to obtain High Security Water Licences from the Apsley & Macdonald Rivers.

The Motion **FAILED** to get a **SECONDER** and therefore **LAPSED**.

9. MANAGEMENT REVIEW REPORTS

WO/2018/00059

112 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Ferrier and Kealey that items included in the Management Review Report, numbered 9.1 to 9.16 inclusive, be **NOTED** by Council.

10. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Nil.

11. DELEGATE REPORTS

11.1 **Minutes of the Namoi Unlimited Board Meeting held on Thursday, 14 December 2017 at Bingara.** **WI/2018/00836**

12. COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

113 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Blomfield and Kealey 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.

114 The Meeting resumed in **OPEN** Council on the Motion of Councillors Kealey and Kermode.

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 Expression of Interest – Shared Panel of Conduct Reviewers

WINT/2018/00209

The Committee **RECOMMENDED** on the Motion of Kealey and Wellings that Council:

- a) Share a panel of Conduct Reviewers with the following Councils:
 - ✚ Gunnedah Shire Council
 - ✚ Narrabri Shire Council,
 - ✚ Tamworth Regional Council,
 - ✚ Uralla Shire Council.
- b) Appoint the panel of Conduct Reviewers for a period of four (4) years as set out below:
 - ✚ O’Connell Workplace Relations Pty Ltd,
 - ✚ SINC Solutions Pty Ltd
 - ✚ Centium Group Pty Ltd
 - ✚ Locale Consulting Pty Ltd; and
 - ✚ Linda Petterson Consulting Pty Ltd.

ADOPTION OF COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

115 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Kealey and Kermode that the Report and Recommendations of the Meeting of the Walcha Council Committee of the Whole held on Wednesday, 14 February 2018 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 5:00PM.



Item 6:
Senior Officers'
Reports

Submitted to Council: 28 March 2018

..... General Manager Mayor



Item: 6.1 **Ref:** WO/2018/00465
Title: Water Security Feasibility Study – Stage 4 – Walcha Water Security Options Assessment Report
Author: General Manager
Previous Items: WO/16/1959, WO/17/33, WO/17/1459, WO/17/1988, WO/17/2147
Attachment: Walcha Water Security Options Assessment Report – Under separate cover.

Community Strategic Plan Reference:

Goal – 6.3 – Water supply and sewerage services will be physically and environmentally sensitive.

Strategy – 6.3.3 – Identify possible new water sources..

Introduction:

As per the Water Security Feasibility Study this report is to table the Final Report of Stage 4 – Options assessment including cost estimates for water security for all feasible options for constructing a dam on the Apsley River.

Report:

The Walcha Water Security Options Assessment Report, provided under separate cover, is submitted for adoption by Council.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council ADOPT the Walcha Water Security Options Assessment Report FURTHER THAT Council send copies to NSW Department of Industry - Water and to the Federal Minister for Agriculture & Water Resources and our Local Federal & State Members STILL FURTHER THAT Council submit an Expression of Interest for Stage 1 of the Safe and Secure Water Program.

Submitted to Council: 28 March 2018

..... General Manager Mayor



Item: 6.2 **Ref:** WO/2018/00424
Title: Walcha Preschool Advisory Committee Membership Nominations
Author: General Manager
Previous Items:
Attachment: No

Community Strategic Plan Reference:

Goal – 4.1 – Education and training opportunities will be provided that deliver skills and knowledge needed to advance the community.

Strategy – 4.1.1 – Provide quality and accessible preschool and early intervention facilities for children in a safe and supportive environment.

Introduction:

This report is to appoint one parent/citizen representatives to serve on the Walcha Preschool Advisory Committee.

Report:

The Committee consists of four parent/citizen representatives generally elected for a two year period with half the number changing each year. Last time we called for nominations we received three and Council appointed all three and therefore increased the number of parent/citizen representatives. This time by having the one representative appointed it will bring it back to the original membership number. Applications for the vacant positions were called for and one application was received. The applicant Meggie Davey has a child attending Preschool in 2018.

The two community members leaving the Committee are Lucie Street and Amber Poflowski.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council appoint the successful applicant to the Walcha Preschool Advisory Committee FURTHER THAT Council write to Lucie Street and Amber Poflowski expressing Council’s appreciation for their dedication and commitment whilst serving on the Committee.

Submitted to Council: 28 March 2018

..... General Manager Mayor



Item: 6.3 **Ref:** WO/2018/00477
Title: Community Engagement and Asset Management Strategy
Author: Director – Engineering Services
Previous Items: Not applicable
Attachment: Nil

Community Strategic Plan Reference:

*Goal – 8.1 – Walcha Council will exemplify good leadership,
 Strategy – 8.1.23 – Provide a framework for the efficient and effective administration of Council.
 Goal – 8.2 – Council rate funding for local government projects will be supplemented by income generated from other sources..*

Introduction:

Asset management is an integral part of every local government entity. Currently, Walcha Council has implemented all of the required documentation to meet current standard practice. However further work around community engagement and establishing a desired level of service from community expectations is required to gain further insights into how Council should maintain its assets.

Report:

A revised Asset Management Strategy that embodies the expectations of the community and reflects the adopted expectations through our prioritisation of works is essential in establishing a best practice approach to local government asset management. In order to ensure that the community expectations are realistic and achievable, it is essential to have an education component when engaging with the community. The Institute of Public Works Engineers Australasia (IPWEA) has a best practice guide to community consultation with a focus on asset management, which will aid in achieving this goal. Community accepted levels of service can also be incorporated into Councils other Integrated Planning and Reporting Documents, such as the Community Strategic Plan, Delivery Program and Long Term Financial Plan. This is because the community expected, and Council adopted levels of service will aid in providing the Engineering Department with a platform to further develop detailed Asset Management Plans.

The NSW Department of Premier and Cabinet has an Integrated Planning and Reporting (IP&R) Manual for Local Government, which clearly outlines the importance of asset management and what Asset Management Plans should embody to help Council achieve a sustainable future.

Asset Management Policy, Strategy and Plans...	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrate how the council’s assets will enable the implementation of the Community Strategic Plan • Describe the condition of key assets, preferably using easily understandable maps or tables • Identify acceptable levels of services as discussed with the community • Determine where the council will intervene to improve assets
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It is much easier to gain a clearer understanding of how the IP&R documents are related by referring to the below schematic released in the abovementioned manual.

Submitted to Council: 28 March 2018

..... General Manager Mayor



It is clear to see that asset management planning is a key resource strategy that underpins Councils overall Integrated Planning and Reporting suite of documents.

Councils Engineering Department is currently working on revising all Asset Management Plans, which builds upon fantastic work that has already been completed by previous Councils and Staff. Most of the key documents and asset management plans exist and are based on sound engineering. However it is believed that in order to accurately revise these documents and ensure Council is managing assets inline with community expectations, an engagement strategy must be established.

In order to maintain progress, it is recommended that Council staff develop a Community Engagement Strategy, which includes key dates at public venues to hold information and engagement sessions regarding asset management. The development of these engagement sessions will be conducted in consultation with Council and should involve at a minimum two Council workshops prior to meeting with the community. The following is suggested:

Submitted to Council:

28 March 2018

..... General Manager Mayor



Community Engagement and Asset Management Strategy & Program	
Date	Intended Consultation
Between March and May 2018 Ordinary Council Meeting	Council's Engineering Department Continues to revise asset management plans and asset data. In addition, the development of a Community Engagement Strategy is complete in draft form. Finally, Councils Engineering Department prepares a Council workshop on asset management, where we are currently and the next essential steps required.
May 2018 Ordinary Council Meeting	Councils Engineering Department holds a Council Workshop based on current asset management practises and goals for the future. The workshop will also discuss the draft Community Engagement Strategy and will request feedback on possible dates, expectations and required content.
Between May and July 2018 Ordinary Council Meeting	Council's Engineering Department will collate information and comments that are gathered from the initial Council workshop and incorporate those comments into developing a final Community Engagement Strategy. In addition, asset management plans and asset data will continue to be revised and improved.
July 2018 Ordinary Council Meeting	Council's Engineering Department holds a secondary workshop, aimed at providing Council with similar material that will be presented to the public at the community engagement event(s). The Engineering Department will take the key outcomes and comments from this session and will develop a final engagement workshop presentation.
Prior to October 2018 Ordinary Council Meeting (As Determined by Council)	Community engagement workshop(s) to be held, hosted by Council's Engineering Department with all comments being noted and collated for further analysis.
November 2018 Ordinary Meeting	Council's Engineering Department creates a Community Engagement Outcomes document, and a formal Asset Management Strategy document, that embodies the outcomes of the community engagement workshops. These documents will be placed on public exhibition for comment until the February Ordinary Meeting in 2019.
February 2019 Ordinary Council Meeting	Council's Engineering Department holds an Asset Management workshop, where the final Asset Management Documents presented for comment.
March Ordinary Meeting 2019	Council's Asset Management Policy, Strategy and all Plans are finalised by the Engineering Department and sent to the March Ordinary Meeting for Adoption.

RECOMMENDATION: That Council Authorise the General Manager to implement the Community Engagement and Asset Management Strategy & Program.

Submitted to Council: 28 March 2018

..... General Manager Mayor



Item: 6.4 **Ref:** WO/2018/00480
Title: Rural Women’s Gathering Committee – Appointment of Membership
Author: General Manager
Previous Items: Not Applicable
Attachment: No

Community Strategic Plan Reference:

Goal – 2.1 – Commercial and tourist development will be promoted and encouraged to grow in harmony with the natural environment, to take maximum advantage of commercial opportunities and to increase local employment.

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

Goal – 5.2 – The existing strong community spirit and pride will be protected and promoted.

Strategy – 5.2.1 – Support and promote participation in community events.

Strategy – 5.2.3 – Support service, sporting and other community groups.

Introduction:

Last month, Council resolved to establish a 355 Committee of Council, the “Rural Women’s Gathering Committee”. This report is to appoint the community members for this Committee.

Report:

As per the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2005 Division 5 Council Committees*, Council must state the functions of a Committee when it is established. The Rural Women’s Gathering Committee was established with the following specifications:

Function of the Committee

The purpose of the Committee is to prepare and submit an Expression of Interest to host the Rural Women’s Gathering. If successful, the Committee will also be required to organise and run the event.

Membership

2 Councillors – Clr Kealey (Chairperson) & Clr Wellings
8 – 10 Community Members

Meetings

The Committee is to meet as required until the EOI is submitted and then if successful, bi-monthly. The appointed Councillor is to act as the Chairperson and the Quorum will be half the number of the members of the Committee plus one.

The Council received 8 community member applications and it is recommended that Council appoint all 8. The membership will therefore be:

2 Councillors – Clr Kealey (Chairperson) & Clr Wellings
8 Community Members – Dale Webber, Anna Barwick, Karen Brown, Cecilia Casey, Chloe Hoy, Jane Morrison, Don Murchie and Aurora Reilly.

Also attached is a copy of the initial Bid Organising Committee Meeting Minutes for your information.

Submitted to Council: 28 March 2018

..... General Manager Mayor



RECOMMENDATION:

That Council appoint the following eight (8) community members to the Rural Women's Gathering 355 Committee:

- + Dale Webber**
- + Anna Barwick**
- + Karen Brown**
- + Cecilia Casey**
- + Chloe Hoy**
- + Jane Morrison**
- + Don Murchie**
- + Aurora Reilly**

Submitted to Council: 28 March 2018

..... General Manager Mayor



**Bid / Organising Committee (BOC)
2019 Rural Women’s Gathering**

Meeting - 7.00pm, Monday, 12 March 2018 - Walcha Council Chambers

MINUTES

355 Committee of Council (Attending): Jen Kealey, Rachael Wellings

Bid / Organising Committee (Attending): Anna Barwick, Karen Brown, Cecilia Casey, Chloe Hoy, Jane Morrison, Don Murchie, Aurora Reilly, Dale Webber

Apologies: Nil

355 Committee established by the council. Consist of 2 councillors, Rachael Welling and Jen Kealey Roll is to coordinate between the council and BOC. Jen to chair and Rachel to step in when required.

The aim for the 355 committee is to liaise between the BOC and the council. The BOC will meet and the headline decisions from the meeting will be presented to the 355 committee, who in turn will present them to the council to be passed in the chamber. The treasurer of the BOC will work closely with Jack O'Hara in regard to the budget. The council will be watching and overseeing the bid process and if successful the organisational process of the event. The council will work with the BOC to get the bid passed in time and submitted to the RWN.

Auspicing Body, Walcha Council:

Council assumes full responsibility, 355 set up and council have the final say. Risk assessment go through council. Committee make the decisions and council oversees the process.

It is a requirement of the committee to be set up as Auspicing body.

Formerly elect committee and rolls:

Budget, Sponsorship, Exhibitors/Market Stall holders (work in conjunction with Chloe Hoy with regard to Exhibitors and Market Stall spaces)

Nominated member: Anna Barwick

Telephone: 0413 530 285

Email: annabarwick02@gmail.com

Accepted by: Anna Barwick Nominated by: Dale Webber Seconded by: Chloe Hoy

Communications and Public Relations, Speakers, Entertainment

Nominated member: Karen Brown

Telephone: 0410 469 466

Email: karen.brown@y7mail.com

Accepted by: Karen Brown Nominated by: Dale Webber Seconded by: Cecilia Casey

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..... General Manager Mayor



Administration, Assisting with Budget set up (work in conjunction with Don Murchie in regard to on-ground and transport Logistics, if Bid is successful)

Nominated member: Cecilia (Ces) Casey

Telephone: 0427 595 683, 6777 1213

Email: cescasey@iprimus.com.au

Accepted by: Cecilia Casey Nominated by: Dale Webber Seconded by: Anna Barwick

Market Stall Holders, Event Spaces, Exhibitor/Market Stall Spaces, Social Media, Catering

(work in conjunction with Anna Barwick with regard to Exhibitors and Jane Morrison in regard to Catering)

(work in conjunction with Don Murchie for best use of showground facilities and venues)

Nominated member: Chloe Hoy

Telephone: 6777 3933, 0400 389 579

Email: chloemhoy@outlook.com

Accepted by: Chloe Hoy Nominated by: Dale Webber Seconded by: Jane Morrison

Accommodation, Travel and Catering(work in conjunction with Chloe Hoy for catering)

Nominated member: Jane Morrison

Telephone: 0409 897 348

Email: rnjmorrison@optusnet.com.au

Accepted by: Jane Morrison Nominated by: Dale Webber Seconded by: Karen Brown

On-Ground Logistics including Transport Logistics and best use of Showground venue and facilities.

(provide assistance with budgeting to Anna if/where required)

Nominated member: Don Murchie

Telephone: 6777 2039

Email: dmurchie@activ8.net.au

Accepted by: Don Murchie Nominated by: Dale Webber Seconded by: Aurora Riley

Workshops (including Ecumenical Church Service and other Optional Sunday morning activity), WH&S and Risk Management

Nominated member: Aurora Reilly

Telephone: 0400 458 438

Email: aurorareilly56@gmail.com

Accepted by: Aurora Riley Nominated by: Dale Webber Seconded by: Rachael Wellings

Bid Submission Co-Ordinator, Event Program Co-Ordinator, Participant Registration Form

Submitted to Council: 28 March 2018

..... General Manager Mayor



Nominated member:Dale Webber

Telephone: 6777 8191 (preferred), 0412 083 039

Email: dale.onfocus@bigpond.com

Accepted by: Dale Webber Nominated by: Karen Brown Seconded by: Jane Morrison

Discussion around Bid preparation.

Bid / Organising Committee-Welcome all

Roles, Contact Details- Discussed and contact details handed out

Introductions-All members introduced themselves

Bid committee needs Secretary, chair and Treasurer

Chair of Committee: Dale Webber

Nominated by: Jen Kealey Seconded: Karen Brown

Secretary:Karen Brown (to attend 355) &Ces Casey (*Shared role*)

Nominated by: Don Murchie Seconded: Rachael Wellings

Treasurer: Anna Barwick

Nominated by: Karen Brown Seconded: Chloe Hoy

Floating other, refer to agenda on who needs to be there. 4 from BOC plus council reps by at least 1. Share the NSW RGC ground rules. Rules read out to the committee members.

Jen Kealey handed over the meeting to Dale to chair the committee meeting.

Preparation of Bid

Due Date for the bid to be submitted is 27th March 2018, at the latest.

Content-Handout to members, this contains a template to build onto. Details can be added in as annexes letters at the back. Handover of information, expressions of interest, suggestions from Dale to committee members.

Proposed Date for Gathering- Dynamic program- 1st weekend in November 2019 (Friday 1st November 2019, Saturday 2nd November 2019 & Sunday 3rd November 2019)

The date is to be pencilled in with the Show Ground President, Don Murchie will tentatively book this in.

Gathering Theme - Brain storming ideas- committee feels that the theme needs to reflect the environment, culture, community at large.

Theme ideas have been short listed to:

-Thriving in the high country

-Creating a Natural High

-Inspiring a natural high

Submitted to Council: 28 March 2018

..... General Manager Mayor



-Thriving on a country high

A final decision will be made at the next meeting allowing committee members time to think.

Community Support-Letters required the from Community should ideally state whatand how they might want to be involved.

-In-Kind - letter

-Financial sponsorship(events)

-Organisations-support inkind

-Letters of Support received from Mayor Eric Noakes and Kevin Anderson.

Could any letters of support from community groups please be forwarded to Karen.

Gathering Program Overview-

The Walcha Showground was suggested as the "Hub" for the weekend to give guests a sense of base.

The cost to use the showground is \$450 day PLUS power and water.

The committee to look at charging the campers.

Welcome Night (*Friday Night*)- Guests arrive and register at the showground, Friday afternoon (but also Saturday morning and even Sunday morning.)

The idea is NOT to have a sit down event, as the Saturday night will be.

We want to create a WOW factor for our guests.

Suggestions for event:

-Create a mini vivid-Start in McHatton park-Fairy lights, substantial canapés/finger food, Lighting up sculptures, close off the street, put detours in place, and take guests on a tour around the walking paths of Walcha to see the local attractions (eg, sculptures lit up).

Walcha Town & Country has offered to run, style & cater this event.

-Cocktail Party or Roving Dinner at Langford. ("Highlights at Langford")

This would involve having a marquee (or multiple) A "roving" dinner or food stalls with a band/entertainment. Possibility of being able to use Langford "Ballroom"

Easily decorated with fairy lights etc. Guests would be served cocktail food/alcohol.

Walcha Town & Country has offered to run, style & cater this event.

Work out what speakers we can have access to, depending on cost, and work them into the program.

Need to set up a base as the hub (eg showground).

Submitted to Council: 28 March 2018

..... General Manager Mayor



Saturday morning:
Registrations
Welcome and opening session
Key note speaker.
Added speakers
Morning tea
Local women stories.
Casual Lunch
Afternoon workshops including tours.

Saturday Plenary session could be held at the MPC or showground
Have the stall holders where the registrations are/morning teas/lunches.

Saturday night: Gala dinner.
Ideal location would be the MPC, but if we are having a key note speaker there in the morning session there would not be enough time to prepare the MPC for a gala dinner. Other suggestions include the hockey hall at the showground that can be set up on Friday/Saturday.
Chloe Hoy will look into catering costs.
We would also need an MC and/or entertainment on Saturday night.

Venues- MPC or showground similar to Geebung Ball could be appropriate for the Saturday night Gala Dinner

Sunday morning: Ecumenical Service (or yoga as another option).
Breakfast before service??
Morning tea and lunch. -Coffee vans, food cart (Fee Fi Fo pastry suggested). Possibly provide a packed lunch for travellers.
Suggestions that a tour or golf, Activities that are low key along side of the sessions.

Full auditorium for panel discussion – outcome to become an issues paper for RWN to take to the government, therefore, tours/golf should not be offered.

Keynote Speaker-
Look at companies that deal with keynote speakers
Ideally key-note speaker would be a "Draw card" to bring people to the event.

Saturday-talking about how women set themselves up to high, Empower women to be what they want to be.

Guest Speaker suggestions:
Amanda Muggleton(English Australian theatre, television and film actress)
Rose Batty (Australian of Year. Domestic violence situation)

Submitted to Council: 28 March 2018

..... General Manager Mayor



- Ben Mingay (Australian actor and singer)
- Kylie Gillies (Australian television presenter for the Seven Network)
- Martina Jewell (One of the most decorated females in Australian military history. Life changing perspective on leadership, change and resilience.)
- Glenn McGrath (Former Australian cricketer & ambassador for Glenn McGrath foundation)
- Shelly Taylor-Smith (World record holder swimming who suffered from [scoliosis](#))

Also suggested was local Peter O'Keefe who Is a fourth generation grazier of the O'Keefe family in Yarrowitch. He could speak at the event about his battle with depression. In 2008 a horrific farm accident left Peter with full thickness burns to 46% of his body.

Committee members to please research and get pricing on any other speakers that may be of interest.

Workshops

Venues - some of the smaller places in town eg: tennis club, sports club, rugby club, Ex-Servos, church halls, etc. Chloe Hoy to contact premises for expression of interest, cost & capacity,

List of workshops started. Expressions of Interests received and noted on the list. We need a MINIMUM of 40 in total. This is broken into two groups:

- *20 Development based (Educational)
- *20 Hobby/ Interest based (Wellbeing, health and personal)

Table of expressions of interest to be emailed out to committee by Dale -Ideasreceived and ideas to be added as we go.

Aurora Reilly to get the list together before the next meeting. Dale to contact RWN to confirm if there is to be 40 different workshop subjects or juts 40 workshops in total. Afternoon teas ('High Teas') to be provided at or near workshop venues.

Tours-

Information Stalls / Markets-

We MUST have following Essential stalls involved in our event:

- RWN
- Sponsors
- Next Gathering Committee
- Support Services, Government & Community (Eg: Breast screen, Cancer Checks, Women's health nurse, Rural Adversity & Mental Health program, Country Care Link, NSW Health, Rural Resilience Program.

Submitted to Council: 28 March 2018

..... General Manager Mayor



These stands need to be set up in areas where morning tea and lunch are held so women can wander through during breaks.

- Karen Brown will chase letters from each of these groups seeking interest/support.
- Anna and Karen to Liaise to organise.
- Chloe to forward on a list of market stalls to Anna.

Accommodation- "Glamping" New England (Kentucky based) was suggested as another option for accommodation.

Jane has a list of accommodation options and Expressions of Interest for offers for billeted accommodation. Jane will be at the Visitor Information Centre on Sunday and will look into details of accommodation option.

Travel, Transport- Jane will look into options available and costs.

Childcare-

-Not able to use council day care (Preschool)

Could council run a youth events program? Unlikely due to cost/staffing etc.

To have someone run a "Kids Club" is a huge ask.. Suggestion that we incorporate a service to arrange an event for kids stuff. Approach Rachel to assist and follow up if needed extra details etc. Weigh up costs and past program.

Walcha has many great at home family day care services. Family day care would be best suited because of how they operate. Parents would be entitled to rebates. Carer could set the fee – Insurances are then covered. Because of the auspicing committee council can only suggest registered carers to be used.

We would need to approach the Carers and need letter of support to have this.

Providing a list of carers with gathering information.

(Chloe to provide Karen a list of the current registered carers in Walcha.)

Providing & advertising baby rooms for those mums who have small bubs, that way they can feed, soothe/settle their baby in a calm, private environment.

We could also approach the local churches to run one event for children on Saturday evening. Could we please get a letter of support from them – Rachael to look into this.

Ecumenical Sunday service- This would be held separate to local services. Rachael to discuss options with Aurora.

Partners Program-Dale has some ideas that she will email out but if other members could also please put some ideas together for next meeting that would be very helpful.

Submitted to Council: 28 March 2018

..... General Manager Mayor



Budget- DPI funding through RWG \$20-30k(Anna)
Registration Money

Other

An event kit received. Good reference book.-Refer to for budget and templates for correspondence, letters of support etc.

Draft Action List to be set up and emailed to Dale Webber

Meeting closed:10pm

Next Meeting:7pm, Monday 19 March 2018

Submitted to Council: 28 March 2018

..... General Manager Mayor



Item:	6.5	Ref: WO/2018/00470
Title:	Unauthorized Waste	
Author:	Director Engineering Services	
Previous Items:	Nil	
Attachment:	-	

Community Strategic Plan Reference:

Goal – 6.2 – Solid waste will be managed in a sustainable manner with a continuing reduction in waste generation and disposal to landfill.

Strategy – 6.2.4 – Manage solid waste in an efficient, affordable and sustainable manner.

Introduction:

Last month hazardous waste originating from outside the Walcha LGA was reported.

Report:

It was reported to Council staff by a local builder that a load of building waste which included asbestos, had been dropped off at the Walcha Waste facility. It was also reported that the waste may have originated from a building company in Armidale. Council staff took the photos below of the waste which appeared to include a substantial amount of asbestos wall lining material. The material was removed and disposed of appropriately.



Submitted to Council: 28 March 2018

..... General Manager Mayor



As noted in the 'Walcha Waste Strategy May 2017 – High Priority Areas' there are major environmental, safety and compliance concerns with loads not being inspected before entering the Waste Facility. As such, the Waste Services Committee is investigating options, such as introducing additional staffing and gate fees, to address this issue.

RECOMMENDATION: For Councils information.

Submitted to Council: 28 March 2018

..... General Manager Mayor



Item: 6.6 **Ref:** WO/2018/00438
Title: Place Naming Proposals
Author: General Manager
Previous Items: Not Applicable
Attachment: Naming Proposal Forms – “Basaltic Rock” and “Grundy”

Community Strategic Plan Reference:
Goal – 5.3 – Walcha’s cultural identity will be enhanced.
Strategy – 5.3.4 – Preserve, support and promote the history of Walcha..

Introduction:

Council have been requested by Tony Dawson, a member of the Port Macquarie Historical Society, to support his place naming proposals for two geographical features in Walcha Council local government area which he would like to submit to the Geographical Board of New South Wales for inclusion in the register of place names in NSW.

Report:

Tony Dawson has undertaken research into the official surveys of Macquarie district prior to the opening of the settlement in 1830 and this research has instigated the two place naming proposals. Before 1840 the boundaries of the district were incompletely defined but that year the Police District of Macquarie was proclaimed and its boundaries described. Among the specified boundary marks was the Basaltic Rock, the location of which Tony Dawson has determined and now forms the basis of one of the naming proposals. The other feature is the site of trigonometric station “Grundy” and is one he initially considered as a candidate for the Basaltic Rock.

The two features, Basaltic Rock and Grundy, lie on the Great Dividing Range about five kilometres apart, one within and the other directly adjacent to the Ngulin Nature Reserve. Mr Dawson believes they are the two highest points in Walcha local government area and, for geographical as well as historical reasons, warrant formally registered names.

Mr Dawson has written to Amaroo Local Aboriginal Land Council requesting if the hill for which the name “Basaltic Rock’ is proposed, had a known indigenous name and as he hadn’t received a response, he has made the assumption that no such name is known. Mr Dawson acknowledges that if it transpires that either feature has an indigenous name then that name should have equal or higher ranking than that proposed.

This matter was referred to the Walcha & District Historical Society for their comment. They presented it to their Meeting held on 3 February 2018 and advised that the Walcha & District Historical Society have no objections to either of the naming proposals submitted by Tony Dawson.

AMSL – Australian Measurement Sea Level

Submitted to Council: 28 March 2018

..... General Manager Mayor



RECOMMENDATION:

That Council SUPPORT Tony Dawson’s Place Naming Proposals for “Basaltic Rock” situated at Ngulin Nature Reserve Longitude 151° 36’ 15” Eastings and Latitude 31° 20’ 19” Southings Height ~1440 AMSL and “Grundy” situated at a Hill on the Great Dividing Range Longitude 151° 39’ 20” Eastings Latitude 31° 19’ 36” Southings Height 1463 metres AMSL as depicted in the Naming Proposal Forms.

Submitted to Council: 28 March 2018

..... General Manager Mayor



Item:	6.7	Ref: WO/2018/00484
Title:	Committee of the Whole Referral – Tenders for Supply and Delivery of Guard Rail End Terminals	
Previous Items:	Not Applicable	
Attachment:	No	

Community Strategic Plan Reference:

Goal – 1.1 – Walcha will be serviced by an integrated and efficient transport network.

Strategy – 1.1.1 – Develop and maintain a safe and efficient local road and bridge network.

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 10A(2)(c) 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 10A(2)(c) of the Local Government Act, 1993, the matter of tender for Supply and Delivery of Guard Rail End Terminals 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: 28 March 2018

..... General Manager Mayor



Ref: WO/2018/00440

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

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

Item 9:

Management Review Reports

Submitted to Council: 28 March 2018

..... General Manager Mayor



FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

9.1 Listing of Bank Balances for the Month of February 2018

The Cash Book for each Fund has been reconciled with the appropriate Bank Pass sheets for the month of February 2018, and the Reconciliations have been entered in the Cash Book.

	<u>2018</u>	<u>2017</u>
General	\$1,052,912.58	\$2,163,060.49

The current Interest Rate on the General Fund held with the National Australia Bank is 1.25%.

	<u>2018</u>	<u>2017</u>
Interest Earned (YTD)	\$ 12,255.29	\$ 27,794.39

9.2 Investments Local Government (Financial Management) Regulation 1993, Clause 19 (3) (A) for February 2018

Please see the following Report for the investments placed in February 2018.

Overdraft Limit

An Overdraft Limit of \$200,000 has been arranged with the National Australia Bank. When utilised an Overdraft Interest Rate of 8.77% applies.

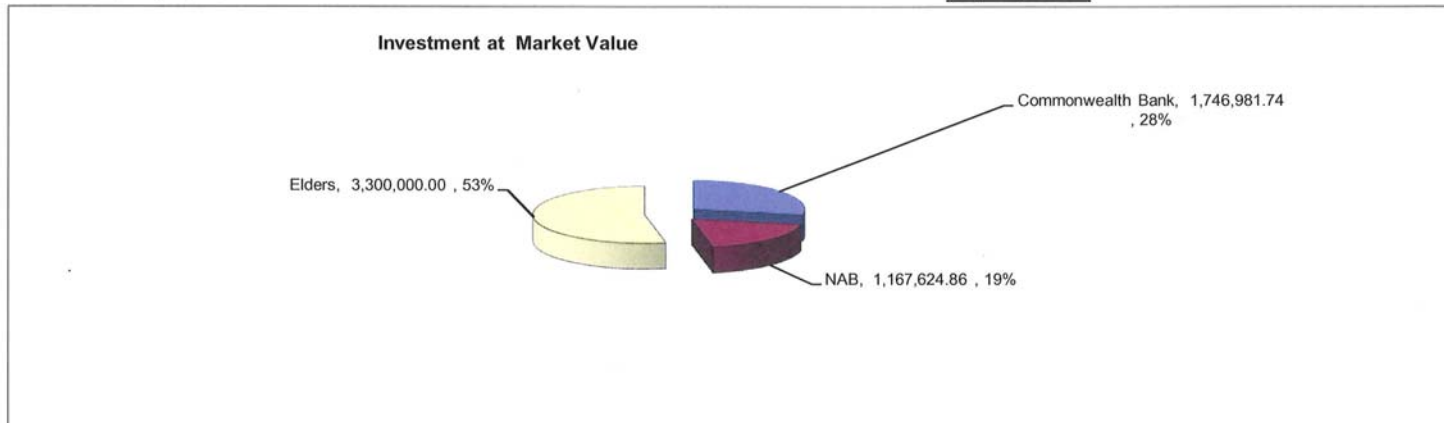
Jack O'Hara
GENERAL MANAGER



REGISTER OF INVESTMENTS TO 28/02/2018

Institution	Type	Placement Date	Term (Days)	Maturity Date	Rate	Est. Interest	YTD Interest	Amount Invested	YTD Redemption	Est. Market Value At 28/02/18	MV % of Portfolio	
National Australia Bank	Term Deposit			13-Jul-17			8908.27	-	960,878.74	-	0.00%	
Elders Rural Bank	Term Deposit			18-Jan-18			7712.88	-	600,000.00	-	0.00%	
Elders Rural Bank	Term Deposit			28-Feb-18			14054.25	-	650,000.00	-	0.00%	
Elders Rural Bank	Term Deposit	28/09/2017	180	28-Mar-18	2.50%	11712.33	12690.96	950,000.00	-	950,000.00	15.29%	
Elders Rural Bank	Term Deposit	4/10/2017	180	04-Apr-18	2.50%	7397.26	7971.78	600,000.00	-	600,000.00	9.65%	
Elders Rural Bank	Term Deposit	18/07/2017	270	18-Apr-18	2.58%	11450.96	0.00	600,000.00	-	600,000.00	9.65%	
National Australia Bank	Term Deposit	28/11/2017	150	28-Apr-18	2.50%	5318.06	7477.51	517,624.86	-	517,624.86	8.33%	
Commonwealth Bank	Term Deposit	26/09/2017	240	24-May-18	2.54%	8645.30	11034.29	517,639.92	-	517,639.92	8.33%	
Elders Rural Bank	Term Deposit	17/12/2017	180	17-Jun-18	2.46%	6672.33	7052.05	550,000.00	-	550,000.00	8.85%	
National Australia Bank	Term Deposit	18/01/2018	181	19-Jul-18	2.50%	8058.22	0.00	650,000.00	-	650,000.00	10.46%	
Commonwealth Bank	Term Deposit	17/09/2017	330	17-Aug-18	2.50%	7852.20	10118.45	347,400.27	-	347,400.27	5.59%	
Commonwealth Bank	Term Deposit	26/10/2017	365	22-Oct-18	2.55%	22489.51	20711.98	881,941.55	-	881,941.55	14.19%	
Elders Rural Bank	Term Deposit	15/02/2018	270	15-Nov-18	2.48%	11007.12	10336.44	600,000.00	-	600,000.00	9.65%	
							100,603.29	118,068.86	6,214,606.60	2,210,878.74	6,214,606.60	100.00%

Capital Value of Portfolio	6,214,606.60
Redeemed Value of Portfolio	2,210,878.74
Market Value of Portfolio 28/02/18	6,214,606.60
Estimated Profit/(Loss) 28/02/18	6,214,606.60



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: 28 March 2018

..... General Manager Mayor



9.3 Work, Health & Safety

February 2018

Workplace Incidents – Two incidents with one resulting in a Workers Compensation Claim and a lost time injury. Both incidents were investigated and as a result a new Safe Operating Procedure was developed and a Toolbox Talk was conducted to ensure that the incident does not occur again.

Motor Vehicle – One minor incident was recorded and a claim was lodged and accepted with Zurich.

Near Misses – One near miss which was investigated and as a result corrective actions were put in place to ensure that the near miss did not become an incident.

Council’s Risk Management Action Plan for 2017 – 2018: Is on track to be finalised by 30 June 2018 with the Director – Engineering Services addressing identified shortfalls.

9.4 Tourism Report

February / March 2018

Number of visitors to VIC

February	2018	2017	2016	2015
Walk in’s	315	275	444	335
Phone enquiries	37	56	41	25
Email enquiries	0	1	1	0

Website	February	January	December	November
Unique Visits	2,633	2,891	1,659	1,940
Visits	3,247	3,579	1,965	2,463
No of Hits	184,078	206,037	112,673	126,631

Comments from the Visitors Book – January / February

Very informative / Lovely place / very helpful / Apsley Gorge - excellent camp / Always Helpful, great Bike! / Great / Lovely town / Beautiful – Great Help / amazing town / Looking for campsite / Great help from Lisa in finding ancestry details for Wollard / Lovely place & helpful / Lovely place (love the flowers in the loo☺) / Train seat is great / nice countryside / wonderful / Walcha – a most beautiful, welcoming town. Love all the sculptures & Janet (*volunteer – Janet Dunbar*) / Lovely town, people and surrounds.

Projects

John Oxley Bicentenary Event – September 8-9 2018

We are working on the John Oxley event in an ongoing manner. A movie competition for senior students and a poster competition for primary students (years 3-6) has been drawn up ready for distribution to the schools. A colouring comp for K-2 will be distributed at a later date.

Walcha Sculpture Symposium

Artist Applications opened on Thursday, 8 March. They have been loaded on the Walcha Tourism site, and distributed through NERAM, Tamworth Gallery and Arts Northwest websites and newsletters. Applications close on 23 March.

Submitted to Council: 28 March 2018

..... General Manager Mayor



Heritage Near Me

Tourism attended the Heritage Near Me workshop along with other community members. The workshop showed promise of positive outcomes for a cohesive, collaborative community project embracing a broad spectrum of Walcha’s people, history and heritage assets. Their draft plan has been read and returned with comments by Lisa Kirton and Susie Crawford.

Social Media Workshop

Thursday 8 March; Lisa Kirton and Susie Crawford attended a social media course in Armidale put on by the NSW Business Chamber. This course was worthwhile and enhanced our knowledge of how to use different features on Social Media, we will utilise this for events we organise throughout the year.

DNSW – Destination Network Country & Outback NSW

The ‘Destination Networks’ have replaced ‘Regional Tourism Organisations’ (RTO) of which many went into administration in April 2016. Our RTO was known as *Inland NSW*. Walcha belongs to a Destination Network called ‘*Country & Outback*’ which covers a vast area of NSW. A board has recently been appointed to Country and Outback and a draft Destination Management Plan has been drawn up.

Susie Crawford
 Tourism Manager

9.5 Grant Information

Grants Currently Applied for:

Name of Grant:	Purpose of Grant:	Amount Requested	Council Contribution:	Date Outcome Announced:	Outcome
Australia Council for the Arts Project Fund	Sculpture Symposium	\$70,000		Unknown	Still TBA
ClubsNSW Infrastructure Grants Round 2	Redevelopment of Walcha Memorial Cenotaph	\$50,000	\$55,000	January	Waiting on advice
Shuttle Bus Grant	A grant to pay for transport to attend Youth Week activities.	\$825	\$0	April	

Submitted to Council: 28 March 2018

..... General Manager Mayor



Grants Currently Being Investigated:

Name of Grant:	Purpose of Grant:	Closing Date:
Arts Projects – Organisations Community Building Partnership Youth Opportunities Funding Regional Arts NSW website:		Various times
Quality Learning Environments	To add new or improve existing learning infrastructure (Preschool)	30/03/2018
Heavy Vehicle Safety and Productivity Program (HVSPP)	To improve road safety for heavy vehicles on Thunderbolts Way and selected local roads.	30/03/2018
Office of Environment & Heritage Flood Plain Management Grants	To build on recent flood studies that have occurred around Walcha and to install gauges at selected sites to improve flood preparedness in Walcha.	30/03/2018

Website Links:

- <https://www.liquorandgaming.justice.nsw.gov.au/Pages/about-us/our-initiatives/infrastructure-grants/arts-and-cultural-funding-round.aspx>
- <http://www.lgnsw.org.au/files/imce-uploads/127/cremf-introduction-1.pdf>
- <http://www.communitybuildingpartnership.nsw.gov.au/>
- <http://investment.infrastructure.gov.au/funding/blackspots/>
- <https://www.transport.nsw.gov.au/projects/programs/fixing-country-roads>
- https://infrastructure.gov.au/infrastructure/pab/active_transport/
- <https://www.industry.nsw.gov.au/invest-in-nsw/regional-opportunities/stronger-country-communities-fund>
- <https://www.create.nsw.gov.au/funding-and-support/types-of-funding/project-funding-regional-partnerships/>
- <http://regionalartsnsw.com.au/grants/raf/>
- <http://regionalartsnsw.com.au/grants/casp/>
- <http://www.australiacouncil.gov.au/funding/>
- <https://www.youthweek.nsw.gov.au/about>
- <https://education.nsw.gov.au/early-childhood-education/operating-an-early-childhood-education-service/grants-and-funded-programs/quality-learning-environments>
- http://investment.infrastructure.gov.au/infrastructure_investment/heavy_vehicle_safety_and_productivity.aspx
- <http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/coasts/flooplain-management-grants-2017-18.htm>

Submitted to Council: 28 March 2018

..... General Manager Mayor



ENGINEERING SERVICES

9.6 Wages & Overtime Summary

Pay Period	Week Ending	Overtime Hours	Amount (\$)
33	11/02/2018	43.50	2,337.01
34	18/02/2018	45.75	2,475.23
35	25/02/2018	24.50	1,307.63
36	04/03/2018	45.00	2,288.90
38	11/03/2018	63.25	3,538.71
38	18/03/2018	54.00	2,675.94
TOTAL		276.00	\$14,623.42

9.7 Shire Roads Maintenance

Gravel Re-Sheeting & Erosion Remediation and Protection:

Recent heavy rains have led to widespread damage across Councils road network, in particular the unsealed network. The damage was particularly bad on the Scrubby Gully Road, between Ruby Hills Road and Niangala Road. Council crews have been working in the area, reshaping drains and placing gabion rock check dams to slow water moving down the steep terrain. The gravel surface of the Scrubby Gully Road was damaged quite badly after the recent rain events, so selective re-sheeting took place to re-instate the surface. Works continue in this area; however the project will be completed by the end of March.



Additional gravel re-sheeting occurred on Tia Diggings Road, which saw a large amount of the road get a fresh cover of gravel.

Submitted to Council: 28 March 2018

..... General Manager Mayor



Culvert Replacements:

Due to the increasing inspections that are occurring on culverts, there have been defects identified that required immediate attention. The replacement of culverts have been occurring based on urgent priority, however as our team progresses through the program the focus will be on preventative maintenance. The following summarises the culverts replaced since the last report.



Lakes Road Culvert:

This culvert required replacement due to a large storm that occurred in the vicinity of the Lakes and Cleveland Roads. Water overtopped the culvert and washed away the weak sandbag headwall. A new reinforced concrete headwall has been installed to prevent further washing.

Bark Gut Road Culvert:

Recent heavy rainfall in the Winterbourne area led to a culvert on the bark hut road to be washed out quite badly. Crews were stood down for two days on the Scrubby Gully Road to replace this culvert to ensure access is maintained.



Scrubby Gully Road Culvert:

In addition to the erosion remediation and protection works, culverts are being replaced in order to ensure future flows are carried safely and effectively.

Submitted to Council: 28 March 2018

..... General Manager Mayor



State and Regional Roads Maintenance:

General Maintenance has been the focus on the State and Regional Road Network, capital works commence in April and are outlined in the proposed works section.

Urban – Projects:

There are several projects occurring around the Walcha Township, including the following:

Nivison Fountain Upgrade:



The Nivison Fountain is undergoing a makeover. The aim of the upgrade is to beautify the fountain, improve the surrounds and ensure that the fountain operates effectively and reliably. The water depth will be reduced as a result of the upgrade.

Crocodile Bridge Crossing:



The alternate crocodile bridge crossing has commenced with large basalt rock sourced from Guyra being placed around the existing 1800mm culvert outlet from Hill Street. Works will extend downstream with the installation of a twin cell 1200mm culvert that will support a concrete footpath that will provide safe passage for those unable to safely cross the crocodile bridge.



Walcha Oval Irrigation Upgrade:



Walcha Oval is receiving a much deserved upgrade of its irrigation system. The new system includes the installation of underground pipework and pop-up sprinklers that can be programmed to suit conditions. The pop-up sprinklers will improve efficiency at the oval and ensure that we get the most of our available water.

Completed Maintenance Snapshot:

Local Roads	
Maintenance Grading:	Roads:
	Queensscairn
	St Leonards Creek
	Wauch's
	Kangaroo Flat
Remove By-pass Tracks:	Roads:
	Aberbaldie
	Flags Niangala
Drainage / Erosion Control:	Roads:
	Nine Mile Church Road
	Table Top
	Winterbourne
	Hazeldene
	Uruga
	Scrubby Gully
	Niangala
	Kangaroo Hills
	Glenroy
	Campfire
	Blue Mountain
Slashing:	Roads:
	Wollun
Rural Addressing:	Roads:
	Moona Plains
	Riverside



State & Regional Roads	
Oxley Highway Maintenance:	Tasks:
	Sign Maintenance & Repair
	Servicing Rest Areas
	Vegetation Control
	Cold Mix Patching
	Drainage
Regional Roads:	Tasks:
	Cold Mix Patching
	Slashing
	Spraying
	Service Rest Areas
Urban Roads	
Urban Maintenance:	Tasks:
	Sporting Ground Maintenance
	Town Street Cleaning
	Parks and Garden Maintenance
	Pool Ongoing Maintenance

Proposed Works for the Coming Period:

Shire Roads:

- ◆ Maintenance grading is proposed to occur on Kangaroo Flat, Blomfield, Mooraback and Forest Way Roads.
- ◆ Gravel Re-Sheeting on Nowendoc Road, between Nowendoc and the Walcha LGA boundary.
- ◆ Finalise Bypass Track Removals

State & Regional Roads:

- ◆ Maintenance:
 - Pothole Patching.
 - Vegetation Maintenance.
 - Crack Sealing.
 - Safety Patching and Sealing.
- ◆ Heavy Patching Program
- ◆ End Terminal Replacements (80)
- ◆ Culvert Replacements and Relining.

Works In Town:

- ◆ Streetscape Maintenance.
- ◆ Sporting grounds maintenance.
- ◆ Town Mowing - parks, gardens and cemeteries.
- ◆ Town Garden Maintenance.
- ◆ Pool Operations and Maintenance.
- ◆ Secondary crossing at the Crocodile bridge to be finalised
- ◆ Walcha Oval Irrigation Upgrade to be finalised
- ◆ Nivison Fountain Upgrade to be completed.

Dylan Reeves
 Director – Engineering Services

Submitted to Council: 28 March 2018

..... General Manager Mayor



9.8. Water

Current Water Restrictions (23 February 2018) – Level 3 High: Target Usage 190-230 Litres/Person/Day.

Water usage for the month of February 2018 was as follows:

- ◆ Average usage per person per day – 333 Litres (in line with the annual average of 330 Litres)
- ◆ The storm activity during the month resulted in a continued supply from the Macdonald River, along with the storm runoff topping up the Emergency Supply dam at Muluerindie.

9.9 Sewer

Sewer Treatment Plant (STP) Upgrade

Works continue to progress well on both the new Storage Dam and the refurbishment of the Maturation Pond.

Clay lining of the treated effluent storage dam has commenced. The liner will be placed/ compacted in layers to a depth of 1m to ensure adequate impermeability is achieved. The storage dam inner walls and floor will then be gypsum treated to reduce dispersity and control shrink/ swell cracking. Gabion rock to prevent wave motion erosion is being delivered and stockpiled on site. This will be placed following the gypsum treatment.



Figure 1 - Clay Lining of the Treated Effluent Storage Dam

The treated effluent has been drained from the maturation pond and the solids stockpiled and dried for excavation. The solids will be buried on site in the clay liner excavation. Regrading of the floor and walls of the maturation pond will soon be undertaken in preparation for the installation of floating baffles and pipe lines.



Figure 2 - Maturation Pond Sediment Stockpiling

As per the existing Pollution Reduction Program requirement of the STP EPA licence an extension request has been submitted to the EPA for the completion of the refurbishment work on the Maturation Pond. The Maturation Pond work is currently set for completion 31 March, the extension request is for 30 June.

9.10 Waste

Woolbrook Waste Transfer Station Conversions

Woolbrook Landfill: Approval has been received from the EPA for Closure Plan submitted in December. Works are being scheduled to commence the conversion work but a start date is still to be confirmed.

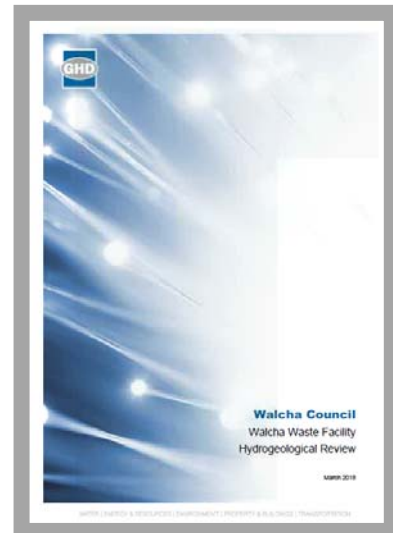
Waste Strategy

The desktop hydrogeological study (a sub project of the Landfill Masterplan) is complete and scheduled to be presented to the EPA next month. The purpose of the report was to review the hydrogeological environment and the existing groundwater monitoring network, and to provide recommendations to amend the current monitoring program as considered necessary.

Unauthorized waste arriving at Walcha Facility

See separate report.

Tess Dawson
Senior Manager - Water, Sewer & Waste



Submitted to Council: 28 March 2018

..... General Manager Mayor



ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

The purpose of this report is to provide statistical information in relation to activities of the Environmental Services Department. This Department is responsible for the following key functions:

- ◆ Development
- ◆ Town Planning & Strategic Planning
- ◆ Construction compliance
- ◆ Environmental management
- ◆ Regulatory services
- ◆ Animal control
- ◆ Building and amenity maintenance

The statistical information contained within this report demonstrates the work carried out by staff in achieving the strategic objectives and delivery actions as outlined in Council’s Community Strategic Plan 2027, Delivery Program 2017-2021 and Operational Plan 2017-2018.

A report will be presented to Council each month for comparison purposes, showing the previous year’s totals, and the year to date figures for the current year.

9.11 Development

Development Application (DA) Data		
	2016/2017	2017/2018 YTD
Total Number of DAs Determined	22	26
Number of DAs Outstanding	2	3
Average Determination Time (days)	30.6	28.2
Value of DAs	\$4,024,495.00	\$3,332,907.00
Number of Single New Dwellings	7	8
Residential	1	3
Village / Large Lot Residential	1	1
Rural	5	4
Number of Multi Unit Dwellings	0	0
Number of Commercial Developments	3	1
Number of Industrial Developments	0	0
Withdrawn / Cancelled	0	1
Refused	0	0

Complying Development Application (CDC) Data		
	2016/2017	2017/2018 YTD
Total Number of CDCs	8	5
Value of CDCs	\$324,300.00	\$276,632.00
Number of Single New Dwellings	0	0
Residential	0	-
Village / Large Lot Residential	0	-
Rural	0	-

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..... General Manager Mayor



**Development Applications and Complying Development Certificates
 Determinations issued – February 2018**

Section 101 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (the Act), as amended, precludes a challenge to the validity of consent more than three (3) months after the date of public notification of the consent. Consents are available for public inspection, free of charge, during ordinary office hours at Council’s Hamilton Street office. In accordance with Section 101 of the Act and Clause 124 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2000*, the following determinations are publicly notified:

DA Number	Description	
10.2017.27	Erect a new shed	207 Oxley Drive, Walcha
10.2018.1	Subdivision of land	150W-152W Croudace St, Walcha
10.2018.2	Erect a new double garage	17W Hill Street, Walcha
10.2018.4	Construct a new dwelling	105N Towers Street, Walcha
10.2018.5	Construct a machinery barn	111N Derby Street, Walcha
CDC Number	Description	
18.2018.1	Alterations & additions to dwelling	12931 Oxley Highway, Walcha

Declaration of Interest by Applicant of a Development Application / Construction Certificate / Complying Development

Nature of Interest	Number Received 2016/2017	Number Received 2017/2018 YTD	Number Received this period
Political Gifts and Donation	0	0	0
Applicant or owner is an employee of Walcha Council or a Councillor	0	0	0
Applicant with any relationship to staff or Councillor	1	0	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.

S149 Planning Certificates	2016/2017	2017/2018 YTD	This Period
Number Issued	137	55	4

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..... General Manager Mayor



9.12 Environment & Regulatory

Environmental & Public Health Regulatory Services

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 accumulation of waste, and
- *Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997* e.g. dumping of rubbish.
- *Food Act 2003* e.g. hygiene and handling

Penalty Notices

Description	Act	2016/2017	2017/2018 YTD	Issued this Period
Owner of dog which rushes at /attacks /bites /harasses /chases any person /animal	Companion Animals Act 1998	0	1	0

Notices and Orders Issued

Description		2016/2017	2017/2018 YTD	Issued this Period
Overgrown allotment (Order Number 21, Section 124 Local Government Act 1993)	Warning	5	8	0
	Intention	0	2	0
	Order	0	0	0
Accumulation of waste (Order Number 22, Section 124 Local Government Act 1993)	Warning	3	0	0
	Intention	0	2	0
	Order	0	0	0
Keeping of animals (Schedule 2 Local Government Regulation 2005 & Council Policy)	Warning	6	3	0
	Intention	1	2	0
	Order	0	1	1
Nuisance dog (Section 32A Companion Animals Act 1998)	Warning	0	0	0
	Intention	2	0	0
	Order	0	0	0
Dangerous dog (Section 34 Companion Animals Act 1998)	Warning	0	0	0
	Intention	1	0	0
	Order	1	0	0
Roaming dog (Section 12A Companion Animals Act 1998)	Warning	2	8	0
	Intention	0	0	0
	Order	0	0	0
Companion animal microchipping & registration (Sections 8 & 9 CA Act 1998)	Warning	4	17	0
	Intention	0	0	0
	Order	1	0	0
Vehicles and traffic on nature strip (NSW Road Rules 2014)	Warning	13	0	0
	Intention	0	0	0
	Order	0	0	0
Abandoned vehicle (Road Transport (Vehicle and Driver Management) Act 2005 and	Warning	0	0	0
	Intention	0	0	0
	Order	0	0	0

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..... General Manager Mayor



Impounding Act 1993)				
Noise Abatement (Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997)	Warning	0	0	0
	Intention	0	0	0
	Order	0	0	0
Environmental Pollution (Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997)	Warning	1	0	0
	Intention	0	0	0
	Order	0	0	0

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

Environmental Services Customer Requests February 2018	
Barking dogs	2
Dog attacks	0
Roaming dogs	1
Roaming stock	0
Other animal issues	2
Public buildings / amenities	0
Food premises	0
Overgrown land	0
Accumulation of waste	0
Environmental pollution	1
Illegal building works	0
Other	3

Tree Management Applications (TMAs)

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.

TMAs	2016/2017	2017/2018 YTD	This Period
Lodged	27	17	1
Approved (under delegation)	26	16	0
Approved (Council)	0	0	0
Refused	0	0	0

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 2017/2018 year as at 28 February 2018 is provided.

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Food Premises Surveillance 2016/2017						
	High Risk Fixed	Medium Risk Fixed	Low Risk Fixed	Mobile	Temporary	TOTAL
Total No.	27	6	7	2	2	44
No. Primary Inspections	0	0	-	0	0	0
No. Re-inspections	0	0	-	0	0	0
No. additional Re-inspections	0	0	-	0	0	0
No. FSS Required	21					21
No. FSS Current	21					21

9.13 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 2017/2018							
	Desexed	Non desexed	Pensioner (desexed)	Pound Purchase (desexed)	Recognised breeder	Working	Value \$
Jul	0	0	0	0	0	0	\$0.00
Aug	1	0	0	0	0	0	\$55.00
Sep	0	0	1	0	0	1	\$23.00
Oct	1	1	0	0	0	0	\$256.00
Nov	2	0	0	0	0	0	\$110.00
Dec	1	0	0	0	0	3	\$55.00
Jan	0	0	1	0	0	0	\$23.00
Feb	3	2	0	0	0	0	\$567.00

Companion Animals Seizures 2017/2018						
	Seized	Surrendered	Released	Rehomed	Euthanased	Stolen/Escaped
Jul	2	0	2	0	0	0
Aug	4	0	3	0	1	0
Sep	4	2	1	1	2	0
Oct	4	0	4	0	0	0
Nov	4	2	0	0	4	0
Dec	5	1	2	0	2	1
Jan	3	0	1	0	2	0
Feb	1	0	1	0	0	0

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COMMUNITY SERVICES

9.14 Walcha Council Community Care

December 2017, January & February 2018

Groups

Women’s Group and Wanderer’s Group

6 December 2017 – 28 clients from the Women’s Group and the Wanderer’s Group attended morning tea at the Community Day Centre Rooms. A Group Christmas party was the final get together for the year and was enjoyed by all who attended.



20 December 2017 – the Women’s Group was in recess.

3 and 17 January 2018 – the Women’s Group was in recess.

7 February 2018 – 22 clients from the Women’s Group and the Wanderer’s Group attended morning tea at the Walcha Bowling Club due to the Community Day Centre Rooms still being in final stages of completion. The groups enjoyed the first get together for the year after the group recess over Christmas and the New Year period.

21 February 2018 – 16 clients attended the Women’s and Wanderer’s Groups trip to Armidale. The trip included morning tea at the Arboretum Park, a visit to Saumarez Homestead with a guided tour of the house and grounds and lunch at the Armidale Bowling Club.

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Members of the Women's and Wanderer's Groups during a tour of the Saumarez Homestead and grounds



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Wanderer’s Group

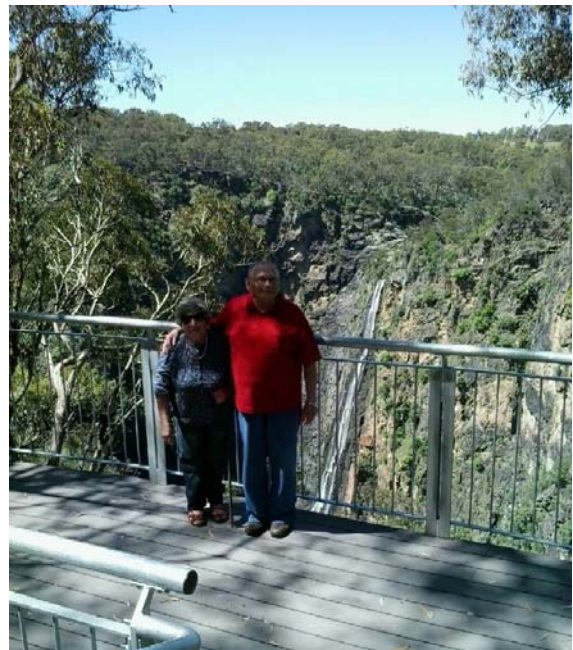
13 December 2017– The group enjoyed morning tea at the Community Day Centre Rooms.

27 December 2017 – The Wanderer’s Group was in recess.

10 and 24 January 2018 - The Wanderer’s Group was in recess.

14 February 2018 – The group enjoyed morning tea at the Community Day Centre Rooms.

28 February 2018 – The Wanderer’s Group spent the morning at Dangars Falls near Armidale. The group were delighted with the idea of morning tea at the falls picnic area and enjoyed the short walk to admire the view from the lookout and other viewing points. The group returned to Armidale where they had lunch at the Armidale Bowling Club.



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Men's Group

12 December 2017 – 13 gentlemen attended morning tea in the Community Day Centre Rooms. A Group Christmas party was the final get together for the year and was enjoyed by all who attended.

26 December 2017 – The Men's Group was in recess.

9 and 23 January 2018 - The Men's Group was in recess.

13 February 2018 – 9 gentlemen attended morning tea held in the Community Day Centre Rooms. The meeting was the first to be held in the newly refurbished rooms with those who attended in favor of the new clean and modern look to the rooms.

27 February 2018 – 13 gentlemen attended the trip to Tamworth where a visit to the Powerhouse Motor Cycle Museum was a highlight of the day. The museum housed an amazing collection of old and newer motor bikes that are all presented in pristine condition. Morning tea was enjoyed up at the Botanic Gardens and lunch was held at the South Tamworth Bowling Club.



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Transport

Medical drives – 15 clients utilized the service with 29 trips during December 2017.
Medical drives – 12 clients utilized the service with 22 trips during January 2018.
Medical drives – 15 clients utilized the service with 28 trips during February 2018.

Access bus – 10 clients used the service making 34 trips during December 2017.
Access bus – 8 clients used the service making 35 trips during January 2018.
Access bus – 10 clients used the service making 52 trips during February 2018.

Bus to Tamworth – 7 clients used the service on 22 December 2017
Bus to Tamworth – 8 clients used the service on 19 January 2018
Bus to Tamworth – 6 clients used the service on 23 February 2018

Bus to Armidale numbers for December were as follows:

- ◆ 3 December 2017 – 6 clients
- ◆ 10 December 2017 – 5 clients
- ◆ 17 December 2017 – 6 clients
- ◆ 24 December 2017 – 7 clients

Bus to Armidale numbers for January were as follows:

- ◆ 2 January 2018 – 4 clients
- ◆ 9 January 2018 – 7 clients
- ◆ 16 January 2018 – 6 clients
- ◆ 23 January 2018 – 7 clients
- ◆ 30 January 2018 – 7 clients

Bus to Armidale numbers for February were as follows:

- ◆ 6 February 2018 – 4 clients
- ◆ 13 February 2018 – 6 clients
- ◆ 20 February 2018 – 4 clients
- ◆ 27 February 2018 – 6 clients

Taxi Vouchers

December - 13 clients used the Taxi Vouchers with Walcha Taxi Service and Walcha Community Transport with a total of 78 Taxi Vouchers returned.

January – Nil – Taxi Service not operating this month.

February – 13 clients used the Taxi Vouchers with Walcha Taxi Service and Walcha Community Transport with a total of 53 Taxi Vouchers returned.

Meals on Wheels

December – there were 14 clients who received hot main meals with 2 of those clients also receiving frozen meals for the weekend. There were 2 clients who received frozen meals. The total number of meals for the month was:

- ◆ 154 Hot meals
- ◆ 74 frozen meals
- ◆ 107 desserts

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January – there were 14 clients who received hot main meals with 2 of those clients also receiving frozen meals for the weekend. There were 3 clients who received frozen meals. The total number of meals for the month was:

- ◆ 183 Hot meals
- ◆ 86 frozen meals
- ◆ 121 desserts

February – there were 14 clients who received hot main meals with 2 of those clients also receiving frozen meals for the weekend. There were 2 clients who received frozen meals. The total number of meals for the month was:

- ◆ 191 Hot meals
- ◆ 93 frozen meals
- ◆ 127 desserts

Rural and Remote Exercise Groups

Nowendoc rural and remote exercise group was in recess during December 2017. 11 clients attended the exercise groups during January and February 2018.

NDIS

Services are currently being provided to 7 NDIS participants. Walcha Council Community Care and Early Intervention had a Third Party Verification against the Disability Standards on Friday 9 March 2018. The process was extremely thorough, interviewing staff members, clients and NDIS participants, Walcha Council HR Manager, Risk Coordinator and Finance Manager. The verifiers were very happy with the services and processes we have in place and highly recommended verification to be granted. The full report for the verification will be available within the coming weeks.

Feedback and Complaints

Nil feedback to report for December 2017 and January 2018

Meetings and Training

14 December 2017 – Dementia Support Group meeting held at the Community Day Centre Rooms.

11 January 2018 – Dementia Support Group meeting in recess during January 2018

8 February 2018 – Dementia Support Group meeting held at the Community Day Centre Rooms.

7 - 8 February – Transport Forum held at Port Macquarie

Office Renovations:

The renovations to the office spaces and Community Day Centre Rooms have created a wonderful and welcoming atmosphere to the rooms. The office area works well and caters for all of our needs now and the rooms are much better utilized. The fantastic storage area, new carpet and modern colour scheme has had many favourable comments. Photos below are during



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the renovating period and finished result.



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Cathy Noon
Community Care Coordinator

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9.15 Library

December 2017 / January 2018

Monthly Stats:

- ◆ Loans: 690
- ◆ Returns: 659
- ◆ Reservations placed: 31
- ◆ New members: 5
- ◆ Door count: 746
- ◆ Wi-fi use: 42
- ◆ Computer use: 67

During February we had an assessment and compliance visit from a representative of the State Library of New South Wales. This was part of a systematic program which aims to ensure all NSW councils are visited over a four-year period. The representative was Philippa Scarf who is the Assistant Manager of Public Library Services. During this visit we discussed our library buildings and facilities, internet/wi-fi, issues, standards and guidelines, plans for the future, services and collections and priorities for our grants and subsidies. The aim of this meeting is for State Library representatives to gather data to assist in the preparation of advice for the Government on specific public library funding needs into the future.

Preparation has begun for the April school holidays/Youth Week. We are hoping to be able to offer some different activities this time around. Thankfully this year Youth Week falls in the school holidays which will hopefully allow us to use grant money more efficiently.

We were approached by an author Kim Hodges who wanted to hold an author talk in Walcha in April. We have managed to secure Kim for 14 April at 2:30pm. Kim shares her battle with bipolar, depression and post traumatic stress disorder. Kim’s story is sure to be one that strikes a nerve with listeners. I encourage everyone to come along. Kim’s story is not only for people who have suffered from a mental illness but is also for people who have a loved one who suffers from mental illness or anyone who is just simply interested in the topic.

Madison Garrad
Library Coordinator/Youth Worker



9.16 Preschool

February 2018

Kym Beckton Wildlife Show

Every year at Preschool Kym comes with his wildlife show, arriving with lots of different animals each year. This year Kym had two snakes, a turtle, a blue tongue lizard, a shingle back lizard, a green tree frog and a giant cockroach. The children were able to feel the snakes, the turtle’s shell, and the shingle back lizard. This year was also Emily’s turn to have the blue tongue kiss her and Ali chose Emma to kiss the cockroach. Along with all of the joking around Kym also educates the children about the animals including where the animals live, what they eat and what the children should do if they see any of the animals in the wild. Kym also talks to the children about snake safety



Walcha Show 2018

This year for the show the children at the Preschool entered a variety of items and also created displays for the show. This year the Polar Bear children’s display was based on the classic children’s book “The Very Hungry Caterpillar” they also decorated arrowroot biscuits to enter and some children completed a colouring in for the Poultry Club. The Penguin children’s display was based on the children’s book “The Magnificent Tree”

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which is the book they have been listening to at story time. They also made bracelets and necklaces using dyed pasta and patty pan cases, decorated overgrown squash and also entered into the colouring in competition.



Zoe Herbert
Preschool Nominated Supervisor

RECOMMENDATION: That items included in the Management Review Report, numbered 9.1 to 9.16 inclusive, be NOTED by Council.

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..... General Manager Mayor



Item 10:

Committee
Reports

Submitted to Council: 28 March 2018

..... General Manager Mayor



Walcha Council Arts Advisory Committee Meeting

held on

Tuesday 20 February 2018

at

9:30am

at

Walcha Council Chambers

PRESENT:

Dylan Reeves (Director – Engineering Services), Carley McLaren, James Rogers, Guests included Lisa Kirton (Tourism Officer) and Susie Crawford (Tourism Manager).

1. APOLOGIES:

Clr Jennifer Kealey (Chairperson), Jack O'Hara (General Manager), John Heffernan, Stephen King.

Committee NOTES



2. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY, 9 MAY 2017

The Committee was unable to determine the accuracy of the previous meeting, as a **QUORUM** was not established. However, it was noted by those present that the minutes were circulated and agreed they were a true record of the meeting, Moved by Reeves and Seconded by Rogers.

3. BUSINESS ARISING

3.1 Star Casino Sculptures – Council Resolution

James Rogers informed the Committee that the Star Casino Project has been postponed by 12 months.

3.2 Grant Update – Arts Symposium

The Tourism Manager, Tourism Officer and James Rogers gave an update to the Committee. It was stated that there are three artists that have shown interest in attending the event and James Rogers stated that Stephen King may have a fourth artist. The proposed dates of the event are from 9 – 14 September and believe that the proposed artist fees are sufficient. The Committee noted that the following funding has been secured:

- \$20,000 from the Regional Arts Fund (RAF)
- \$3,000 from the Country Arts Support Program (CASP).
- The split of the funding will be \$20,000 for the Artist Registration fees and \$3,000 for the Artist hosted dinner and presentation.

The current line-up of artists is as follows:

- Caz Haswell
- Dale Miles
- Nameer Davis
- Matt Pilkington

The workshop will be based around timber sculptures and Council has offered the use of old bridge timber for materials.

The Committee noted that there is a requirement for an expression of interest form to be completed; this will be loaded onto the Council website, NERAM website and the Tamworth Regional Arts Gallery website. The dates of the EOI are being confirmed by the Panel, in consultation with the Tourism Manager and Tourism Officer. The panel is listed below:

- Robert Heather (NERAM)
- James Rogers



- Stephen King
- Carley McLaren
- Caroline Nivison

It was noted that the budget must not only include the artist appearance fee, but should also include their accommodation and other associated costs. Carley McLaren agreed to follow up with Robert at NERAM in regards to the selection panel.

4. GENERAL BUSINESS

4.1 Signage

The Committee discussed this item and interpreted this as the requirement for individual artworks within the Open Air Gallery to have a plaque that states the name of the artwork and the artist. The Committee agrees that with other works in progress, this is not a priority.

4.2 Rubbish Bin Surrounds

James Rogers updated the Committee, stating that he has investigated possible designs and has reported back to Council's Snr Manager – Water, Sewer & Waste, Tess Dawson and Council's Urban Works Supervisor, Stephen Sweeney. Both are concerned about the practical application of these covers and would like their concerns met prior to progressing this item. Director – Engineering Services agreed to follow up on this item and report back to the Committee. To be discussed at the next meeting.

4.3 Maintenance of the Collection

The Committee has expressed concerns relating to the maintenance of the artwork collection. James Rogers stated that he had concerns for the Marquette that is located outside the Council Chambers. James Rogers agreed to follow this up with Council's Urban Works Supervisor and arrange for the artwork to be sand blasted and restored. Director – Engineering Services commented on the deteriorating condition of the Clouds and the Moon at the McHattan Park. To be discussed at the next meeting.

4.4 Design Element and visual representation of the LGA Boundary Signage, incorporating New England High Country logo and for the design to be distinctively identifiable to Walcha.

Clr Kealey raised an item that had also been raised at a recent Tourism Advisory Committee meeting, LGA Boundary Signage. The Tourism Advisory Committee agreed that the concept of installing LGA boundary signage was important and should be addressed. James Rogers and Stephen King agreed to develop concept ideas for the signage and present options with associated costs to the Arts Advisory Committee. Director – Engineering



Services as agreed to nominate suitable locations on the Oxley Highway and Thunderbolts Way for the signs to be installed.

4.6 Update on Walcha Memorial Cenotaph.

The Committee discussed the project, Council's General Manager advised that Council is currently seeking funding through a Liquor and Gaming Grant for the project and have not heard how the application is progressing. The Committee will be updated on the application and result when more information becomes available. The General Manager stated that Council intends to fund the project if grant funding is not successful.

4.7 Relocating Sculpture – eastern entry to town.

The Director – Engineering Services gave an update on this item, stating that the RMS will in general support the relocation of the structure. However more detailed information needs to be passed on to the RMS, alongside a Road Occupancy Licence Application in order to successfully relocate the structure. Stephen King and the Director – Engineering Services made an appointment to inspect the Sculpture and the proposed new location after the meeting, which has now been finalised. Council must now allocate a budget for the relocation and incorporate this into the works program.

4.14 Apsley Falls Entrance – Possible Sculpture

Clr Kealey noted that this item was raised within the Tourism Advisory Committee and is an Item for the Director – Engineering Services to follow up on and report back to both Committees. The entrance requires rehabilitation works prior to the placement of a sculpture.

4.15 Mural on the Showground Hall

An additional item regarding a mural on the Showground Hall was raised, however discussion and outcomes have been postponed until a meeting that achieves a quorum is held.

NEXT MEETING: Wednesday 18 April 2018 at 9:30am

**THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS, THE CHAIRPERSON
DECLARED THE MEETING CLOSED AT 11:00AM**



Walcha Council Tourism Advisory Committee Meeting

held on

Wednesday, 21 February 2018

at

10:30pm

at

Walcha Council Chambers

PRESENT:

Clr Jennifer Kealey (Chairperson), Aaron Simmon who has replaced Roger Mills (NPWS), Neil Smith, Lisa Kirton (Tourism Officer) and Susie Crawford (Tourism Manager).

1. APOLOGIES:

Vanessa Arundale, Casper Ozinga, Louise Clarke, Jane Morrison,

The Committee **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Kirton and Crawford that the apologies be accepted.

Committee Minutes



2. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 23 FEBRUARY 2017:

The Committee **RESOLVED** on the motion of Kirton and Smith that the minutes of the meeting of the Walcha Council Tourism Advisory Committee held at Walcha Council Chambers, Wednesday 1 November 2017, copies of which were distributed to all members, be taken as read and confirmed a **TRUE** record.

3. BUSINESS ARISING:

3.1 Carson's Lookout – Facilities Upkeep

Carson's Lookout on the Thunderbolts Way, has previously been flagged as a public place that needs some attention. The lookout (toilet facilities and rubbish specifically) is often in a disgraceful state and although it is located in the (Gloucester) Mid Coast Shire it also reflects on the Walcha Shire. Walcha Council are already communicating with Mid Coast Shire regarding this, it will not be fixed overnight however steps are being taken towards remedying the situation. This topic is to be left on the agenda so we can be kept up to date with the progress of upkeep at Carson's Lookout.

3.2 Site possibilities for LGA Boundary Signage

To be left on the agenda for next meeting.

3.3 Welcome to Walcha Signage

To be left on the agenda for next meeting. James Rogers submitted an idea however there wasn't quorum at the Walcha Arts Advisory Committee so no further decisions were made.

3.4 Service Signage within Town – Dump Point Sign

Jane Morrison commented that many caravans drive past the Pioneer Cottage looking for the Dump Point.

The Committee RECOMMENDED that Dump Point signage on North/Derby Street intersection be reviewed and addressed by the Director – Engineering Services.

3.5 Walcha Sculpture Symposium

The Walcha Sculpture Symposium has been successful in receiving grant money. The Sculpture Symposium will be held over the period of 9 – 15 September 2018. Program of Events to be brought to next meeting

3.6 Heritage Near Me – update

Update at next meeting. A Heritage Near Me workshop was being held directly after this meeting.

4. GENERAL BUSINESS

4.1 Sound Trails

Update at next meeting – Vanessa Arundale

4.2 Ingelba Glamping Experience

Invite Mark Davies, CEO of Amaroo, to report on the Ingelba Glamping Experience



4.3 John Oxley Event

John Oxley Event will be held on 8 – 9 September 2018. Program of Events to be brought to next meeting.

4.4 Welcome to New Committee Members

Aaron Simmon has recently been appointed the position of New England Area Manager for National Parks and Wildlife Service. Aaron will replace Roger Mills on the committee who has retired.

4.5 China

Louise Clarke had met with Jack O'Hara, General Manager and Eric Noakes, Mayor. Louise is familiar with China and the Chinese market; she suggested tourism items of interest to the Chinese. Jack O'Hara, General Manager and Eric Noakes, Mayor have planned a trip to China. Invite Mayor Noakes to the next meeting to report on China trip.

4.6 Apsley and Tia Falls Lead-up Signage on the Oxley Highway

It had been decided to investigate lead-up signage to the Apsley and Tia Falls from both approaches, 1 – 3 km before the turn offs to increase awareness of its accessibility and increase visitation to these assets. Patrick Lupica (NPWS), Tourism Manager and Director – Engineering Services had worked together to come up with an agreeable asset.

RMS has responded to our signage request not completely satisfied that the proposed signs meet RMS specifications.

The Committee RECOMMENDED that Director – Engineering Services follow up the signage with RMS to finalise the position and content of the signs.

The appearance of the entrance to Apsley Falls has been raised as an issue. It was agreed that it needs to be tidied up, however responsibilities and boundaries need to be clarified before a plan for rehabilitation of the site can commence.

The Committee RECOMMENDED that Director – Engineering Services and National Parks complete a site inspection to work out where the parameters are and where the responsibilities lie for the entrance area to Apsley Falls regarding RMS, Council and National Parks.

4.7 National Parks

Aaron Simmon informed us of current roles with the NPWS after a recent restructure. A new role of Visitor Experience Manager has been created; Simmon will endeavour to introduce the successful applicant to the Tourism Advisory Committee at a future meeting.

New England Area has 30 NPWS employees, 16.5 of those positions are based in Walcha:

- 1 Fulltime Administrative position
- 1 Team Leader Ranger
- 2.5 Rangers
- 10 Field Officers
- 2 Senior Field Officers

The Committee felt this was a good news story. Simmon will endeavour to do a media release when the restructure is finalised.

Mooraback Hut: There is a business plan assessing the feasibility of offering Mooraback Hut for a holiday rental to the public.



Muluerindie, Warrabah National Park: There is a business plan assessing the feasibility of offering caravan access and parking to the Muluerindie Campground. This is a 2-3 year plan.

Jacky Barkers Campground, Nowendoc: Simmon reported that the NPWS recently had to recover a vehicle and caravan from the Jacky Barkers Campground. Apparently it was listed on a website that it was suitable for caravans. It was only by chance that the NPWS were down there that day. The Visitor Information Centre are aware of the access to Jacky Barkers, however there are some websites that are beyond our control. It was suggested that NPWS erect clear signage as per the accessibility. 4WD only and camper trailers. It was also suggested that the information on the NPWS website be checked as correct. Walcha Tourism and local NPWS offices, as an ongoing task, will check the official NPWS website for inaccurate information and inform the correct people of any corrections.

New Kunderang Brochures: When they are finalised and printed Simmon will drop some down to the Visitor Information Centre.

An architect recently did a site visit to all the National Park campgrounds. Simmon will bring the architects report to the next meeting with their recommendations.

4.8 Nowendoc Village Board

Walcha Tourism assisted with some editing and has heard nothing further on the Nowendoc Village Board.

5. NEXT MEETING

Wednesday 13 June 2018 – 10:30am

Walcha Council Chambers

Next Meeting: Invite Mayor Noakes, Mark Davies (Amaroo)

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS THE MEETING CLOSED AT 11.45am



Walcha Town & District Beautification & Tidy Towns Committee Meeting Minutes

held on

Wednesday, 21 February 2018

at

2:00 pm

at Walcha Council Chambers

PRESENT:

Clr Peter Blomfield (Acting Chirperson), Dylan Reeves (Director – Engineering Services), Stephen Sweeney (Works Supervisor – Urban), Phyllis Hoy, Beverly Betts, Caroline Street.

1. APOLOGIES:

Clr Clint Lyon, Caroline Street, Joanne Ireland, Jim Hallenan, Robyn Vincent

2. CONFIRMATION OF MEETING MINUTES HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 16 MARCH 2016:

RESOLVED on the motion of Phillis Hoy and Beverly Betts that the Minutes of the Walcha Town & District Beautification & Tidy Towns Committee Meeting held on 5 April 2017, copies of which have been distributed to all members, be taken as read and confirmed a true record.

3. BUSINESS ARISING:

3.1 Apex Park – Setting Goals for the Future

The Committee **RECOMMENDED** that Council consider this park as an investment opportunity, not as a future public space.

3.2 Garden Competition Awards

The Committee **RECOMMENDED** that the amount of awards is reduced to once per year due to administration burdens and time availability. It is recommended that the awards take place in spring each year.

Committee Minutes



3.3 Long Term Tree Plan

There was no further business arising in relation to this item.

3.4 Entrance road and gate entering Nowendoc Recreation Reserve to be upgraded and allow safe entry and exit into the grounds.

This item is to be discussed in consultation with the Recreation Reserve Board of Trustees through Joanne Ireland who was not present at the meeting. The committee decided to hold this item until further information is available.

3.5 Signage for Camping, National Parks and bush walking to be looked at within the Nowendoc Village for tourists.

This item has been completed due to the near completion of the Nowendoc Village information map that is currently being finalised.

4. GENERAL BUSINESS:

4.1 RFS Building – Oxley Highway

The Committee **RECOMMENDED** that Council paint this building and that a budget is developed and incorporated into the 10 year plan.

4.2 Nivison Fountain Upgrade

The Director – Engineering Services gave the Committee an update on this matter, stating that the upgrade is underway and that Council expects the completion of this project in April.

4.3 Showground Area – Derby Street.

The Director – Engineering Services updated the Committee on this project and stated that this project has been included in the 10 year plan, as it forms part of the Thunderbolts Way (Derby Street) rehabilitation that is within the 10 year plan.

4.4 Thunderbolts Way Beautification – between Walcha & Bergen Op Zoom Bridge – Bergen Landcare

Beverly Betts updated the Committee and stated that the Bergen Landcare Group would be writing to Council and will communicate their upgrade intentions within the letter. Council will respond accordingly.

4.5 Rose Garden – Cnr of Derby and Thunderbolts Way / Uralla Road

The Urban Works Supervisor described an idyllic rose garden that he viewed in Cowra, stating that it was a real show piece and that people were very impressed in general when driving past. He expressed an interest in developing the area in the corner of Derby and Thunderbolts Way / Uralla Road into a smaller, yet still outstanding rose garden. The Committee **RECOMMENDED** that a budget be prepared for this garden and that it is incorporated into the 10 year plan for delivery.



4.6 Car Park opposite Walcha Central School

The Committee commented on this project and wished for an update as to where it is located in the 10 year plan. The Director – Engineering Services to provide an update.

4.7 Catholic Cemetery

Clr Blomfield approached the Catholic Cemetery on behalf of the Committee in relation to this item. While Clr Blomfield is still awaiting a reply from the church, the reception was positive and believes the project will be okay to proceed. The Committee agreed that shade trees similar to the general cemetery should be installed, however this will be confirmed once approval is gained.

4.8 Glen Grow Rest Area South of Walcha

The Committee **RECOMMENDED** that Council gravel and seal the car park area. Travellers use it as a rest area, trucks also use the area for parking, resting and livestock inspection.

4.9 Substation on Uralla Road

The Committee agreed that if liaison with essential energy fails, that the tree planting completed by the Bergen Landcare Group should be completed in a way that covers the view of this location.

5.1 Meeting Dates Schedule

The following meeting schedule will be followed:

- 20 June 2018
- 19 September 2018
- 21 November 2018

All meetings will be held at 2pm.

**THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS THE CHAIRMAN
DECLARED THE MEETING CLOSED AT 3:45PM.**

CONFIRMED _____ **(Signed)**

Date: ____/____/____



Walcha Council Community Care Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

held on

Monday, 19 March 2018

at

2:05 pm

at

WCCC Meeting Room, 11s Middle St, Walcha

PRESENT:

Clr Kevin Ferrier (Chair), Sue Reardon, Ron Denham, Pat Laurie, Syreene Kitchener, Davina Young, Robyn Goodall (Apsley Riverview), Cathy Noon (Community Care Coordinator), Karen Kermode (Community Services Manager) and Elaine Bartholomew (Community Care ATSI Officer).

1. APOLOGIES:

Debra Sweeney, Olivia Wood.

2. CONFIRMATION OF MEETING MINUTES HELD ON MONDAY 11 DECEMBER 2017

An error was noted in the minutes and the corrected version was tabled for the committee's information.

RESOLVED: On the motion of Denham and Young that the Minutes of the Walcha Council Community Care Advisory Committee Meeting held on 11 December 2017 copies of which have been distributed to all members, be taken as read and confirmed a true record.

3. Business Arising

Nil.

4. Community Care Coordinator Report – December 2017 and January 2018

The Community Care Coordinator report from December 2017 and January 2018 was presented to the Committee (attached).



5. ATSI Community Care Officer Report – December 2017 and January 2018

No report due to groups being in recess and staff leave.

6. Feedback and Complaints

Verbal feedback was received from a client, who suggested that we should do more advertising of our community transport service.

Verbal feedback was received from a client who advised that the supports the WCCC offer her have turned her quality of life around.

7. General Business

7.1 Third Party Verification - The WCCC Coordinator gave a quick overview of the Third Party Verification process and explained that it is a review of our policies and practices to ensure that our services meets the Disability Service Standards. The reviewer’s feedback was very positive and they indicated that we passed the review. The review took place on Friday, 9 March 2018 and a formal report has not been received as yet. The review encompassed the Community Care and Early Intervention services. All staff worked very hard in the lead up to this assessment, and the positive feedback received is a testament to their commitment to their clients and the community.

7.2 Completion of Renovations - The renovations of the Community Care offices has been completed. The services relocated to the preschool whilst the work was undertaken during January. This was a disruptive time, however now everything is complete and we have moved back in. Office and storage space has been added for the staff. A baby change table has also been installed so the room will now cater for all ages in the community. Plans are underway to host some school holiday activities here, and we hope to work collaboratively with all of the Council community services teams to fully utilise this asset.

7.3 Community Strategic Plan – The Committee was asked to consider the following section of the CSP:

1.1.5.2	Promote and advertise the available transport services
1.1.5.2.1	Research existing services.
1.1.5.2.2	Advertise services.

The current transport services are as follows:

Armidale access bus	Tuesday (each week)
Walcha (including Summervale) access bus	Thursday (each week)
Woolbrook access bus	Thursday (each week)
Tamworth access bus	Friday (last Friday every month)
Taxi vouchers (8 per month)	For eligible participants only



The Community Services Manager explained how the taxi vouchers are issued and used. She also explained that we are coming up to the end of a three year contract period on 30 June 2018. Once the new contract is received further discussions can be held regarding the transport services on offer.

Davina Young advised the Committee that the bus schedule has been reviewed in the past and that users of the service were happy with how it was structured.

The Community Services Manager advised of upcoming changes for community transport services, with Transport for NSW rolling out a booking, reporting and customer management system called CTABS. This system is required to be used by all community transport service providers regardless of their size. This will be happening in May 2018.

7.4 ID Cards for Staff and Volunteers – The WCCC Coordinator advised that the ID card printer has been used to print ID cards for all community care staff and some volunteers. She will endeavour to ensure that all Meals on Wheels (MOW) volunteers are issued with an ID card to reassure MOW clients that the people entering their homes and delivering meals have been verified and authorised by the Council.

7.5 Meals on Wheels Rostering – Following the resignation of Kate Hoy from MOW rostering duties, we have taken the opportunity to review how it has been structured. In the past some of the people volunteering have not had the mandatory checks, and some only volunteer once or twice per year. A letter has been sent to all MOW volunteers requesting that they commit to delivering meals 4 times per year minimum. This will reduce the number of volunteers needed, and reduce the costs involved in ensuring their paperwork is up to date. We also asked volunteers to contact us if they are unable to continue delivering meals so that they can be removed from the roster. The feedback to this request has been positive.

8. Next Meeting

The 18 June, 17 September and 17 December 2018 have been set as the meeting dates for the remainder of the year.

There being no further business the Chair declared the meeting closed at 3.03pm.

CONFIRMED _____ **(Signed)**

Date: ___ / ___ / ___ **Chairperson**



Attachment for Item 4 - Community Care Co-ordinator Report – December 2017 & January 2018

Groups

Women's Group and Wanderer's Group

6 December 2017 – 28 clients from the Women's Group and the Wanderer's Group attended morning tea at the Community Day Centre Rooms. A Christmas party was the final get together for the year and was enjoyed by all who attended.

December 2017 – The Women's and Wanderer's Groups were in recess.

Wanderer's Group

13 December 2017– The group enjoyed morning tea at the Community Day Centre Rooms.

Men's Group

12 December 2017 – 13 gentlemen attended morning tea in the Community Day Centre Rooms.

26 December 2017 – The Men's Group was in recess.

The groups were in recess during the month of January 2018.

Transport – October

Medical drives – 15 clients utilized the service with 29 trips during December 2017.

Medical drives – 12 clients utilized the service with 22 trips during January 2018.

Access bus – 10 clients used the service making 34 trips during December 2017.

Access bus – 8 clients used the service making 35 trips during January 2018.

Bus to Tamworth – 7 clients used the service on 22 December 2017

Bus to Tamworth – 8 clients used the service on 19 January 2018

Bus to Armidale numbers for December were as follows:

- 3 December 2017 – 6 clients
- 10 December 2017 – 5 clients
- 17 December 2017 – 6 clients
- 24 December 2017 – 7 clients

Bus to Armidale numbers for January were as follows:

- 2 January 2018 – 4 clients
- 9 January 2018 – 7 clients
- 16 January 2018 – 6 clients
- 23 January 2018 – 7 clients
- 30 January 2018 – 7 clients

Taxi Vouchers – 13 clients used the Taxi Vouchers with Walcha Taxi Service and Walcha Community Transport in December with a total of 78 Taxi Vouchers returned. Taxi Vouchers used in January were nil due the Taxi Service not operating during the month.

Meals on Wheels

For the period of 1/12/2017 to 31/12/2017, there were 14 clients who received hot main meals with 2 of those clients also receiving frozen meals for the weekend. There were 2 clients who received frozen meals. The total number of meals for the month of December was:



- 154 Hot meals,
- 74 frozen meals and
- 107 desserts.

For the period of 1/1/2018 to 31/1/2018, there were 14 clients who received hot main meals with 2 of those clients also receiving frozen meals for the weekend. There were 3 clients who received frozen meals. The total number of meals for the month of January was:

- 183 Hot meals,
- 86 frozen meals and
- 121 desserts.

Rural and Remote Exercise Groups

Nowendoc rural and remote exercise group was in recess during December 2017 and January 2018.

NDIS

Services are currently being provided to 7 NDIS participants.

Feedback and Complaints

Nil feedback to report for December 2017 and January 2018

Meetings and Training

14 December 2017 – Dementia Support Group meeting held at the Community Day Centre Rooms.

11 January 2018 – Dementia Support Group meeting in recess during January 2018
January has been extremely hectic with the room and office renovations coming along nicely. WCCC relocating to the preschool during January was interesting although very handy to have somewhere to dump our mess for the time needed. We can't wait to have our new look completed and back to some normal working conditions.

Cathy Noon
Community Care Coordinator



Item 11:

Delegate Reports

Submitted to Council: 28 March 2018

..... General Manager Mayor

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE NEW ENGLAND TABLELANDS (NOXIOUS PLANTS) COUNTY COUNCIL HELD IN THE ARMIDALE OFFICE, 129 RUSDEN STREET, ARMIDALE ON WEDNESDAY, 24 OCTOBER 2017 COMMENCING AT 8:35AM

PRESENT: Councillor M Dusting - Chairperson, Councillor S Kermode, Councillor L Martin and Councillor J Galletly. Councillor A Murat joined the meeting at 9.02 am.

IN ATTENDANCE: General Manager Mr W. Deer and Senior Weeds Officer Mr J Browning.

APOLOGIES: Nil.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

Councillor L Martin made a general disclosure under Section 454 of the Local Government Act 1993 that she is the cousin of Council's Senior Weeds Officer, Mr J Browning. The General Manager informed Council of his discussions with the Office of Local Government in relation to this matter and tabled extracts from the Local Government Act 1993 of the relevant pecuniary interest and disclosure provisions.

There were no further declarations of interest.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 22 AUGUST 2017

40/17 RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Kermode and Galletly that the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the New England Tablelands (Noxious Plants) County Council held on 22 August 2017, copies of which have been distributed to all members, are taken as read and confirmed a true record.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 22 AUGUST 2017

There were no matters arising.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The Chair advised of the following:

- Welcomed the newly elected Armidale Regional Councillor representatives, Councillors Libby Martin, Jon Galletly and Andrew Murat to their first meeting following the local government elections held on 9 September 2017, congratulating them on their election and that we looked forward to working with them and the contribution they will make to Council.
- Reported on the highly successful 19th NSW State Weeds Conference which Council along with the Weeds Society of NSW and the NSW Department of Primary Industries hosted in Armidale from 16 – 19 October 2017. Advised there were 247 delegates who attended the conference and that it has been one of the most enjoyable and successful conferences held in recent times with excellent feedback from those who attended. Congratulated members of the Conference Organising Committee for

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE NEW ENGLAND TABLELANDS (NOXIOUS PLANTS) COUNTY COUNCIL HELD IN THE ARMIDALE OFFICE, 129 RUSDEN STREET, ARMIDALE ON WEDNESDAY, 24 OCTOBER 2017 COMMENCING AT 8:35AM

all their hard work and particularly Council staff for ensuring such a memorable event, noting that the conference was also a financial success.

- Referred to the Annual Report for 2016-17 and the report in the Business Paper on the sound financial result for Council as evidenced in the Financial Statements for 2016-2017, thanking staff for their ongoing commitment to the prudent financial management as well as meeting the program objectives in weed management and control for the reporting period.
- Thanked Councillors for the opportunity to represent Council as Chairman for the past twelve months and for their valued contributions to the activities of Council over this period.

1. ELECTION OF CHAIRPERSON (ITEM 7.1)

41/17 RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Galletly and Kermode that in the event that there is more than one Councillor nominated for each of the positions of Chairman or Deputy Chairman, then the method of election to determine the position(s) be by Ordinary Ballot **AND FURTHER THAT** the Returning Officer destroys all documentation following such elections.

The General Manager, Mr W. Deer acting as Returning Officer then called for nominations for the position of Chairperson. On receiving only one nomination that of Councillor M. Dusting, the Returning Officer, declared Councillor Dusting elected Chairperson for the ensuing twelve month period unopposed.

The Returning Officer then called for nominations for the position of Deputy Chairperson. On receiving only one nomination that of Councillor S. Kermode, the Returning Officer declared Councillor Kermode elected Deputy Chairperson for the ensuing twelve month period unopposed.

2. COMMITTEES AND DELEGATES (ITEM 7.2)

42/17 RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Kermode and Martin that the Chairperson of the New England Tablelands (Noxious Plants) County Council, Councillor M. Dusting be Council's delegate to:

- Local Government NSW,
- New England Group of Councils and
- Northern Tablelands Local Land Services Regional Weeds Committee.

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE NEW ENGLAND TABLELANDS (NOXIOUS PLANTS) COUNTY COUNCIL HELD IN THE ARMIDALE OFFICE, 129 RUSDEN STREET, ARMIDALE ON WEDNESDAY, 24 OCTOBER 2017 COMMENCING AT 8:35AM

3. MEETING TIMES (ITEM 7.3.1)

43/17 RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Martin and Kermode that Council adopt the following meeting dates for 2018.

20 February 2018	2nd Quarterly Review. Councillors Tour.
17 April 2018	3rd Quarterly Budget Review. Draft Annual Operational Plan 2018/19.
19 June 2018	Adopt Annual Operational Plan and Budget 2018/19 and update 4 Year Delivery Program and 10 year Financial Plan in the Business Activity Strategic Plan 2017- 2027
21 August 2018	4th Quarterly Budget Review. Refer Accounts to Audit. Pecuniary Interests Returns.
23 October 2018	1st Quarterly Budget Review. Adopt Financial Statements. Election of Chairperson and Review Delegations. Payment of Expenses Policy Review. Annual Report adopted.

4. PAYMENT OF EXPENSES AND THE PROVISION OF FACILITIES FOR CHAIRPERSON, COUNCILLORS AND STAFF (ITEM 7.3.2)

44/17 RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Galletly and Kermode that Council, in accordance with Section 252 of the Local Government Act 1993, reaffirm the Policy for Payment of Expenses and the Provision of Facilities for Chairpersons, Councillors and Staff, as attached to the report.

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE NEW ENGLAND TABLELANDS (NOXIOUS PLANTS) COUNTY COUNCIL HELD IN THE ARMIDALE OFFICE, 129 RUSDEN STREET, ARMIDALE ON WEDNESDAY, 24 OCTOBER 2017 COMMENCING AT 8:35AM

5. INTERNAL REPORTING POLICY - PUBLIC INTEREST DISCLOSURES ACT 1994 (ITEM 7.3.3)

45/17 RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Martin and Kermode that Council adopt Internal Reporting Policy No: 04/17, as attached to the report.

6. ANNUAL REPORT 2016/2017 (ITEM 7.3.4)

46/17 RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Galletly and Martin that:

1. The Annual Report for the financial year ending 30 June 2017 be received and adopted.
2. A copy of the Council's Annual Report 2016/17 be forwarded to constituent member Councils.
3. Council's General Manager and staff be commended on the excellent results achieved for the 2016/17 financial year.

7. NEW ENGLAND WEEDS AUTHORITY MODEL CODE OF CONDUCT (ITEM 7.3.5)

47/17 RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Murat and Galletly that:

1. Council reaffirm the adoption of the New England Weeds Authority Code of Conduct and the Procedures for the Administration of the New England Weeds Authority Code of Conduct, as attached to the report.
2. Council appoint the Senior Weeds Officer to act as a Complaints Coordinator and the Administration Officer as the alternate Complaints Coordinator.
3. That Council use the services of the Internal Audit Bureau for dealing with Code of Conduct complaints about Councillors or the General Manager should the need arise.

8. NEW ENGLAND WEEDS AUTHORITY WORK HEALTH AND SAFETY MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (ITEM 7.3.6)

48/17 RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Murat and Kermode that:

1. Council reaffirm the New England Weeds Authority Work Health and Safety Management System incorporating Council's Work Health and Safety Policy, as attached to the report.
2. Council reaffirm the New England Weeds Authority Emergency Plan, as attached to the report.

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE NEW ENGLAND TABLELANDS (NOXIOUS PLANTS) COUNTY COUNCIL HELD IN THE ARMIDALE OFFICE, 129 RUSDEN STREET, ARMIDALE ON WEDNESDAY, 24 OCTOBER 2017 COMMENCING AT 8:35AM

9. STATEWIDE MUTUAL RISK MANAGEMENT ACTION PLAN (ITEM 7.3.7)

49/17 RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Murat and Martin that the report on the updated Statewide Mutual, NEWA Risk Management Action Plan (July 2017-June 2018) as attached to the report, be received and noted.

10. FINANCIAL REPORTS 2016/17 (ITEM 7.4.1)

50/17 RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Galletly and Murat that the Financial Statements and Auditors Report for the financial year ending 30 June 2017 be received and adopted.

11. INVESTED FUNDS REPORT (ITEM 7.4.2)

51/17 RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Martin and Murat that:

1. The report indicating Council's Fund Management position be received and noted.
2. The Certificate of the Responsible Accounting Officer be noted and the report adopted.

12. SEPTEMBER 2017 QUARTERLY BUDGET REVIEW (ITEM 7.4.3)

52/17 RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Kermodé and Martin that Council adopt the September 2017 Quarterly Budget review and approve the budget variations.

13. 2017/2018 WEEDS ACTION PROGRAM (7.5.1)

53/17 RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Kermodé and Martin that the report on the 2017/2018 Weeds Action Program be received and noted.

8. MATTERS OF URGENCY – NSW STATE WEEDS CONFERENCE - ARMIDALE

53/17 RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Murat and Martin that the General Manager and staff be commended for their efforts in ensuring a highly successful 19th NSW State Weeds Conference that was held in Armidale from 16-19 October 2017.

NEXT MEETING:

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, 20 February 2018 at 8:30 am.

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS THE CHAIR DECLARED THE MEETING CLOSED AT 9:46 AM.



BOARD MEETING

DATE: Thursday 1 March 2018, 9am to 11.30pm
VENUE: Tamworth Regional Council, Level 4 Function Room
MEMBERS:

Cr Jamie Chaffey	Gunnedah Shire Council	jamiechaffey@infogunnedah.com.au
Max Eastcott	Gwydir Shire Council	meastcott@gwydir.nsw.gov.au
Cr Andrew Hope (Chair)	Liverpool Plains Shire Council	andrew.hope@lpsc.nsw.gov.au
Donna Ausling		donna.ausling@lpsc.nsw.gov.au
Cr Cathy Redding (Deputy Chair)	Narrabri Shire Council	Mayor@narrabri.nsw.gov.au
Stewart Todd		gm@narrabri.nsw.gov.au
Cr Col Murray	Tamworth Regional Council	c.murray@tamworth.nsw.gov.au
Paul Bennett		p.bennett@tamworth.nsw.gov.au
Cr Mick Pearce	Uralla Shire	mayor@uralla.nsw.gov.au
Andrew Hopkins		ahopkins@uralla.nsw.gov.au
Cr Eric Noakes	Walcha Council	enoakes@walcha.nsw.gov.au
Jack O'Hara		johara@walcha.nsw.gov.au
Rebel Thomson	Namoi Unlimited	r.thomson@tamworth.nsw.gov.au
Alison McGaffin	NSW Department of Premier and Cabinet	alison.mcgaffin@dpc.nsw.gov.au

APOLOGIES

Chris Presland	Director Policy and Sector Development OLG	Chris.Presland@olg.nsw.gov.au
Cr John Coulton	Gwydir Shire Council	jcoulton@gwydir.nsw.gov.au
Eric Groth	Gunnedah Shire Council	ericgroth@infogunnedah.com.au
Ron Van Katwyk	Liverpool Plains Shire Council	ron.vankatwyk@lpsc.nsw.gov.au

INTERNATIONAL ENGAGEMENT TRAINING SESSION

Members of the 2018 China Delegation were provided with a draft of the joint presentation, an outline of the itinerary, a training session on WeChat and also a discussion with Chris Celovic about his experiences in China.

The Board meeting commenced at 11am.

MINUTES

1. WELCOME & APOLOGIES

The Chair conveyed his thanks to Tamworth Regional Council for hosting the meeting. Apologies for the meeting for the meeting are accepted and noted.

2. MINUTES, BUSINESS ARISING AND ACTION LIST

2.1 Resolutions Summary

Resolutions set for Board meetings were provided as an attachment to the Business Paper.

2.2 Board Meeting Minutes 1 February 2018 – ATTACHMENT A

The Chair put the motion to the meeting.

Cr Redding asked for an amendment to the previous meeting minutes, item 4.2 endorsement of the Namoi Roads Network Strategy, noting she proposed that the JO should move to the next phase of the project, but rejected that the motion was moved by Narrabri Shire Council.

The Chair asked members what their recollection of the meeting was, and noted that it was his and Tamworth Regional Council recollection that the motion was moved by Narrabri Shire Council.

Gunnedah Shire Council confirmed that Narrabri Shire Council moved the motion and the motion was seconded by Tamworth Regional Council.

Walcha Council recalled that the motion was moved by Narrabri Shire Council.

Narrabri Shire Council moved a motion to amend the mover of the motion; no seconder for the amendment was received.

NUMBER	MOVED:	Gunnedah Shire Council	SECONDED:	Walcha Council
2018/R001	THAT, minutes of the Board meeting held 1 February 2018 are endorsed as an accurate record of the meeting.			
Endorsed				

Narrabri Shire Council asked that it be noted in the minutes that the JO should expect further correspondence from Narrabri Shire Council on this matter.

2.3 Minutes and Recommendations from JOLT meeting held 26 February 2018

Draft minutes were presented in the Business Paper.

NUMBER	MOVED:	Walcha Council	SECONDED:	Gunnedah Shire Council
2018R/002	JOLT	THAT, Gwydir Shire Council is endorsed as the Chair and Sponsor of the Roads and Transport Working Group.		
Endorsed				

2.4 Action List – ATTACHMENT C

Written report was provided in the Business Paper.

NUMBER	MOVED:	Gunnedah Shire Council	SECONDED:	Walcha Council
2018/R003	THAT, the actions and progress detailed in the Action List is received and noted.			
Endorsed				

Members agreed that actions associated with seeking information about International Engagement can be removed.

Gunnedah Shire Council asked if the Executive Officer had completed a report on the Blue Jeans issues and costs. The Executive Officer replied that a meeting to test the system across the JO network was held yesterday (28 February) coordinated by Tamworth Regional Council, the Councils that did not attend, systems can not be tested and therefore a group solution has yet to be determined.

ACTION:
The Executive Officer will advise the General Managers who was not available for the test, the test will be rescheduled.

3. FINANCE AND BUDGET REPORT

3.1 Year to Date Budget to Actual – ATTACHMENT D

Written report was provided in the Business Paper.

NUMBER	MOVED:	Walcha Council	SECONDED:	Narrabri Shire Council
2018/R004	THAT, the Finance Report is received and noted.			
Endorsed				

ACTION:
The Executive Officer is to review the spreadsheets of amounts owing to Gwydir Shire Council.

3.2 Australian Taxation Office

Written report provided in the Business Paper.

NUMBER	MOVED:	Gunnedah Shire Council	SECONDED:	Walcha Council
2018/R005	THAT, the Executive Officer be endorsed as the registered contact for the JO's ATO account.			
Endorsed				

3.3 Business Name Registration

Written report provided in the Business Paper.

NUMBER	MOVED:	Gunnedah Shire Council	SECONDED:	Walcha Council
2018/R006	THAT, the Executive Officer be endorsed as the registered contact for the JO's Business Registration and AusKey account.			
Endorsed				

4. STRATEGIC REGIONAL PRIORITIES

4.1 International Engagement Project, China

4.1.1 NingBo Government Initiatives Document

Written report provided in ATTACHMENT E.

NUMBER	MOVED:	Walcha Council	SECONDED:	Narrabri Shire Council
2018/R007	JOLT	THAT, brief on potential initiatives and opportunities with the NingBo Agricultural Bureau and Government is endorsed and sent to be translated.		
Endorsed				

4.2 Namoi Roads Network Strategy Stage 2 Project Brief

Written report was provided in the Business Paper.

NUMBER	MOVED:	Walcha Council	SECONDED:	Gunnedah Shire Council
2018/R008	JOLT	THAT, Gwydir Shire Council is endorsed as the Chair and Sponsor of the Roads and Transport Working Group.		
Endorsed or Amended				

Written report provided in ATTACHMENT F.

NUMBER	MOVED:	Walcha Council	SECONDED:	Uralla Shire Council
2018/R009	JOLT	THAT, the Namoi Roads Network Strategy – Project Brief Stage 2 and expenditure is endorsed to the Board. NOTED was that Narrabri Shire Council abstained from participating in the vote on this matter.		
Endorsed				

4.2.1 RMCC Project Brief

Written report in the Business Paper noted by members.

The Chair confirmed Narrabri Shire Council will not be participating in this project because they are not part of the RMS region conducting the pilot with RMS.

The Chair also offered the assistance of Warren Faulkner from Liverpool Plains Shire Council to the project.

4.3 Local Government Skills Strategy

Written report in the Business Paper noted by members.

5. WORKING GROUP ACTIVITY

5.1 LGP Procurement MOU – ATTACHMENT G

A recommendation has been made to the JOLT meeting to endorse the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding with Local Government Procurement.

NUMBER	MOVED:	Walcha Council	SECONDED:	Uralla Shire Council
2018/R010	JOLT	THAT, the Memorandum of Understanding with LGP to obtain a rebate for the 2017/2018 financial year is NOT signed and returned.		
Endorsed or Amended				

6. ADVOCACY & LEADERSHIP

6.1 Proposed Strategic Planning Sessions

Written report was provided in the Business Paper.

The Executive Officer noted JOLT had agreed to provide two additional consultancy companies to be approached to complete the work before Friday 2 March 2018.

NUMBER	MOVED:	Gunnedah Shire Council	SECONDED:	Walcha Council
2018/R011	JOLT	THAT, the need for Strategic Planning to occur is endorsed, that the Executive Officer prepare a project brief and budget for the April Board meeting.		
Endorsed or Amended				

6.2 Proposed Engagement with the New England Group of Councils Discussion Paper

ATTACHMENT H was provided to JOLT for feedback at their meeting on the 26 February 2018.

Uralla Shire Council reported to the meeting that the item was discussed at the last New England Group of Councils meeting and they would be following up after 1 July 2018.

6.3 Draft Communique from the Board Meeting

Draft Communique from the meeting was provided in ATTACHMENT I.

NUMBER	MOVED:	Gunnedah Shire Council	SECONDED:	Walcha Council
2018/R012	THAT, the draft communique is endorsed for release to member Councils.			
Endorsed				
Information to be amended in the Communique:				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Tamworth Regional Council has resolved to join the Namoi JO. 				

6.4 Media Release for the Board

Draft Communique from the meeting was provided in ATTACHMENT J.

NUMBER	MOVED:	Gunnedah Shire Council	SECONDED:	Walcha Council
2018/R013	THAT, the draft media release is endorsed for release to the public.			
Endorsed				
Information to be checked for consistency in the document specifically around NingBo being the largest seaport and population statistics used.				

6.5 Joint Organisation Regulations - ATTACHMENT K

Feedback is sought from members on the draft regulations, the feedback form provides the board with a template to complete and submit online. The general comment was that the regulations generally reflect the operations of the existing organisation.

NUMBER	MOVED:	Liverpool Plains Shire Council	SECONDED:	Walcha Council
2018/R014	THAT, Gwydir Shire Council makes comment on behalf of the JO, that the existing employment arrangements of the Executive Officer be maintained as they were conducted through a merit selection process.			
Endorsed				

7. OTHER BUSINESS

7.1 Department of Premier and Cabinet (Alison McGaffin)

Alison McGaffin undertook to provide a written report from the Regional Leadership Executive (RLE) at the next meeting which will include detail around the strategic statement of intent for the next two years.

Alison McGaffin will also provide members with a copy of the Communique from that meeting.

7.2 Gunnedah Shire Council

Gunnedah Shire Council reported that under population now seems to impact business and that the number of vacancies in the community are evident.

Population growth could be a stream for the strategic planning sessions.

7.3 Liverpool Plains Shire Council

Cr Hope advised the meeting that he will be stepping down as Chair of Namoi Unlimited after the China Mission.

8. FUTURE MEETINGS

The Namoi JO Board meetings coincide with meetings for the Inland Forum and Country Mayors.

NUMBER	MOVED:	Uralla Shire Council	SECONDED:	Walcha Council
2018/R010	THAT, Board meetings are moved to the 3rd Tuesday of the month.			
Endorsed				

Meeting closed 11.30am.



Country Mayors Association of NEW SOUTH WALES

Chairperson: Cr Katrina Humphries
PO Box 420 Moree NSW 2400
02 6757 3222
ABN 92 803 490 533

MINUTES

GENERAL MEETING

FRIDAY, 2 MARCH 2018 JUBILEE ROOM, PARLIAMENT HOUSE, SYDNEY

The meeting opened at 9.02 a.m.

1. ATTENDANCE:

Armidale Regional Council, Cr Simon Murray, Mayor
Armidale Regional Council, Mr Peter Dennis, CEO
Bathurst Regional Council, Cr Graeme Hanger, Mayor
Bega Valley Shire Council, Cr Kristy McBain, Mayor
Bland Shire Council, Cr Tony Lord, Mayor
Blayney Shire Council, Cr Scott Ferguson, Mayor
Blayney Shire Council, Ms Rebecca Ryan, General Manager
Carrathool Shire Council, Cr Peter Laird, Mayor
Carrathool Shire Council, Ms Joanne Treacy, General Manager
Coffs Harbour City Council, Cr George Cecato, Deputy Mayor
Coffs Harbour City Council, Mr Stephen McGrath, General Manager
Coolamon Shire Council, Cr John Seymour, Mayor
Coolamon Shire Council, Mr Tony Donoghue, General Manager
Cowra Shire Council, Cr Bill West, Mayor
Dubbo Regional Council, Mr Michael McMahon, Acting General Manager
Federation Council, Cr Patrick Bourke, Mayor
Federation Council, Mr Adrian Butler, Acting General Manager
Forbes Shire Council, Mr Steve Loane, General Manager
Gilgandra Shire Council, Cr Doug Batten, Mayor
Glen Innes Shire Council, Cr Steve Toms, Mayor
Goulburn Mulwaree Council, Cr Bob Kirk, Mayor
Goulburn Mulwaree Council, Mr Warrick Bennett, General Manager
Griffith City Council, Cr John Dal Broi, Mayor
Griffith City Council, Mr Brett Stonestreet, General Manager
Gunnedah Shire Council, Cr Jamie Chaffey, Mayor
Inverell Shire Council, Cr Paul Harmon, Mayor
Kempsey Shire Council, Cr Liz Campbell, Mayor
Kiama Municipal Council, Cr Mark Honey, Mayor
Kiama Municipal Council, Ms Kerry McMurray, Director Corporate, Commercial and Community Services
Leeton Shire Council, Cr Paul Maytom, Mayor
Leeton Shire Council, Ms Jackie Kruger, General Manager

Mid-Western/Mudgee Regional Council, Cr Des Kennedy, Mayor
Mid-Western/Mudgee Regional Council, Mr Brad Cam, General Manager
Moree Plains Shire Council, Cr Katrina Humphries, Mayor
Moree Plains Shire Council, Mr Lester Rogers, General Manager
Murray River Council, Cr Christopher Bilkey, Mayor
Murray River Council, Mr Des Bilske, General Manager
Murrumbidgee Council, Cr Ruth McRae, Mayor
Murrumbidgee Council, Mr Craig Moffitt, General Manager
Narrabri Shire Council, Cr Catherine Redding, Mayor
Narrabri Shire Council, Mr Stewart Todd, General Manager
Narromine Shire Council, Cr Craig Davies, Mayor
Narromine Shire Council, Mr Phil Johnston, Executive Manager Economic Development
Oberon Shire Council, Cr Kathy Sajowitz, Mayor
Oberon Shire Council, Mr Garry Wallace, General Manager
Parkes Shire Council, Cr Barbara Newton, Deputy Mayor
Shellharbour City Council, Cr Marianne Saliba, Mayor
Singleton Council, Cr Sue Moore, Mayor
Snowy Monaro Regional Council, Cr John Rooney, Mayor
Tamworth Regional Council, Cr Col Murray, Mayor
Tamworth Regional Council, Mr Paul Bennett, General Manager
Temora Shire Council, Cr Rick Firman, Mayor
Temora Shire Council, Mr Gary Lavelle, General Manager
Tenterfield Shire Council, Cr Peter Petty, Mayor
Upper Lachlan Shire Council, Cr Brian McCormack, Mayor
Upper Lachlan Shire Council, Mr John Bell, General Manager
Uralla Shire Council, Cr Michael Pearce, Mayor
Wagga Wagga City Council, Cr Greg Conkey, Mayor
Wagga Wagga City Council, Mr Peter Thompson, General Manager
Walcha Council, Cr Eric Noakes, Mayor
Warren Shire Council, Cr Rex Wilson, Mayor
Warren Shire Council, Mr Glen Wilcox, General Manager
Warrumbungle Shire Council, Cr Peter Shinton, Mayor
Warrumbungle Shire Council, Mr Roger Bailey, General Manager
LGNSW, Cr Linda Scott, President
Premier and Cabinet, Mr Don Murray
Premier and Cabinet, Mr Harry Henderson
Premier and Cabinet, Mr Bruce Whitehill
Premier and Cabinet, Mr Nick White
Telstra, Mr Michael Marom

APOLOGIES:

As submitted

SPECIAL GUESTS:

- Deputy Police Commissioner Regional NSW Field Operations, Gary Worboys
- Peter Primrose, Shadow Minister for Local Government
- Acting Consul General Linda Daetwyler, US Consul General, Sydney
- Lindsay Cane, CEO, Royal Far West

2. ADOPTION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:

RESOLVED that the minutes of the General Meeting held on 3 November 2017 be accepted as a true and accurate record (Temora Shire Council / Glen Innes Severn Council).

3. Matters Arising from the Minutes

- Letter to Premier Re Establishment of Minister and Department of Local Government – no reply
- Recycling issue and China
- The \$50 million for Telco blackspots needs to be kept track of

4. Membership

RESOLVED That Warren Shire Council and Dungog Shire Council be admitted as members of the Association (Singleton Council/Gilgandra Shire Council)

5. CORRESPONDENCE

Outward

- (a) Cr Craig Davies, Mayor, Narromine Shire Council, advising that Narromine Shire Council has been admitted as a member of the Association
- (b) Cr Neville Kschenka, Mayor, Narrendera Shire Council, advising that Narrendera Shire Council has been admitted as a member of the Association
- (c) The Hon John Barilaro MP, Deputy Premier, Minister for Regional New South Wales, Minister for Skills and Minister for Small Business thanking him for his presentation to the 3 November meeting
- (d) The Hon Melinda Pavey MP, Minister for Roads and Maritime and Freight thanking her for her presentation to the 3 November meeting
- (e) Mr Mark Smethurst, Commissioner, State Emergency Services thanking him for his presentation to the 3 November meeting
- (f) Ms Margaret Crawford, Auditor General of NSW thanking her for her presentation to the 3 November meeting
- (g) Hon Gabrielle Upton MP, Minister for the Environment, Minister for Local Government and Minister for Heritage enquiring into the affect of China's decision to stop importing 24 different types of solid waste by the end of 2017
- (h) The Hon Gladys Berejiklian MP, Premier requesting consideration of establishing a Department of Local Government with only Local Government responsibilities
- (i) The Hon Andrew Constance MP, Minister for Transport and Infrastructure asking for the closing date for submissions to the Transport Strategy 2056 be extended to 18 February 2018

Inward

- (a) Carmen Dwyer, Acting Executive Director Waste and Resource Recovery, EPA, Re China's decision to stop importing various solid waste (Copy Attached)

NOTED

RESOLVED That the Association follow up with the Premier on the matter of having a separate Minister for Local Government with only Local Government responsibilities (Temora Shire Council/Singleton Council)

6. FINANCIAL REPORT

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

7. Local Government Remuneration

RESOLVED That the Association lobby the State Government, Local Politicians and the Remuneration Tribunal or the appropriate body to reassess the very poor level of remuneration for NSW Mayors Deputy Mayors and Elected Members (Narromine Shire Council/ Tenterfield Shire Council)

8. Grant Funding

RESOLVED That the Association lobby the NSW Government and specifically the Premier and Deputy Premier to instigate protocols surrounding Grant funding that leads to an outcome in line with councils needs and expectations (Narromine Shire Council/Leeton Shire Council)

9. Water Utility Privatisation

RESOLVED That the Hon Niall Blair, Minister for Regional Water, Minister for Trade and Industry, and Minister for Primary Industry and the CEO of Water NSW be invited to the next meeting of the Association (Upper Lachlan Shire Council/Shellharbour City Council)

10. Deputy Police Commissioner Regional NSW Field Operations, Gary Worboys

The Deputy Police Commissioner spoke on the reengineering of the police force in NSW with the formation of Police Districts with an officer in charge model replacing Local Area Commands. There has been a 34% drop in property crime and a search warrant issued every three days. The police districts have renewed the enthusiasm for policing. By the end of March the formation of Police Districts will be completed. Mayors and General Managers should have a regular interaction with their local police. The Commissioner is passionate about change and is repositioning senior police from the city to the country. There is a primary focus on domestic violence with officers specifically allocated to those crimes

11. Peter Primrose, Shadow Minister for Local Government and Michael Daley, Shadow Minister for Planning and Infrastructure

Both Peter Primrose and Michael Daley answered questions from the floor. A copy of Peter Primroses intended address is attached to the minutes

12. Acting Consul General Linda Daetwyler, US Consul General, Sydney

The Consul General in Sydney runs consular operations for US citizens as well as issuing visas for entry into the United States. The office also visits American prisoners in NSW prisons most of whom are there for drug offences. The United States is visited by three million Australians each year who spend approximately \$9 billion whilst there. They generally visit the larger cities and don't experience the smaller cities that have a lot to offer. Likewise when Linda was first posted to

Sydney twelve months ago she concentrated on seeing what Sydney has to offer but is now exploring country NSW and was impressed when she recently travelled to Moree and Lightning Ridge. She has learnt a lot about opals, solar farming and pecans which are exported to the United States for the traditional pecan pie eaten on Thanksgiving Day. There are many connections between our two countries and the relationship on both sides is cherished.

13. Lindsay Cane, CEO, Royal Far West

The key drivers for Royal Far West are to improve the health and wellbeing of country children, to ensure that all country children have access to essential services, to reduce the impact of physical, social, emotional and mental disorders and trauma on childrens' health and to enhance service delivery, access and advocacy for vulnerable country children and families. Royal Far West has 150 fulltime staff who run their guest house, health service social support services. Childhood vulnerability in Australia is 22% but is two to three times that in rural Australia. When children start school they are vulnerable in physical health, social competence, emotional maturity, speech/language and communication. Vulnerable children have poorer educational outcomes, higher levels of functional disability, chronic mental health problems, higher risk of unemployment, difficulty establishing relationships, contact with the criminal justice system and higher risk of homelessness. Royal Far West is campaigning to have the National Regional Development Agenda to include "Reduce National Childhood Vulnerability from 22% to 10%"

14. Telephone Blackspots

Mr Harry Henderson, Premier and Cabinet, advised that both Telstra and Vodaphone were having problems with Forestry and Crown Lands with black spots. It appears that government is stopping government doing their jobs

15. Retaining Banking Services in Country Towns

Each Council needs to liaise with their banking prover to ensure the retention of existing services or seek a new provider

16. Lobbying Priorities

Priorities identified

1. A better rating system (rate pegging to go) and also more funds given to rural and regional councils from State Government which acknowledges the challenges of large areas/small rate bases;
2. Fairer distribution of FAGs;
3. State Forestry Corporation and National Parks being asked to pay rates (yes there is a working group on this already but a letter from CMA adds weight to their argument);
4. Review of the NDRRA funding criteria – it currently doesn't cover recreational assets and after our east coast low in 2016 I can tell you that we have lost \$3 million in assets that we can't recover now.
5. Push for State Government to look at affordable housing criteria for rural and regional areas – assistance in some form???
6. Review of Seniors SEPP (Housing for Seniors or People with a Disability) 2004 which requires in many instances access to a bus stop for public transport,

walking distance to the CBD etc which is hard to achieve in some regional and rural areas which just leads to people leaving an area.

7. State Government incentives for business relocation out of metro NSW to regional/rural NSW
8. Cost of power
9. Sale of Snowy Hydro
10. Auditor General's report on performance reporting.

Each member of the Executive to nominate the areas they would like to Chair and members be invited to participate in committees

17. Newcastle Container Terminal

RESOLVED That the Association forward a letter of support to Freight and Ports supporting the Newcastle Container Terminal (Gunnedah Shire Council/Narromine Shire Council)

18. Superannuation

RESOLVED That David Smith CEO Local Government Super be invited to address the next meeting on the Defined Benefits Scheme Contribution Employer Contribution Rates and he asked to supply the Association with a copy of the Trust document (Upper Lachlan Shire Council/Goulburn Mulwaree Council)

19. Grant Funding

Adam Marshall advised that the Stronger Communities Fund had been increased by \$100 million up to \$300 million and grants will be twice the level of the first round of funding. With the sale of the Snowy Hydro and funding coming to regional NSW councils will need to come up with some big picture projects

There being no further business the meeting closed at 1.00pm.

Cr Katrina Humphries

Chair – Country Mayor's Association of NSW

SPEECH BY PETER PRIMROSE MLC, SHADOW MINISTER FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT, TO THE COUNTRY MAYORS ASSOCIATION OF NSW AT PARLIAMENT HOUSE, SYDNEY ON FRIDAY 2nd MARCH 2018.

I would like to begin as I always do by acknowledging the traditional owners of the land on which we meet, and pay my respects to their elders past, present and emerging. There is a huge amount happening in the local government sphere at the moment, and much more to come. But today I can cover only a few areas in the time available to me.

Joint Regional Organisations:

When the Government introduced its voluntary Joint Regional Organisations Bill late last year, we gave it support. We were critical because it was about a year overdue, but because Councils would be allowed to decide whether to join or not, we were happy to support it.

It correctly is your choice, not Macquarie Street's.

I am worried about the pittance in funding being offered by the government to support new JRO's, and will push for increased funding so your local communities are not left out of pocket in the same way that forcibly merged councils have been.

JROs are one way to help councils share the costs of obtaining the skills and other resources they need.

As I said in my second reading speech, the JRO legislation itself is a mess. There are many holes. For instance, once a council has joined there is no mechanism to get out short of a proclamation by the Governor. The boundary restrictions were done without consultation and are too restrictive, and the exclusion of metropolitan areas makes no sense.

But we will work with the current government to correct any ongoing problems, or fix them when we are next in government, because we want JROs to succeed.

Forced Council Mergers:

Anyone who seriously believes that this Government has really given up on its forced merger agenda should listen to the Premier's often repeated rhetoric complaining that there are too many councils.

Before the last state election, the then Premier, the current Premier, the current Deputy Premier and the current Minister all publicly promised that there would be no forced council mergers. Now they are making the same promise again.

I have to be honest and tell you that I don't trust them. I have yet to see anything that binds current and future Liberal and National party members against moving for more forced council mergers should they win the next state election.

For that reason, I am very proud that as a result of resolutions passed at our Labor Annual Conference, NSW Labor has now unanimously resolved to put into its binding platform a policy to oppose forced council mergers both now and in the future. Any MP who breaches this Platform can be expelled.

NSW Labor has no problems supporting voluntary council mergers, but we oppose both forced mergers, and we also oppose forced demergers.

The next State Labor Government will legislate to allow voluntary demergers, but we will not force demergers on local communities.

Count Backs:

While the Government can move fast on some things, others seem to drag on forever.

Back on 30th August in 2016 the Parliament unanimously passed legislation to allow 'countbacks' instead of costly by elections. Since that time there have been a number of costly by-elections, many in regional NSW, costing councils anywhere up to half a million dollars, while confused residents who failed to vote have been hit with a \$55 fine.

That fine is paid to the State Government coffers, not to the council.

You see, the legislation cannot be used until the regulations have been enacted. So I asked the Minister why the 15 month costly delay?

On the 14th November last year she replied. She said that the Office of Local Government '*has commenced work*' on drafting the regulations.

After 15 months.

I checked again last week, and still no regulation.

Now I do not blame the Office of Local Government. Its resources have been cut back so hard that I have been told it is often now called the 'Cupboard of Local Government.' But this type of delay, which is costing councils and ratepayers big time is just not good enough.

IPART:

Nor is there any sign of a Government announcement in response to the Final Report of the IPART Review into the Local Government Rating System. That was presented to the Minister fourteen months ago in December 2016, and has been kept a secret ever since. I genuinely

hope that it will address critical issues such as the increasingly contested rate peg so we can get some serious debate on this issue.

Savings:

On other matters financial, this year's state budget lists \$110 million that was not spent because some council mergers did not proceed, as 'savings'. The money will now go back into Consolidated Revenue and in the budget papers is listed as a 'government saving'.

So if your Council is being told by the Government that you cannot have funding for an urgent project unless you can say where the money would come from, just point to the 2017/18 Budget Statement, Budget Paper Number 1, page A4-5, under Office of Local Government.

There's a lazy \$110 million there that should be available to local councils feeling the pinch and not be simply listed as a 'saving'.

The question is: why isn't this pool of \$110 million pot of funding that was allocated for local government being made available as grants to your councils for your communities?

Even more galling however is the fact that earlier the Auditor-General slammed the Government for spending \$4.5 million on its 'Stronger Councils, Stronger Communities' political ad campaign. The Auditor-General – hardly a political hack – said the campaign 'compromised value for money' and was 'inconsistent with the Government's own advertising guidelines'.

\$4.5 million wasted. Yet at the same time they claim they don't have enough money to make regional roads safer.

I guess that's what you can expect from a Government that wants to spend over \$2.5 billion in Sydney to knock down and rebuild two stadiums. Their priorities are all wrong. We unashamedly prioritise funding for hospitals and schools over stadiums.

Compare these astronomical figures to what is happening to our great public libraries. The NSW Public Library Association points out that the NSW state government provides the lowest per capita funding for libraries of all states and territories in Australia. State funding represents just a pittance of 7.5 per cent of the total operating costs of NSW libraries compared to 23.6 per cent in 1980.

The former Premier promised to look at a 'sizeable increase' for local libraries, but in this year's budget they only received a paltry 1.8% increase. Again, the Government's priorities are all wrong.

On the same day that the NSW state budget was delivered last year – on 20th June - Bill Shorten in a speech in Canberra to the National General Assembly of Local Government reconfirmed that the next Federal Labor Government will put constitutional recognition of local government to a referendum of the Australian people.

NSW Labor strongly supports this move, not only because it will guarantee federal funding arrangements with local councils, but also because it will help protect all NSW councils against any further forced mergers.

Constitutional recognition of local government is also another way to encourage all three levels of government to work together more effectively, which is the basis of the long overdue Far West Initiative.

Cost shifting:

In its final report in October 2015, the Legislative Council Inquiry into Local Government recommended:

‘That the NSW Government eschews future cost shifting and commits to providing adequate funding to local government for any new services, assets or regulatory functions that it devolves to local councils.’

The Labor Opposition supported this recommendation. Local Government NSW in its last report estimated that cost shifting cost councils around \$680 million, and I expect the next report will show that this figure has ballooned even further.

An immediate step that Labor has announced is to endorse the Local Government NSW recommendation for a detailed annual Local Government Budget Statement to be provided as part of each state budget. The Budget Statement will provide a breakdown of expenditure, both capital and recurrent, and distinguish between payments for services provided on behalf of the state and those provided to local government for its own purposes.

This will be one step to increase budget transparency in NSW, and help implement our policy of reducing cost shifting.

I am always happy to visit councils and local communities to talk about the matters I have raised today or any other council issues. My details are on the NSW Parliament website, so please email or call.

Labor’s fundamental approach to local government is this: local communities should run local councils, not Macquarie Street. The State Government should set the broad regulatory framework.

Equally local government IS government, not a company board of directors. No one objects to having a model code of conduct, but any moves to use the code shut down legitimate debates about community issues - by elected representatives of the community - is just not on and does not have our support.

Finally, I want to reiterate an undertaking that I gave you last year.

Should I have the privilege of becoming the Minister for Local Government after the next state election, I will aim to meet regularly with local councils throughout the state.

I want to make it clear that I am not only interested in listening, but in speaking face to face and actually hearing what you have to say.

Thank you, and I now look forward to your questions.