



BUSINESS PAPER
ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL

To be held on

Wednesday, 26 May 2021

Commencing at

3:00pm

at

Walcha Council Chambers

Members:

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

Quorum – 5 Members to be Present

AGENDA

Submitted to Council: 26 May 2021

..... 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, 26 May 2021** commencing at **3:00pm**.

Yours sincerely

Chris Weber
Interim General Manager

NOTICE:

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

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY:

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

INDEX

1. Leave of Absence
2. Confirmation of Previous Minutes
 - 2.1 Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on Wednesday, 28 April 2021 at Walcha Council Chambers. WO/2021/01527
 - 2.2 Minutes of the ExtraOrdinary Meeting held on Friday, 14 May 2021 at Walcha Council Chambers. WO/2021/01770
3. Business Arising
4. Declarations of Interest
5. Mayoral Minute
6. Senior Officers' Reports
 - 6.1 Quarterly Budget Review as at March 2021 WO/2021/01431
 - 6.2 DRAFT 2021-2022 Operational Plan WO/2021/01855
 - 6.3 Request to Waive Excess Water Charges for Walcha Bowling Club WO/2021/01449
 - 6.4 Request for Financial Assistance – Two Wheel Tours WO/2021/01807
 - 6.5 Walcha Motorcycle Rally Committee Nominations WO/2021/01806
 - 6.6 Central Northern Regional Library Agreement Renewal WO/2021/01730



7. Notice of Motion

Nil

8. Matters of Urgency

(Resolution to admit matters of urgency before being further considered by Council).

9. Management Review Reports

9.1 Office of the General Manager	WO/2021/01865
9.2 Infrastructure	WINT/2021/04542
9.3 Environment & Development	WO/2021/01815
9.4 Community & Tourism	WO/2021/01720

10. Committee Reports

10.1 Minutes of the Arts Advisory Committee Meeting held at Walcha Council Chambers on Thursday 25 March 2021	WO/2021/01334
10.2 Minutes of the Walcha & District Beautification & Tidy Towns Committee Meeting held at Council Chambers on Wednesday 07 April 2021.	WO/2021/01310

11. Delegate Reports

11.1 Minutes of the Central Northern Regional Library Meeting held at Tamworth Regional Council on Wednesday 21 April 2021.	WI/2021/06847
---	---------------

12. Questions with Notice

Nil.

13. Reports to be Considered in Closed Council

13A Referral to Closed Council – Evaluation of Tenders for Supply of Quarry Materials AND Supply and Delivery of Bulk Fuel T10222NEC	WO/2021/01916
--	---------------

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

13.1 Evaluation of Tenders for Supply of Quarry Materials	WINT/2021/04737
13.2 Evaluation of Tenders for Supply and Delivery of Bulk Fuel – T102122NEC	WINT/2021/04707

Resolution to move into Open Council.

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



Present:

Leave of Absence:

Confirmation of the Ordinary Meeting Minutes held on Wednesday, 28 April 2021:

Confirmation of the ExtraOrdinary Meeting Minutes held on Friday, 14 May 2021:

Matters arising from the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on Wednesday, 28 April 2021:

Matters arising from the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on Friday, 14 May 2021:



Item 2: Previous Minutes



ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL

held on

Wednesday, 28 April 2021

at

3.00pm

at

Walcha Council Chambers

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

IN ATTENDANCE: Mr Christopher Weber – Interim General Manager, Mrs LJ Latham – Director Environment & Development, Mr PR Murray – Director Infrastructure and Mrs EL Hobbs – Executive Assistant.

1. LEAVE OF ABSENCE:

220 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Heazlett and Ferrier that the Leave of Absence received from Clr Kealey, being away due to family commitments, the Leave of Absence received from Clr Kermode, being away due to family commitments, and the Leave of Absence ,being away due to personal commitments, Clr Lyon be **ACCEPTED**.

MINUTES



2. CONFIRMATION OF THE ORDINARY MEETING MINUTES HELD ON WEDNESDAY 31 MARCH 2021:

221 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Ferrier and Wellings that the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on Wednesday, 31 March 2021, copies of which have been distributed to all members, be taken as read and confirmed a **TRUE** record.

3. BUSINESS ARISING

Nil.

PUBLIC FORUM

Members of the Public spoke regarding Item 6.1 Development Application 10.2020.3 – Brooklyn / 1643 Oxley Highway Walcha Road – Basalt Quarry:

1. Janet Norton
2. James Norton
3. Matthew Goodwin

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Item 6.3 Request to Waive Excess Water Charges for Walcha Bowling Club

Clr Ferrier declared a pecuniary interest in this matter due to the fact that he is the Treasurer of the Bowling Club.

Item 6.6 Walcha Preschool Advisory Committee Parent Nominations

Clr Blomfield declared a non-pecuniary non-significant interest in this matter as the applicant is married to his cousin.

5. MAYORAL MINUTE

5.1 Process and Selection Panel for the Recruitment of General Manager

WO/2021/01538

222 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Wellings and Ferrier that Council:

1. **RECEIVE** and **NOTE** the Mayoral Minute;
2. **ENDORSE** the process being undertaken to recruit the new General Manager; and
3. **ENDORSE** Council's Selection Panel.

5.2 Vale Bev Betts

It was with great sadness that the Walcha community learnt of the passing of Bev Betts. A passionate support and promotor of Walcha, her input into the Beautification of Walcha and its surrounds will certainly leave a void. The Betts family business continues to promote Walcha's beauty across Australia. Whenever I



spoke to Bev she had a positive and will do attitude and always had the ability to inspire and to achieve. To Peter, Elizabeth, Chris and family Walcha Council offers our condolences and support.

Clr Eric Noakes
Mayor of Walcha

223 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Mayor Noakes that the Mayoral Minute as read and submitted be **ADOPTED** by Council.

6. SENIOR OFFICERS REPORT

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

6.1 Development Application 10.2020.3 – Brooklyn / 1643 Oxley Highway Walcha Road – Basalt Quarry WO/2021/01327

225 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Wellings that Council approve Development Application 10.2020.3 for a basalt rock quarry with a maximum extraction rate of 29,000m³ per annum on Lot 103 DP 753846, Lot 2 DP 1173956, Lots 46 and 47 DP 1082562 known as 1643 Oxley Highway, Walcha Road, as per the development conditions listed within the Development Assessment Report with the amendments to the following conditions:

- Condition 16 to read:

“Prior to shipping any quarry product off site, a Typical Rural Access Standards – Articulated Driveways access is to be constructed at the location at approximately 150m west of the existing access.”

- Condition 19 is to be deleted.
- Condition 22 to read:

“The existing access is to be closed upon completion and the commencement of use of the new access.”

- Condition 35 to read:

“The hours of operation must be limited to 8am to 5pm Monday to Friday and no work is to be carried out on Saturdays, Sundays or Public Holidays.”

Being a Planning Matter a **Division** was called prior to voting on this matter and the result was as follows:

For: Councillors: Blomfield, Ferrier, Heazlett, Noakes and Wellings

Against: Nil.

Absent: Councillors: Kealey, Kermode and Lyon.

Declared Interest: Nil.



6.2 Request for Donation of Topsoil for Woolbrook Public School Gardens
WO/2021/01375

226 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Ferrier and Wellings that Council approve to donate a small tipper truck load of topsoil to Woolbrook Public School for their gardens.

6.3 Request for Waiver of Excess Water Charges for Walcha Bowling Club
WO/2021/01449

This item will be deferred to May 2021 due to lack of a quorum as Cllr Ferrier has a pecuniary interest in this matter.

6.4 Grant Program Update **WO/2021/01141**

227 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Wellings and Blomfield that Council:

1. Amend the budget allocations to the following Local Roads & Community Infrastructure projects at the next Quarterly Budget Review to ensure all projects are appropriately funded within the total grant of \$1,067,914:
 - a) McHattan Park works to improve access and facilities - \$58,000
 - b) Construct Levee Bank Pedestrian Underpass - \$20,000
 - c) Improve Walcha Preschool Access Road - \$6,000
 - d) Level Footpath Area at Lions Park - \$25,000
 - e) Walcha Preschool – Air Conditioning - \$15,000
 - f) Walcha Gym Security– Install CCTV- \$6,200
 - g) Walcha Gym – Improve Signage - \$6,000
 - h) Electrical Safety Upgrades – Complete High Priority Works- \$114,714 or any available under expenditure of the Local Roads & Community Infrastructure program.
 - i) Walcha Gym – external painting - \$25,000
2. Amend the budget allocations to the following Bushfire Recovery Funded projects at the next Quarterly Budget Review to ensure all projects are appropriately funded within the total grant of \$1,275,000:
 - a) Rebuild Approval Process Subsidy for bushfire impacted properties - \$4,000
 - b) Kangaroo Flat Road – Removal of fire debris - \$7,500
 - c) Forest Way Road – Sealing works – \$275,728

6.5 Request for Annual Hall Subsidy Contribution **WO/2021/01406**

228 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Wellings and Blomfield that Council approve the Annual Hall Subsidy Contribution of \$500 per Hall to the Ingleba and Tia Public Hall Committees.



6.6 Walcha Preschool Advisory Committee Parent Nominations

WO/2021/01438

Clr Blomfield declared a non-significant non-pecuniary interest in this matter and remained in the Chamber.

229 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Heazlett and Wellings that Council **APPOINT** Kate King to the Walcha Preschool Advisory Committee.

7. NOTICES OF MOTION

Nil.

8. MATTERS OF URGENCY

Nil.

9. MANAGEMENT REVIEW REPORTS

9.1 Office of the General Manager

WO/2021/01401

230 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Heazlett and Wellings that items included in the Office of the General Manager Management Review Report be **NOTED** by Council.

9.2 Infrastructure

WO/2021/01332

231 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Heazlett and Wellings that items included in the Infrastructure Management Review Report be **NOTED** by Council.

9.3 Environment & Development

WO/2021/01404

232 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Ferrier and Wellings that items included in the Environment & Development Management Review Report be **NOTED** by Council.

9.4 Community & Tourism

WO/2021/01410

233 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Heazlett and Ferrier that items included in the Community & Tourism Management Review Report be **NOTED** by Council.

10. COMMITTEE REPORTS

10.1 Minutes of the Walcha Council Motorcycle Rally Committee Meeting held at the Council Chambers on Thursday, 11 March 2021. WO/2021/01156

234 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Ferrier and Wellings that Council **RECEIVE** and **NOTE** the Committee Reports as presented.



11. DELEGATE REPORTS

11.1 DRAFT Minute of the New England County Council Meeting held at the Armidale Office on Tuesday 9 March 2021. WI/2021/03552

11.2 Minutes of the Walcha & District Historical Society Inc Meeting held on Saturday 27 March 2021 at the Caretakers Cottage. WI/2021/05857

11.3 Minutes of the Walcha Community Centre Management Committee General Meeting held on Tuesday, 30 March 2021. WI/2021/04914

11.4 DRAFT Minutes of the Namoi Unlimited Joint Organisation Board Meeting held at Gunnedah Shire Council on Tuesday, 6 April 2021. WI/2021/05054

235 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Heazlett and Wellings that Council **RECEIVE** and **NOTE** the Delegates Reports as presented.

12. QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Nil.

13. CLOSED COUNCIL

Nil.

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS THE CHAIRMAN DECLARED THE MEETING CLOSED AT 4:05PM.



EXTRAORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL

held on

Friday, 14 May 2021

at

2:30pm

at

Walcha Council Chambers

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

IN ATTENDANCE: Mr Christopher Weber – Interim General Manager, Mr Stephen Blackadder – Director of Blackadder Associates and Mrs EL Hobbs – Executive Assistant.

1. LEAVE OF ABSENCE:

Nil.

MINUTES



2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Nil.

3. SENIOR OFFICERS REPORT

Nil.

4. CLOSED COUNCIL

**4A Referral to Closed Council – Recruitment and Appointment of General Manager
WO/2021/01712**

216 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Kealey and Ferrier that, in accordance with the provisions of Section 10A(2)(a) of the Local Government Act, 1993, the matter of Recruitment and Appointment of General Manager be referred to be discussed in Closed Council for the reason that the report relates to personnel matters concerning particular individuals (other than Councillors).

CLOSED COUNCIL MEETING:

217 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Kealey and Heazlett that Council resolve into Closed Council and that the press and public be excluded from the entire proceedings of the Meeting of the Closed Council Meeting for the reason that the report relates to personnel matters concerning particular individuals (other than Councillors).

218 The Meeting resumed in **OPEN** Council on the Motion of Councillors Kealey and Wellings.

The Mayor reported whilst in Closed Council the following matter/s were discussed with the following resolution/s.

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.

4.1 *Mayoral Minute – Recruitment and Appointment of General Manager*

WINT/2021/04506

CC50/20202021 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Heazlett and Kermode that:

1. *The Report by the Recruitment Consultant, Stephen Blackadder, on the recruitment and selection of a new General Manager for the Walcha Council be **RECEIVED** and **NOTED**.*
2. *The Preferred Candidate selected by the Council in Closed Council Session after the final interviews conducted on 14 May 2021 be offered the position of General Manager at Walcha Council and the Mayor and Deputy Mayor, with advice from the Recruitment Consultant, be authorised to finalise negotiations based on the provisions outlined in Council’s report with the following variation:*



-
- a. *That the General Manager's house be offered at a market rate negotiated with a local real estate agent.*
 3. *No public announcement of the name of the successful candidate be made until the Mayor has obtained a written acceptance of the offer from the Preferred Candidate.*
 4. *The Employment Contract between the appointee and the Council be executed under the Common Seal of the Council **FURTHER THAT** be attested to by the Mayor and the Deputy Mayor.*
 5. *That the Council thank the members of the Recruitment Panel for their diligence and commitment in overseeing the recruitment process.*
 6. *Council maintain the confidentiality of the documents and considerations in respect of the General Manager recruitment process.*

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS THE CHAIRMAN DECLARED THE MEETING CLOSED AT 3:28PM.



Item 3:
Business
Arising from
Previous
Minutes



Item 4:

Declarations of Interest



Item 5: Mayoral Minute



There was no Mayoral Minute available for May
2021 at time of print.



Item 6:

Senior Officers' Reports



Item: 6.1 **Ref:** WO/2021/01431
Title: Quarterly Review of Operational Plan & Budget as at March 2021
Author: General Manager
Previous Items: Not Applicable
Attachment: Quarterly Budget Review Statements – under separate cover

Community Strategic Plan Reference:

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

RECOMMENDATION: That Council

1. **ADOPT** the March 2021 Quarterly Budget Review Statements; and
2. **APPROVE** the variations in Income and Expenditure votes as detailed in this report.

March 2021 Quarter Budget Review

The March Quarter Budget Review is attached for adoption by Council.

General Fund

The amended 2020-2021 budget predicted an Operating Surplus of \$11,563,462 and an overall Cash Deficit of \$177,790. After current quarter budget adjustments the result is now predicted to be an Operating Surplus of \$18,239,595 (including Capital Funding) and an overall Cash Deficit of \$666,578. The budget review includes expenses of \$488,788 that are not offset by funding or reduction in other expenses.

Attachments provide QBR financial detail with variances summarised below.

Budget variations impacting Working Funds are as follows:

Income Item	Variance \$	Explanation
Private Works – Storm Damage	359,108	SH11 fully recoverable, TBW & Local Roads partially funded
	359,108	

Expenditure Item	Variance \$	Explanation
Administration operations	35,000	New GM recruitment
	55,624	Workers Compensation Insurance
	160,168	Additional Admin Wages
	7,222	Professional Indemnity/Public Risk Insurance
	135,000	Admin Consultants & Contractors
	35,985	Printing & Copying Charges (Lease Expenses)
	3,500	Engineering Mobile Phone Charges
Parks & Reserves Expenses	20,000	Street Bin Collection Costs
Private Works – Storm Damage	395,397	\$36,289 funding shortfall (TBW & Local Roads)
	847,896	
Working Funds Result	488,788	



Budget variations with offsets are as follows:

Operating

Inc/Exp	Budget Item	Variance	Explanation
Exp.	Summer Break Activities	10,000	Funded – Regional NSW Summer Break
Inc.	Youth Activities Funding	10,000	
Exp.	Walcha Swap Meet	10,000	Funded – Festival of Place – Summer Fund
Exp.	Motorcycle Rally Billboard	20,000	Funded – Destination Country & Outback NSW
Inc.		30,000	
Exp.	Preschool Disability Inclusion Program	15,180	Funded
Inc.		15,180	
Exp.	NSW Portal Planning Implementation	50,000	Funded
Inc.		50,000	
Exp.	Walcha Community Gym	12,000	Estimated operating costs
Inc.	Membership Fees	12,000	

Capital

Inc/Exp	Budget Item	Variance \$	Explanation
Inc.	Local Roads & Community Infrastructure	274,914	LRCI Phase 2 (balance of \$476,914)
Exp.	Community Gym Upgrade	120,700	Electrical/security/signage/painting
Exp.	Truck Wash Bay Project	50,000	Adjustment to previous review, was \$202,000 should be \$252,000
Exp.	Electrical Safety Upgrades	104,214	Buildings to be determined
Inc.	Swimming Pool Capital works	1,100,000	BLER funding
Exp.		1,100,000	Fully funded
LRCI Phase 1 – adjustments to approved program			
Exp.	McHattan Park Access	12,000	Increase scope
Exp.	Blue Hogan Bridge Pedestrian Underpass	-40,000	Project cancelled
Exp.	Blue Hogan Bridge Pedestrian Fencing	27,000	Increase scope
Exp.	Preschool Access Road Upgrade	-14,000	Project complete
Exp.	Preschool Airconditioning zone 2	15,000	Additional project
Exp.	Sealed Roads Timber Bridges	514,250	Fully Funded
Exp.	Unsealed Roads Timber Bridges	3,872,934	Fully Funded
Inc.	Sealed Road Bridges Funding	488,537	Fixing Country Bridges
		25,713	Roads to Recovery
Inc.	Unsealed Road Bridges Funding	3,679,287	Fixing Country Bridges
		193,647	Roads to Recovery
Exp.	Urban Roads – Shared Pathways	473,478	Fully Funded
Inc.		476,478	Priority Cycleways



Inc/Exp	Budget Item	Variance \$	Explanation
Exp.	Middle Street Rehabilitation	495,000	Fully Funded
Inc.		371,250	Fixing Local Roads
		123,750	Roads to Recovery
Exp.	Walsh Street Rehabilitation	332,750	Fully Funded
Inc.		332,750	Fixing Local Road
Exp.	Yalgoo Rest Area – project cancelled	-200,810	50/50 funded – Block Grant/HSVPP
Exp.	TBW Corridor Strategy	100,405	Apply Block Grant to project
Inc.	HSVPP funding	-100,405	Remove

Water Fund

The amended 2020-21 budget predicted an Operating Surplus of \$1,335,971 with an overall cash surplus of \$120,186. After budget adjustments the Water Fund is forecast to have a slightly reduced cash surplus of \$115,023.

Income Item	Variance \$	Explanation
Grant Funding – Operating	-40,352	ACWSP training & employment
Grant Funding – Capital	150,000	Off Stream Storage, milestone 1 (DWS091 DPIE)
	109,648	

Expense Item	Variance \$	Explanation
ACWSP employee costs	-35,189	ACWSP training & employment
Off Stream Storage, milestone 1	150,000	Capital Project
	114,811	

Sewer Fund

The amended 2020-21 budget predicted an Operating Surplus of \$78,341 and an overall Cash Deficit of \$88,667. After budget adjustments the Sewer Fund is forecast to have a slightly increased Cash Deficit of \$94,001.



Item: 6.2 **Ref:** WO/2021/01855
Title: 2021 – 2022 DRAFT Operational Plan
Author: General Manager
Previous Items: Not Applicable
Attachment: Under Separate Cover: 2021-2022 Draft Operational Plan

Community Strategic Plan Reference:

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

Strategy – 8.2.1 – Maintain a stable and secure financial structure for Council.

RECOMMENDATION: That:

- 1. The Draft 2021-2022 Operational Plan be placed on public exhibition in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Act 1993, Section 402 (6), 404(4) and 405(3);**
 - 2. The Draft Budget for the year 2021-2022 be placed on public exhibition for a period of 28 days; and**
 - 3. A further report be provided to Council at the completion of the public exhibition period outlining any submissions received and for Council’s final adoption of the 2021-2022 Operational Plan and Budget.**
-

The Draft Operational plan and Budget for FY22 is submitted for Council’s consideration. The Plan is presented in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Act, 1993.

2021-2022 DRAFT OPERATIONAL PLAN and BUDGET

(1) GENERAL FUND

The Draft Budget is presented with a projected cash surplus of \$8,900 and an operating deficit of \$1,755,200 (excluding capital grants). To achieve this position, the maximum permissible General Rate increase of 2.0% has been incorporated.

The Draft Budget provides for total operating expenses of \$12,149,000 and total operating revenues of \$14,051,000 which provides an operating surplus of \$1,902,000. When capital items and depreciation are considered there is an underlying cash surplus of \$8,900.

a) Rating Levels

It is recommended that Council adopt the maximum permissible General Rate increase of 2.00% and apply the maximum rate of interest on overdue rates and charges of 6% as set by the Office of Local Government.

b) Borrowings

No new borrowing is proposed in the current draft FY21 budget. Loan Repayments have been included on existing loans for Woolbrook Bridge \$600K and the Garbage Transfer Station \$152K. The loan interest for the Woolbrook Bridge Loan is offset by a



4% interest rate subsidy funded under the Office of Local Governments Local Infrastructure Renewal Scheme (LIRS). The repayment of the garbage loan has been factored into the cost base to be recovered by the garbage rates.

c) Waste Management

The Local Government Act, 1993 requires that Waste Management is treated as a separate function and that all monies raised for this purpose are spent on this function. There is to be no cross subsidisation. The Act also requires that a separate charge be levied for the service.

The proposed Waste Management charges for 2021-2022 can be seen in the attached Fees and Charges document.

d) Fees and Charges

The Statement of Fees and Charges, which Council proposes to levy, is attached as an appendix to this report, within the Draft 2021-2022 Operational Plan. This Statement incorporates Council's pricing policy in respect of these charges.



f) Capital Expenditure

Below is a list of the proposed capital expenditure items for 2021-2022.

Function	Description	Type of Capital Expenditure	Amount	Own Source Revenue	Grant Funding	Source of Funding
Administration	Council Admin Building – internal upgrade	Renewal	10,000	10,000		General Fund
Housing & Community Amenities	Streetscape	Renewal	10,000	10,000		General Fund
Recreation & Culture	Public Art	New	20,000	20,000		General Fund
Recreation & Culture	Park renewals	Renewal	50,000	50,000		General Fund
Recreation & Culture	Town Christmas Decorations	New	1,000	1,000		General Fund
Transport & Communications	Urban Roads – Heavy Patching	New	75,000	75,000		General Fund
Transport & Communications	Urban Roads – Reseals	New	75,000	75,000		General Fund
Transport & Communications	Urban Roads – Kerb & Gutter Renewals	New	30,000	30,000		General Fund
Transport & Communications	Urban Roads – Footpath Renewals	Renewal	20,000	20,000		General Fund
Transport & Communications	Regional Sealed Roads – Corridor Strategy Project Thunderbolts Way Segment 4370	Renewal	141,800		141,800	Repair Grant
Transport & Communications	Regional Sealed Roads – Corridor Strategy Project Thunderbolts Way Segment 4540	Renewal	349,100		349,100	Block Grant
Transport & Communications	Regional Sealed Roads – Corridor Strategy Project Thunderbolts Way Segment 4370	Renewal	1,795,100		1,795,100	Fixing Country Roads
Transport & Communications	Regional Sealed Roads – Thunderbolts Way Reseal and Line Marking	Renewal	1,475,700		1,475,700	Fixing Country Roads



Function	Description	Type of Capital Expenditure	Amount	Own Source Revenue	Grant Funding	Source of Funding
Transport & Communications	Regional Sealed Roads – Thunderbolts Way – Shoulder Grading and Line Marking	Renewal	244,600		244,600	Fixing Country Roads
Transport & Communications	Regional Sealed Roads – Heavy Patching	Renewal	150,000		150,000	Block Grant
Transport & Communications	Sealed Local Rural Roads – Culvert renewals	Renewal	25,000	25,000		General Fund
Transport & Communications	Sealed Local Rural Roads – Heavy Patching	Renewal	75,000	75,000		General Fund
Transport & Communications	Sealed Local Rural Roads - Reseals	Renewal	100,000	100,000		General Fund
TOTAL			5,936,000	1,780,000	4,156,300	



(2) WALCHA WATER SUPPLY LOCAL FUND

The Draft Budget for Water Supply is presented with a projected cash result of deficit \$7,700 and an operating deficit of \$138,500.

The Draft Budget provides for total operating expenses of \$965,100 and total operating revenues of \$826,600 which provides an operating deficit of \$138,500. There is \$8,145,000 in capital grants in the budget.

When depreciation and capital items are taken into account the budget provides for a surplus cash operating result of \$7,700.

A detailed condition assessment of the water treatment plant media filters was completed during the 2020-2021 year identifying that this asset is nearing the end of its useful life. The increase to charges for 2021-2022 are attributed to funds that will be required to replace critical infrastructure at our water treatment plant along with increased costs associated with the off creek facility to be constructed. Council has considered the current climate of drought, bushfires and COVID-19 and have proposed the minimum possible increase to support this work. Further asset assessment will be required in future years to appropriately ensure the Water fund has adequate resources to maintain the assets within its portfolio.

a) Charges

Rate increases for water include a 10% water usage increase and a 10% water access charge increase. All details of proposed changes are included in the Revenue Policy Statement within the Operational Plan.

b) Borrowings

In 2016-2017 Council approved an internal loan from the General Fund to the Water Fund for \$100,000. Principal and interest repayments are included in the draft budget.

Council is in the process of assessing the potential for borrowing funds to replace critical infrastructure at the water treatment plant and for Councils contribution to the Off Creek Storage project. The details and scale of these borrowings are not yet confirmed. Detailed submissions will be provided to Council for review and resolution prior to any borrowings being undertaken in 2021-2022.

c) Capital Expenditure

Below is a list of the proposed capital expenditure items for 2020-2021.

Description	Type of Cap Exp	Amount \$	Reserve	Grant Funding	Source of Funding
Water Main Renewals	Renewal	525,000	525,000	-	Water Fund
Off Creek Storage	New	9,050,000	905,000	8,145,000	Grants Water Fund
TOTAL		9,575,000	1,430,000	8,145,000	



(3) WALCHA SEWERAGE LOCAL FUND

The Draft Budget for Sewer Services is presented with a projected cash result of deficit \$1,300 and an operating deficit of \$27,400.

The Draft Budget provides for total operating expenses of \$497,000 and total operating revenues of \$470,000 which provides an operating deficit of \$27,400. There are no capital grants in the budget.

When depreciation and capital items are taken into account the budget provides for a deficit cash operating result of \$1,300.

a) Charges

Rate increases of approximately 2% have been applied in calculating the sewer fund revenue. All details of proposed changes are included in the Revenue Policy Statement within the Operational Plan.

b) Borrowings

There are no current loans or future plans for borrowing in 2020-2021 to support the Sewer Fund.

c) Capital Expenditure

Below is a list of the proposed capital expenditure items for 2020-2021.

Function	Description	Type of Cap Exp	Amount \$	Reserve	Grant Funding	Source of Funding
Sewer	Sewer relining	Renewal	200,000	200,000		Sewer Fund
TOTAL			200,000	200,000		



Item: 6.3 **Ref:** WO/2021/01449
Title: Request for Waiver of Excess Water Charges for Walcha Bowling Club
Author: General Manager
Previous Items: Not Applicable
Attachment: Yes – Letter from Walcha Bowling Club

Community Strategic Plan Reference:
Strategy: 8.2.1 – Maintain a stable and secure financial structure for Council.

RECOMMENDATION: That Council:

- 1. Decline the request to waive excess Water Charges of \$2,101.09, and**
 - 2. Agree to enter into a payment plan for the Walcha Bowling Club to make payment of the excess water charges of \$2,101.09.**
-

Introduction:

Council received a letter from Walcha Bowling Club requesting that Council reduce excess charges by \$2,101.09.

Report:

During January 2021 the Walcha Bowling Club experienced a leakage at the Club under the concrete driveway accessing the loading dock. This leakage went unnoticed for a period of time as the water seeped under the footpath and into the gutter some distance from the clubhouse. This leakage has contributed to the club receiving an excess water charge \$2,101.09.

The Walcha Bowling Club are seeking to have this charged waived and have written their request in response to the Meeting. Copy of letter attached.

Whilst it is agreed this is an unfortunate situation, if approved, this would set a precedent that Council would not be able to consistently follow. It is proposed that a suitable alternative would be to enter into a payment plan with the Walcha Bowling Club to allow them to pay off this invoice over a longer than usual timeframe that will reduce the impact of this debt on the business.

Legal Implications:

There are no legal implications for this report.

Financial Implications:

There are no financial implications for this report.

Environmental Implications:

There are no environmental implications for this report.

Social Implications:

With an appropriate payment plan, there are no social implications for this report.



Policy Implications:

There are no policy implications for this report.

Attachment:

General Manager
Walcha Council
2W Hamilton Street
Walcha. NSW. 2354

During the “Shut Down” period in 2020, because of restrictions imposed as a result of the Corona virus epidemic, Walcha Bowling and Recreation Club closed for a period of time. The Club then received an excessive water invoice dated 05/08/2020 for the amount of \$1204.67. This amount was due to a water leakage at the Club at a time when no staff members or administration personnel were in attendance to notice the leakage. This amount was subsequently paid by the Club.

On or around early January 2021 another leakage occurred at the Club under the concrete driveway accessing the loading dock. This leakage went unnoticed for a period of time as the water seeped under the footpath and into the gutter some distance from the clubhouse. Both incidents required a plumber to locate and repair the problems. The amount for the invoice relating to the later incident was \$2101.09.

The Board of Directors of Walcha Bowling and Recreation Club understand that it is the responsibility of the Club to make good the full amount of the invoice, but would greatly appreciate favourable consideration be given by Walcha Council to agree to a reduction to the amount of \$2101.09 for this current invoice. Like others in the local community that are experiencing difficult times and perhaps in future times with changes to Job Keeper and Job Seeker, we depend on all finances available for us to continue to operate.

Kind Regards

Tony Asmus
President
Walcha Bowling and Recreation Club
14E Croudace Street
Walcha. NSW. 2354



Item: 6.4 **Ref:** WO/2021/01807
Title: Request for Event Seed Funding – Two Wheel Tours
Author: Director Community and Tourism
Previous Items: Not Applicable
Attachment: WI/21/7103

Community Strategic Plan Reference:

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

RECOMMENDATION: That Council APPROVE the request of \$10,000 to support the establishment of a Walcha Two Wheel Tour event.

Purpose:

To assist with the development and implementation of marketing and promotional activities culminating in cycling events which will add to the existing tourism opportunities in the Walcha Council area.

Introduction:

twowheeltours in 2015 initiated the Bowral Classic, an annual road cycling event which hosts 3,300 riders each October. They are a major Australian based cycling tourism and events firm. Since 2009, *twowheeltours* has been led by Will Levy, who is well known both in Australia and overseas, for the creation and implementation of cycling planning, major events and bike touring adventures. *twowheeltours* has 10+ years experience in developing cycling tourism activities. <https://twowheeltours.com.au/>

Report:

twowheeltours has approached Council for initial financial support to develop and implement marketing and promotional activities culminating in cycling events in the Walcha Council area. They propose to visit the Walcha area in May 2021 to meet with tourism staff and to drive as many of the roads in order to conduct an “audit” which will critically assess the existing roads for the proposed bike event. An amount of \$5,000 has been requested per year, for a minimum of 2 years to establish the event. If the event is successful the aim is for it to be self sufficient once established.

The potential event would encompass; gravel riding; mountain biking and flat bar / leisure riding. They will also meet with local riders to gain their perspective on suitable areas and potential courses. There is no fee associated with this visit. Once suitable routes have been identified for the event and proposed dates for 2022, they will begin to gather content so that marketing and promotion of the event can commence. *twowheeltours* will aim to hold the initial biking event in late first quarter of 2022 or late 3rd quarter.



Once the event is approved by Council *twowheeltours* will manage and run the event covering all aspects of approvals, staffing, Risk Assessment, Health and Safety, registration and on-line bookings. The event will use the existing Council infrastructure and will help create a sustainable and revenue generating “Cycling Tourism” industry in the area, providing a year-round nature-based activity as another key experience in the region. It will also provide an opportunity for local businesses to adopt additional cycling required services thus creating incremental revenue generation and resulting higher employment opportunities

Policy Implications:

There are no separate policy implications arising from this report.

Legal Implications:

There are no legal implications.

Financial Implications:

The amount of \$10,000 is requested from Council.

The current internal restriction of \$20,000 for tourism / event seed funding is available for Council is recommended to be used to allocate funds from to this project. \$3,305 has been allocated to the Walcha Swap Meet, leaving \$16,695 available for allocation.

Environmental Implications:

There are no environmental implications arising from this report.

Social Implications:

This event brings another event to our Community and will also attract visitors throughout the year.



Item: 6.5 **Ref:** WO/2021/01806
Title: Walcha Motorcycle Rally Advisory Committee Nominations
Author: Director Community & Tourism
Previous Items: Not Applicable
Attachment: WI/21/6494 & WI/21/6517

Community Strategic Plan Reference:

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

RECOMMENDATION: That Council

- 1. Change the terms of reference for the Motorcycle Rally Advisory Committee to allow up to 6 community members.**
 - 2. APPOINT Kim Barnet and Andy Burwell to the Walcha Motorcycle Rally Advisory Committee.**
-

Report:

The Motorcycle Rally Advisory Committee currently consists of three to five community members. Following the resignation of one committee member applications were called for new members to join.

Applications were received from Kim Barnet and Andy Burwell and both applicants would be welcomed onto the committee. Should both applications be accepted the number of committee members will be six (6) and this would require a change to the committee composition. The Tourism Manager has requested that both applicants be accepted and the number of committee members allowed be increased to six(6).

The reasons for increasing the number and accepting both nominations are:

- The focus of the motorcycle rally has shifted to include off-road bikes
- Kim Barnett and Andy Burwell represent the off-road bike riders
- Both Kim and Andy have been attending the meetings as invited guests to help organise the off-road sections of the rally.

Legal Implications:

There are no legal implications for this report.

Financial Implications:

There are no financial implications for this report.

Environmental Implications:

There are no environmental implications for this report.

Social Implications:

There are no social implications for this report.



Policy Implications:

This report requests the alteration of the terms of reference to the Committee Membership terms which currently states:

“Membership comprises one Councillor, the General Manager, the Tourism Manager, the Tourism Officer and three to five (3-5) community members”

To

“Membership comprises one Councillor, the General Manager, the Tourism Manager, the Tourism Officer and three to six (3-6) community members”



Item: 6.6 **Ref:** WO/2021/01730
Title: Extension of the Central Northern Regional Library Agreement
Author: Director Community & Tourism
Previous Items: Not Applicable
Attachment: WI/2021/07112

Community Strategic Plan Reference:

Strategy: 5.6.1 – Maintain and improve library, sporting and recreational facilities.

RECOMMENDATION That in relation to the report “Central Northern Regional Library Agreement”, Council:

- i. receive and note the minutes from the CNRL Ordinary Meeting held 21 April 2021;**
 - ii. approve the extension of the current CNRL Library Agreement for a further five-year period; and**
 - iii. approve the Seal of Council be affixed to the Central Northern Regional Library Agreement 2021 FURTHER THAT it be attested to by the Mayor and the General Manager.**
-

Introduction:

This report presents the Minutes from the Central Northern Regional Library (CNRL) Ordinary Meeting held 21 April 2021. The report summarizes the key issues from the minutes, including the proposal to extend the CNRL Regional Library Agreement for a further five years.

Report:

The Central Northern Regional Library Committee met in Tamworth on 21 April 2021. Reports included an update on the library staff re-structure, a Library Co-ordinator’s report and quarterly reports for December 2020 and March 2021.

A new draft five-year strategic plan was presented to the Committee. The plan is divided into six themes;

- Community Building,
- Collaboration,
- Resources,
- Innovation,
- Learning,
- Leadership

The Draft CNRL Strategic Plan 2021-2026 was reviewed and approved by the Committee.

The Central Northern Regional Library Agreement is due for renewal as at 30 June 2021. Tamworth Regional Council is the Executive Council for CNRL, and the delegating Councils consist:

- Gwydir Shire Council,
- Liverpool Plains Shire Council,



- Narrabri Shire Council,
- Uralla Shire Council
- Walcha Council.

The agreement allows for the sharing of library resources, a shared library management system and professional staff to manage the technology and to develop/ implement policies, procedures and programs. The arrangement:

- takes advantage of economies of scale,
- supports systems and opportunities for capacity building
- enhances service delivery.
- builds trust

The Committee recommended the renewal of the Central Northern Regional Library Agreement for a period of five years with the continued provision that Gwydir Shire Council should not be entitled to share in reserves which existed before it became a Delegating Council.

Policy Implications

Nil

Financial Implications

The funding for the provision of the Central Northern Regional Library Agreement and operation is included in the Annual Operational Plan and Delivery Program. The CNRL Agreement sets out the process for determining the CNRL annual budget. The process remains the same as in previous agreements.

Legal Implications

The Central Northern Regional Library Agreement will require the affixing of the Seal of Council. The Local Government (General) Regulation 2005, Section 400(4), requires that the Seal of Council must not be affixed to a document unless the document relates to the business of the council and the council has resolved (by resolution specifically referring to the document) that the seal be so affixed.

Community Consultation

Member Council library staff were consulted in the preparation of the five-year Strategic Plan.

Delivery Program Objective/Strategy

A Spirit of Community – C22 Provide accessible, functional, multi-purpose facilities and spaces suitable for cultural, recreational, learning and information services and activities.

**CENTRAL NORTHERN REGIONAL
LIBRARY**

AGREEMENT

2021

**CENTRAL NORTHERN REGIONAL LIBRARY AGREEMENT
2021**

THIS AGREEMENT is made the first day of July 2021

BETWEEN:

TAMWORTH REGIONAL COUNCIL of 437 Peel Street, Tamworth in the State of New South Wales;

LIVERPOOL PLAINS SHIRE COUNCIL of 60 Station Street, Quirindi in the State of New South Wales;

NARRABRI SHIRE COUNCIL of 46-48 Maitland Street, Narrabri in the State of New South Wales;

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL of 32 Salisbury Street Uralla in the State of New South Wales;

WALCHA COUNCIL of 2 Hamilton Street, Walcha in the State of New South Wales;

AND

GWYDIR SHIRE COUNCIL of 33 Maitland Street, Bingara in the State of New South Wales and 52 Hope Street, Warialda in the State of New South Wales

WHEREAS

- A. On the 1st of July 2010 the Councils identified above (with the exception of Gwydir Shire Council) entered the Central Northern Regional Library Agreement dated 1 July 2010 (“the Regional Library Agreement”).
- B. The Councils of Liverpool Plains Shire, Narrabri Shire, Uralla Shire and Walcha agreed to delegate their powers and duties relating to the provision, control and management of libraries, library services, library services and information services to Tamworth Regional Council and Tamworth Regional Council accepted this delegation.
- C. The Regional Library Agreement recorded the terms upon which the Tamworth Regional Council would provide library services to the Delegating Councils of Liverpool Plains Shire, Narrabri Shire, Uralla Shire and Walcha.
- D. By clause 9.2 of the Regional Library Agreement, the Gwydir Shire Council sought to join the Central Northern Regional Library (“CNRL”) as one of the Delegating Councils and the CNRL Committee approved the request by Gwydir Shire Council to join the CNRL as one of the Delegating Councils by which all parties executed a Variation of the Regional Library Agreement on 1 July 2012.

- E. The Councils who are parties to this Agreement have adopted the *Library Act 1939* (“the Act”) pursuant to Section 8 of the Act.
- F. Councils which have adopted the *Library Act 1939* must comply with and observe the requirements of part 3, Division 2 of the Act. In general terms, these requirements relate to the provision, control and management of library services to the community.
- G. The Councils of Liverpool Plains Shire, Narrabri Shire, Uralla Shire, Walcha and Gwydir Shire (hereafter referred to as “the Delegating Councils”) seek to delegate their powers and duties relating to the provision, control and management of libraries, library services and information services to Tamworth Regional Council. This delegation is made pursuant to section 12(1) of the Act.
- H. Tamworth Regional Council has agreed to accept the delegation and provide library services to the Delegating Councils to the standard required by the Act.
- I. The Parties have recorded the terms upon which the Tamworth Regional Council will provide library services to the Delegating Councils in this Agreement.
- J. All parties to this Agreement expressly agree to the Distribution of Assets outlined in schedule 4 of this Agreement to reflect the introduction of the Gwydir Shire Council to the CNRL on 1 July 2012.

The parties hereby agrees as follows:

1. Name of the Library Services

- 1.1. The library service provided by the Tamworth Regional Council to the Delegating Councils shall be referred to as Central Northern Regional Library (“CNRL”).

2. Delegation of Powers and Duties

- 2.1. For the purposes of section 12(1) of the Act, the Delegating Councils hereby delegate all their powers and duties relating to the provision, control and management of libraries, library services and information services to Tamworth Regional Council. Draft Library Policy documents will be submitted to the CNRL Committee for consultation before being presented to Tamworth Regional Council for adoption.
- 2.2. In consideration of the delegation and the terms of this Agreement, Tamworth Regional Council hereby agrees to provide, control and manage the library services described in Schedule 1 as varied from time-to-time in consultation with the Central Northern Regional Library Committee constituted pursuant to this Agreement.

3. Central Northern Regional Library Committee to be constituted

3.1. In accordance with section 11 of the Act, Tamworth Regional Council shall constitute a library committee which shall be known as the Central Northern Regional Library Committee (CNRL Committee).

3.2. The Central Northern Regional Library Committee shall be constituted as follows:-

- Each delegating Council shall have the right to nominate one person for appointment to the CNRL Committee subject to clause 3.3
- Tamworth Regional Council shall appoint one person to the CNRL Committee in addition to the appointments which may be made in the nominations of the Delegating Councils.

3.3. A Delegating Council which nominates a person for appointment to the Central Northern Regional Library Committee pursuant to clause 3.2, must indemnify Tamworth Regional Council in relation to all claims and liabilities of any description whatsoever, which may be made at any time by the nominated person in connection with the performance of his/her role on the Central Northern Regional Library Committee.

This indemnity shall include (but still not be limited to):-

- Provision of transport or reimbursement for transport costs;
- Claims arising from personal injuries or death of the nominated person or caused by the nominated person when performing the CNRL Committee role.

3.4. The CNRL Committee will meet at least twice per year in November and February, or more frequently if required, to discuss matters of policy and operational issues.

3.5. The Central Northern Regional Library Committee (“the CNRL Committee”) will be subject to the Code of Conduct of Practice and other procedure guidelines and requirements which apply to all Tamworth Regional Council Committees which are established to exercise Council functions under section 355 of the Local Government Act 1993. It is clearly acknowledged and understood by all the parties to this agreement that no bodies created by or under this Agreement are committees established under s 355 of the Local Government Act 1993.

3.6. Each member of the CNRL Committee shall have one vote.

- 3.7. Tamworth Regional Council shall from time to time determine the number of members of the CNRL Committee which shall constitute a quorum at meetings of the Committee.

4. Responsibilities of Tamworth Regional Council

Tamworth Regional Council has the following responsibilities pursuant to this Agreement:

- 4.1. Tamworth Regional Council, as the administering council, will provide control and manage the CNRL Regional Library Service in accordance with the Library Act 1939 (NSW)
- 4.2. Provision of public library services described in schedule 1 at the location as identified in Schedule 2 (as amended from time-to-time with the consent of the Delegating Councils) at a standard recommended by the Library Council of New South Wales.
- 4.3. The development and maintenance of a concise statement of the vision and aims of Central Northern Regional Library.
- 4.4. The preparation, implementation and monitoring of a five year Strategic Plan for the overall direction of the Library Service supported by an annual Management Plan.
- 4.5. The preparation and review of policy statements on relevant aspects of providing the library service (after consultation with the Central Northern Regional Library Committee)
- 4.6. The pursuant of co-operative and collaborative projects with libraries and library systems in the wider library network.
- 4.7. Preparation and adoption of a budget for the operation of the Central Northern Regional Library Service including the determination of the contributions payable by Delegating Councils for the provision of library services each financial year.

5. Budget for Central Northern Regional Library Service

- 5.1. The Central Northern Regional Library budget for each financial year must address the issues identified in Schedule 3.
- 5.2. Tamworth Regional Council is responsible for preparing the budget for the Central Northern Regional Library.

- 5.3. Tamworth Regional Council will use the following process when preparing a budget for the following financial year:
- Tamworth Regional Council must submit a draft budget to the CNRL Committee by 30th November;
 - The CNRL Committee must review the draft budget and provide written comments to Tamworth Regional Council by 15 January;
 - Tamworth Regional Council must review any comments received from the CNRL Committee, and following the incorporation of any amendments which may be required, must forward a copy of the draft budget to each of the Delegating Councils by 28th February;
 - The Delegating Councils must submit any comments they wish to make on the draft budget to Tamworth Regional Council in writing prior to 31st March;
 - Tamworth Regional Council must review the comments submitted by any Delegating Council and make any amendments to the draft budget which Tamworth Regional Council considers appropriate; and
 - The final Central Northern Regional Library budget must be issued to all Delegating Councils by 30th April.

6. Payments by Delegating Councils

- 6.1. The Delegating Councils must make a payment to Tamworth Regional Council in consideration of the Central Northern Regional Library service provided by Tamworth Regional Council pursuant to this Agreement.
- 6.2. The amount payable by each Delegating Council to Tamworth Regional Council shall be determined in each annual budget for the operation of Central Northern Regional Library.
- 6.3. Tamworth Regional Council will issue a tax invoice to each Delegating Council for the annual payment to be made by the Delegating Council.
- 6.4. The Delegating Councils must make the payment within 28 days of receiving a tax invoice issued by Tamworth Regional Council.
- 6.5. In the event of a Delegating Council not making payment as set out in clause 6.4 hereof, then interest will become due and payable at the rate of 3% per annum calculated daily on the outstanding balance.

7. Assets

- 7.1. Tamworth Regional Council shall own the assets acquired from the Central Northern Regional Library's budget subject to the "reimbursement rights" held by each of the Delegating Councils as provided in this Clause.
- 7.2. Tamworth Regional Council must maintain an asset register which records the assets acquired using the Central Northern Regional Library budget.
- 7.3. Upon the termination of this Agreement, proportion of the assets identified in the asset register shall be distributed to the Delegating Councils. The method for determining the asset distribution to each Delegating Council is specified in Schedule 4 to this Agreement.

8. Facilities and Resources provided by Delegating Councils

- 8.1. Each Delegating Council must provide the facilities and resources described in this clause in addition to any other payment or obligation described in this Agreement.
- 8.2. Each Delegating Council must provide the library building(s) identified in Part 2 of Schedule 2 ("the Buildings") which are located within the local government area of that Council. The Delegating Council shall be responsible for all costs associated with the proper and prudent management of the Buildings located in their local government area, including, but not limited to:
 - all maintenance costs associated with the building;
 - all service costs (such as waste, water, power and gas, fire control, security); and
 - all insurance premiums (including premiums for building insurance, public liability insurance, contents insurance).
- 8.3. Each Delegating Council must provide library staff as required to operate the library at the Buildings in their own local government area including all costs of every description associated with their employment, including (but not limited to) salaries, workers compensation, taxes, leave entitlements and superannuation, membership of professional associations, expenses for attendance at relevant conferences and training.
- 8.4. Each Delegating Council shall be responsible for any additional costs associated with the provision of any local library services provided in their local government area by CNRL which are services which are additional to the services provided pursuant to the terms of this Agreement.

- 8.5. Delegating Councils can provide additional library resources in their branches to those budgeted for in the CNRL annual resources budget. Additional resources must meet the Regional Resources Policy and will be catalogued and processed at no additional cost to that Council.

9. Terms of Agreement – Councils joining CNRL

- 9.1. Joining CNRL as a result of Council amalgamation:

Newly amalgamated Councils made up from at least one existing CNRL member Council can be absorbed into CNRL and with contributions remaining at the same rate per capita as for existing councils.

- 9.2. Councils joining CNRL other than as a result of Council amalgamation:

Councils wishing to join CNRL will be considered in the first instance by the CNRL Executive who will conduct a cost benefit analysis and make a recommendation to the CNRL Committee. Where Councils are located outside a 200km radius of Tamworth the contribution per capita for that Council will be calculated to reflect any additional costs incurred in servicing this Council.

10. Terms of Agreement, Withdrawal and Termination

The term of this Agreement shall be 5 years commencing on 1 July 2021 and termination on 30 June 2026.

- 10.1. Voluntary Withdrawal

Any party to this Agreement wishing to end this Agreement before the expiry of the Term must raise concerns leading to this action with the Committee in the first instance. CNRL retains the right to invite a mediator or representative of the State Library of New South Wales to attend discussions. Should discussion fail to resolve issues discussed then written notice must be given to each member Council within CNRL. This notice must specify a period, prior to the date upon which the Agreement will end pursuant to the notice and this period must be determined as follows:

- 10.1.a. If the notice is given between 1st July and 31 October of any financial year, the notice must specify that the Agreement shall end on 30 June in that financial year.
- 10.1.b. If the notice is given between 1st November and 30 June in any financial year, the notice must specify that the Agreement will end no sooner than 30 June in the following financial year or at any agreed later date.

10.1.c. Costs incurred by CNRL as a result of a voluntary withdrawal will be the responsibility of the withdrawing Council. These costs will include but not be limited to, staff redundancy costs, database cleanup, printing and stationery changes and website update.

10.2. Forced Withdrawal

Forced withdrawal as a result of amalgamation with a Council outside of CNRL must be raised with the CNRL Committee for consideration before giving written notice to each other party within CNRL.

10.2.a. If the notice is given between 1st July and 31 October of any financial year, the notice must specify that the Agreement shall end on 30 June in that financial year.

10.2.b. If the notice is given between 1st November and 30 June in any financial year, the notice must specify that the Agreement will end no sooner than 30 June in the following financial year or an agreed later date.

10.2.c. Costs incurred by CNRL as a result of forced withdrawal in this manner will be shared proportionally by all CNRL Councils including the withdrawing Council. Tamworth Regional Council on behalf of CNRL will formally seek financial assistance to cover the cost from the Library Council of NSW.

10.2.d. Forced withdrawal may also occur as a result of misconduct, insolvency or other matters that are brought to the attention of the CNRL Committee. In that event:

10.2.e. Notice will be given to the Delegating Council of the misconduct, insolvency or any other matter considered by the CNRL Committee, and if the notice is given between 1st July and 31 October of any financial year, the notice must specify that the Agreement shall end on 30th June in that financial year.

10.2.f. If the notice referred to in 10.2.e is given between 1st November and 30th June in any financial year, the notice must specify that the Agreement will end no sooner than 30th June in the following financial year or an agreed later date.

10.2.g. Costs incurred by CNRL as a result of forced withdrawal in this manner will be the responsibility of the withdrawing Council. Tamworth

Regional Council on behalf of CNRL may formally seek financial assistance to cover the cost from the Library Council of NSW.

10.3. Non-renewal of CNRL Agreement

10.3.a. All members Councils agree not to continue with agreement:

Where the member councils of CNRL agree not to continue with a CNRL agreement the costs of dissolving CNRL, after distribution of assets, will be met proportionally by CNRL member Councils.

10.3.b. One or more but not all member councils decide not to renew the CNRL agreement:

After distribution of assets has been calculated non renewing Councils must pay for a proportion of the costs attributed to the non-renewal including but not limited to any staff redundancy costs, database clean-up, printing and stationery changes and website update.

11. Dispute Resolution

11.1. If a dispute arises out of or relates to this Agreement, or the breach, termination, validity or subject matter thereof, the parties to this Agreement and the dispute expressly agree to endeavour to settle the dispute co-operatively and in good faith.

11.2. In the event that the parties are unsuccessful in resolving the dispute the parties agree to submit the dispute to arbitration. Any party to the dispute may ask for the dispute to be settled by arbitration. The arbitrator is to be appointed by the Library Council of New South Wales. The Library Council of New South Wales may also determine the dispute to arbitration without receiving an application from any other party.

11.3. The decision of the arbitrator will be final and binding on all the parties to this Agreement.

11.4. All the parties to a dispute must contribute equally to the costs associated with the appointment of an arbitrator and the arbitrator itself. It is anticipated that costs such as the arbitrator's fees, venue hire, arbitrator's transport costs and arbitrator's accommodation costs will be shared equally between the disputing parties. Any individual costs incurred by each party (such as transport, accommodation costs and legal fees) shall be the sole responsibility of the party incurring the cost.

IN WITNESS the parties to this Agreement have hereunto affixed its hand and seal on the day first hereinbefore written.

THE COMMON SEAL OF **TAMWORTH REGIONAL COUNCIL** was hereunto affixed in pursuance of a Resolution duly passed by the said Council

Dated

Signature of authorised officer:

Signature of authorised officer:

Name of authorised officer:

Name of authorised officer:

Position of authorised officer: General Manager

Position of authorised officer: Mayor

THE COMMON SEAL OF **LIVERPOOL PLAINS SHRE COUNCIL** was hereunto affixed in pursuance of a Resolution duly passed by the said Council

Dated

Signature of authorised officer:

Signature of authorised officer:

Name of authorised officer:

Name of authorised officer:

Position of authorised officer: **General Manager**

Position of authorised officer: **Mayor**

THE COMMON SEAL OF **NARRABRI SHIRE COUNCIL** was hereunto affixed in pursuance of a Resolution duly passed by the said Council

Dated

Signature of authorised officer:

Signature of authorised officer:

Name of authorised officer:

Name of authorised officer:

Position of authorised officer: **General Manager**

Position of authorised officer: **Mayor**

THE COMMON SEAL OF **URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL** was hereunto affixed in pursuance of a Resolution duly passed by the said Council

Dated

Signature of authorised officer:

Signature of authorised officer:

Name of authorised officer:

Name of authorised officer:

Position of authorised officer: **General Manager**

Position of authorised officer: **Mayor**

THE COMMON SEAL OF **WALCHA COUNCIL**
was hereunto affixed in pursuance of a Resolution
duly passed by the said Council

Dated

Signature of authorised officer:

Signature of authorised officer:

Name of authorised officer:

Name of authorised officer:

Position of authorised officer: **General Manager**

Position of authorised officer: **Mayor**

THE COMMON SEAL OF **GWYDIR SHIRE COUNCIL** was hereunto affixed in pursuance of a Resolution duly passed by the said Council

Dated

Signature of authorised officer:

Signature of authorised officer:

Name of authorised officer:

Name of authorised officer:

Position of authorised officer: **General Manager**

Position of authorised officer: **Mayor**

SCHEDULE 1

SERVICES PROVIDED BY TAMWORTH REGIONAL COUNCIL

Tamworth Regional Council will engage professional librarians and support staff to undertake the following duties:-

1. Consult with Delegating Councils regarding their library service, through the CNRL Committee as detailed in Section 3 of this Agreement headed "Central Northern Regional Library Committee to be constituted".
2. Plan for and manage all aspects of the regional library service.
3. Provide relevant accounts to each of the Delegating Councils for the provision of library services.
4. Select, purchase, catalogue, process and distribute new library materials within the guidelines of the agreed CNRL Library Resources Policy.
5. Withdraw used library materials in accordance with the CNRL Library Resources Policy.
6. Manage and develop the CNRL Computer Library Management System.
7. Provide a database of all regional library materials held by the Delegating Councils.
8. Provide professional advice on library development, local staffing, buildings, grant applications, library trends, etc.
9. Train staff performing regional services and staff from branch libraries in relevant aspects of library services.
10. Provide resources exchange and delivery services of library materials to and between existing libraries with Delegating Councils.
11. Provide information services, support and research to branch libraries.
12. provide a range of library services to children and young adults.
13. Process reservations and intra library loans.
14. Process inter library loans from libraries outside the CNRL region for branch libraries.
15. Initiate and encourage regional and local library promotion in conjunction with Delegating Councils.
16. Meet as required with Delegating Councils to define and progress library service requirements.
17. Provide minutes of all meetings of the CNRL Committee, audited financial reports and an annual report of the Regional Library Service including a specific report outlining the quality of service within each Delegating Council.
18. Report to Delegating Councils quarterly on the progress of library services.

SCHEDULE 2

LOCATION OF CENTRAL NORTHERN REGIONAL LIBRARY SERVICE POINTS AND DELEGATING COUNCIL RESPONSIBILITIES

Part 1 - Tamworth Regional Council Libraries

- Tamworth City Library, 466 Peel Street, Tamworth NSW 2340
- South Tamworth Library, Robert Street, Tamworth NSW 2340
- Barraba Library, Queen Street, Barraba, NSW 2347
- Kootingal Library, Denman Avenue, Kootingal, NSW 2352
- Manilla Library, Manilla Street, Manilla, NSW 2346
- Nundle Library, Innes Street Nundle, NSW 2340

Part 2 – Delegating Council Libraries

- Quirindi Shire Library, George Street, Quirindi NSW 2343
- Werris Creek Branch Library, 59A Single Street, Werris Creek NSW 2341
- Narrabri Shire Library, 8 Doyle Street, Narrabri NSW 2390
- Boggabri Branch Library, 82 Wee Waa Street, Boggabri NSW 2382
- Wee Waa Branch Library, Rose Street, Wee Waa NSW 2388
- Uralla Shire Library, New England Highway, Uralla NSW 2358
- Bundarra Branch Library (Deposit Station), Court Street, Bundarra NSW 2359
- Walcha Library, Derby Street, Walcha NSW 2354
- Bingara Library, Maitland Street, Bingara NSW 2404
- Warialda Library, 38 Hope Street, Warialda NSW 2402

Part 3 – Delegating Council Responsibilities

Delegating Councils must provide grant acquittals to the Library Council of New South Wales on or before the reporting deadline in order not to prejudice the success of grant applications made on behalf of the regional library service.

SCHEDULE 3

CENTRAL NORTERN REGIONAL LIBRARY BUDGET

Tamworth Regional Council and the Delegating Councils, within the Central Northern Regional Library budget, will cover the cost of:-

Employment costs and overheads for Tamworth Regional Council staff performing work for Central Northern Regional Library, including:-

- Salaries
- Annual Leave
- Training
- Fringe Benefits Tax
- Long Service Leave
- Public Holidays
- Sick Leave
- Superannuation
- Workers Compensation

Operational Overheads, including:-

- Insurances
- Office equipment maintenance and repair
- General expenses
- Postage
- Printing and Stationery
- Rent and share of outgoings (Administration Centre)
- Telephone
- Professional association membership
- Vehicle expenses
- Internal plant hire
- Contribution to Tamworth Regional Council's Corporate Overheads

Exchanges and Deliveries

- Delivery costs

Library Resources

- Library resources – in all formats
- Cataloguing expenses
- Processing of library materials

Promotions and Programs

- General promotion and publicity
- Children and Young Adult Programs

Computer Services

- Computer maintenance and repair
- Software licences and support
- Systems enhancements and upgrades
- Hardware replacement and upgrades
- Systems training
- Communications expenses

Income will be derived from:-

- Contributions from Tamworth Regional Council and Delegating Councils
- State Library subsidies as determined by the Library Council of New South Wales
- Grants (when available)
- Donations
- Contributions from Delegating Councils for Book Week Prizes
- Fees and charges, as recommended by the Committee and published in Tamworth Regional Council and Delegating Councils Annual Management Plans.

SCHEDULE 4

CENTRAL NORTHERN REGIONAL LIBRARY ASSETS

All Library materials, equipment and other assets held by Central Northern Regional Library prior to the execution of this Agreement shall be so held until the termination of this Agreement.

As per Section 7.2 of this Agreement Tamworth Regional Council will maintain an Asset Register which records the assets acquired using the Central Northern Regional Library Budget.

Assets will comprise, but not be limited to:-

- Central Northern Regional Library's furniture and fittings housed in the Administration Building at 466 Peel Street, Tamworth
- Central Northern Regional Library's computerised Library Management System
- Office equipment
- Cash reserves and working funds
- Unexpended Grants held in reserve

Distribution of Assets

1. Subject to clause 2 of this section, upon termination of this Agreement, the net assets, after payment of all liabilities, shall be apportioned between Tamworth Regional Council and the Delegating Councils in the ratio of the respective contributions made by them over the Adjustment Period.
2. Gwydir Shire Council shall not be entitled to share in Reserves which existed before it became a Delegating Council on 1 July 2012.
3. "Adjustment Period" means the period of three years immediately preceding termination or the period between the date of commencement of this Agreement and termination whichever is the lesser.



Item 7:

Notice of Motions



There are no Notice of Motions for
May 2021



Item 8:

Matters of Urgency



This page has been intentionally left blank.



Item 9: Management Review Reports



9.1 OFFICE OF THE GENERAL MANAGER

Ref: WO/2021/01865

Responsible Executive: General Manager

Community Strategic Plan Reference:

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

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

1. FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

1.1 Investment Report Status at 30 April 2021

Report for the investments held in April 2021 is included.

Overdraft Limit

An Overdraft Limit of \$200,000 has been arranged with the National Australia Bank. When utilised an Overdraft Interest Rate of 8.62% applies.



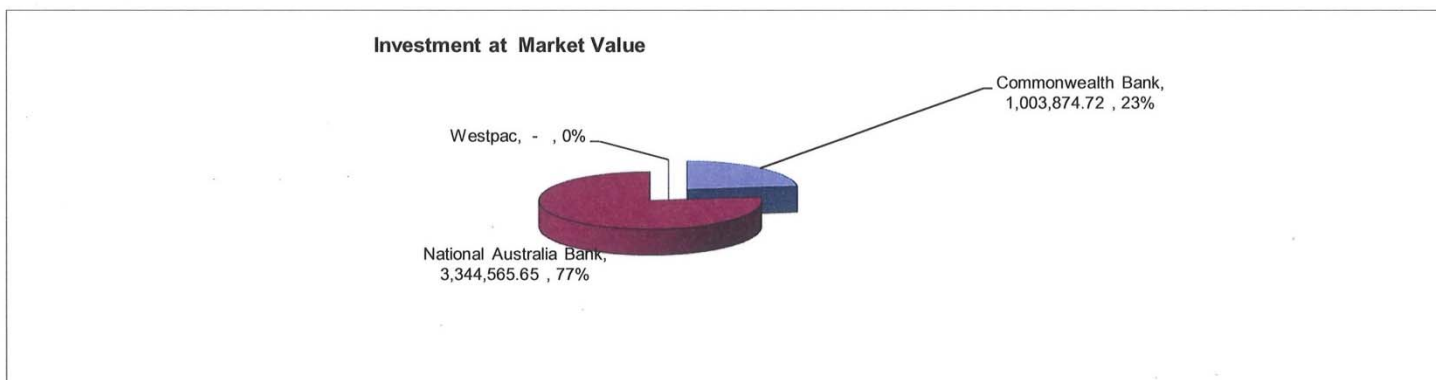
REGISTER OF INVESTMENTS TO 30/04/2021

Institution	Type	Placement Date	Term (Days)	Maturity Date	Interest Rate	Amount Invested	Est. Interest	Est. Market Value At Maturity	YTD Interest	YTD Redemption	MV % of Portfolio	TD Account #
Commonwealth Bank	Term Deposit	2/12/2020	180	31/05/2021	0.46%	501,779.19	1,138.28	502,917.47	1779.19	-	11.54%	37844807/02
National Australia Bank	Term Deposit	11/01/2021	150	10/06/2021	0.38%	252,444.83	394.25	252,839.08	1151.67	-	5.81%	91-951-2554
National Australia Bank	Term Deposit	9/02/2021	150	9/07/2021	0.35%	252,927.29	363.81	253,291.10	1940.98	-	5.82%	91-720-2309
Commonwealth Bank	Term Deposit	9/02/2021	180	8/08/2021	0.35%	502,095.53	866.63	502,962.16	2095.53	-	11.55%	37844807/01
National Australia Bank	Term Deposit	8/03/2021	182	6/09/2021	0.30%	620,379.51	928.02	621,307.53	2727.63	-	14.27%	41-6873-585
National Australia Bank	Term Deposit	15/03/2021	210	11/10/2021	0.31%	530,006.33	945.30	530,951.63	4334.99	-	12.19%	97-227-2676
National Australia Bank	Term Deposit	22/02/2021	270	19/11/2021	0.34%	628,705.71	1,581.25	630,286.96	2250.17	-	14.46%	91-831-7642
National Australia Bank	Term Deposit	19/03/2021	270	14/12/2021	0.32%	552,804.19	1,308.56	554,112.74	5492.61	-	12.71%	
National Australia Bank	Term Deposit	25/03/2021	300	19/01/2022	0.32%	253,347.53	666.34	254,013.87	2065.34	-	5.83%	
National Australia Bank	Term Deposit	22/04/2021	300	16/02/2022	0.32%	253,950.25	667.93	254,618.18	2887.23	-	5.84%	
						4,348,440.36	8,860.37	4,357,300.73	26,725.34	-	100%	

PREVIOUS FINANCIAL YEAR COMPARATIVE DATA: 31/03/2020

Interest Earned YTD **115,563.00**
Market Value of Portfolio **3,556,740.00**

Interest Earned YTD 30/06/2020 **131,153.35**
Market Value of Portfolio 30/06/2020 **4,321,715.04**



Responsible Accounting Officer's Certification Local Government (General) Regulation 2005- Paragraph 212
The investments have been made in accordance with the Act, Regulations and Walcha Council's Investment Policy.

Signed Rosemary Strobel (Responsible Accounting Officer)



9.2 INFRASTRUCTURE:

Ref: WINT/21/4542

Responsible Executive: Director Infrastructure

Community Strategic Plan Reference:

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

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

To improve project reporting, the reporting on all initiated and budgeted projects has been consolidated into one format.

The “Tracking Status” uses a combination of a % percentage to indicate how progressed the project is and a “traffic light” colour indicator to clearly show at a glance the health of a project:

Indicator Colour	Project Status
Green	On Track – Project meeting expectations with regard time, cost and quality.
Yellow	At Risk – Unforeseen issue(s) that may result in either time, cost or quality requirements not being met. Action to mitigate risk is detailed in “Comments” section of report
Red	Off Track – Project will not meet expectations. Implications, risks and mitigation actions are detailed in the “Comments” section of the report.
100%	Completed – Project completed with no further work required



1. Local Road Projects

Funding Source: Bushfire Recovery Grant – Grant agreement requires all works to be completed by 1 June 2022				
Project	Project Start	Planned Completion Date	Tracking Status	Comments
Kangaroo Flat Road –Sealing gravel road, 1.1km from “Kylie” stockyard to homestead	August 2020	November 2020	100%	Works completed.
Brackendale Road – sealing gravel road, 1.5km near Eastern Hills	September 2020	November 2020	100%	Works completed.
Brackendale Road – sealing gravel road between MacLeod Creek to Salway	August 2020	November 2020	100%	Works completed.
Chinnocks Road – widen formation over 500m	November 2020	December 2020	100%	Works completed.
Nuggety Gully – widen formation over 1km	January 2021	February 2021	100%	Works Completed
Replace Old Brookmount Road Bridge located over Emu Creek	February 2021	March 2021	35%	Works have recommenced on site preparation, ready for the install of the box culverts. Expect completion of project in June 2021.
Heavy Vehicle Access Improvement to Brackendale Road Bridge near Lowanna Road	February 2021	February 2021	95%	Approach works have now been completed with only minor vegetation works to be completed by June 2021
Tree Debris – Remove from Kangaroo Flat Road reserve	December 2020	March 2021	100%	Works completed
Forest Way – Cement stabilise and bitumen seal 2.0km of existing gravel road	Oct 2020	June 2021	10%	Culvert replacement works to commence in mid May



Funding Source: Local Roads & Community Infrastructure Grant agreement requires all Initial round works completed by June 2021				
Project	Start Date	Planned Completion	Tracking Status	Comments
Gravel Road Resheeting – Additional \$155,00 to accelerate program to improve wet weather access	Feb 2021	June 2021	100%	Works completed.
Local Roads Resealing – Additional \$200,000 to accelerate program to reduce road maintenance costs	Feb 2021	June 2021	100%	Works completed

Funding Source: 95% Fixing Local Roads and 5% Council General Revenue – Grant agreement requires all works to be completed by June 2022				
Project	Project Start	Planned Completion Date	Tracking Status	Comments
Geraldine Road – Improve curve and seal section 2.4 to 2.82km from Niangala Road	May 2021	June 2021	90%	Pavement works have been completed, minor drainage works still required.
Glen Morrison Road – Rehabilitate and widen existing sealed road to ease curve	March 2021	June 2021	0%	Commencement delayed due to lack of availability of concrete pipes.
Kangaroo Flat Road – Seal section from “Claremont” cattle grid towards Claremont	August 2020	November 2020	100%	Works completed.
Moona Plains Road – Rehabilitation of existing sealed road from “Romavilla” towards Rowleys Creek Road	October 2020	June 2022	25%	Drainage works have been completed and pavement works expected to commence in mid May.



Funding Source: 50% Federal Bridge Renewal Program & 50% Roads to Recovery – All works to be completed by June 2022				
Project	Project Start	Planned Completion Date	Tracking Status	Comments
Moona Plains Road (Moona Plains Station)	January 2020	June 2022	10%	Engineering designs have been completed for all bridges. Works on Englefield Road bridge have been delayed a few weeks due to raised water levels of the Macdonald River but are expected to commence in late May 2021.
Englefield Road Bridge Replacement				
Glen Morrison Road Bridge Replacement (Stephens)				

Funding Source: Fixing Country Roads – Grant agreement requires all work to be completed by December 2020				
Project	Project Start	Planned Completion Date	Tracking Status	Comments
Old Brookmount Bridge Replacement at Dog Trap Creek	October 2019	December 2020	35%	Detailed design now completed, specialist bridge contractor engaged with site work expected to commence in mid May and expected to be completed in June 2021
Nowendoc, Tops & Brackendale Road Intersection Upgrade	October 2019	December 2020	100%	Works completed.
Lakes Road Bridge Replacement	August 2019	September 2020	100%	Works completed.

Funding Source: Roads to Recovery – Grant agreement requires all work to be completed by June 2024				
Project	Project Start	Planned Completion Date	Tracking Status	Comments
Aberbaldie Road Rehabilitation	February 2021	April 2021	100%	Works completed



Funding Source: 95% Fixing Country Bridges & 5% Roads to Recovery – Grant agreement requires all work to be completed by December 2023				
Project	Project Start	Planned Completion Date	Tracking Status	Comments
Army Bridge	March 2021	December 2023	5%	Survey, geotechnical investigation and Review of Environmental Factors (REF) are currently being completed. Funding deed requires Council to form an alliance with other surrounding Councils to tender these larger bridges out in packages to gain economies of scale. Council has commenced discussions to create the necessary partnering agreement.
Winterbourne Bridge	March 2021	December 2023	5%	
Mooraback Bridge	March 2021	December 2023	5%	
Tia Diggings Bridge 1	March 2021	December 2023	5%	Survey, geotechnical investigation and Review of Environmental Factors (REF) are currently being completed. Preparation of tender for the design and construction has commenced.
Tia Diggings Bridge 2	March 2021	December 2023	5%	
Niangala Bridge	March 2021	December 2023	5%	

Funding Source: 100% Fixing Local Roads (Walsh Street) and 75% Fixing Local Roads & 25% Roads to Recovery (Middle Street) – Grant agreement requires all works to be completed by December 2022				
Project	Project Start	Planned Completion Date	Tracking Status	Comments
Middle Street Rehabilitation	May 2021	December 2022	0%	Work set to begin late 2021.
Walsh Street Rehabilitation	May 2021	December 2022	0%	Work set to begin late 2021.



2. State Roads

Funding Source: Transport for NSW – Road Maintenance Council Contract (RMCC) - Annual				
Project	Project Start	Planned Completion	Tracking Status	Comments
Oxley Highway – 2020/2021 Routine Maintenance	1 July 2020	30 June 2021	88%	Routine road maintenance works continue. Drain maintenance, shoulder grading and new signs/ repair signs to be completed this month.
Oxley Highway - Pavement Strengthening work at Bundagara	February 2020	31 August 2020	100%	Works completed.
Oxley Highway – Road Rehabilitation of Segment 2670 near Hartford Road	July 2020	May 2021	95%	Practically completed. Line marking to be completed by end of May 2021.
Oxley Highway –Segment 2670 near Hartford Road – Additional works	March 2021	May 2021	90%	Extension of pipes, in-situ casting of headwalls and apron of Culvert#533 completed. Guardrail works completed. Backfilling behind headwall will be completed by end of May 2021.
Oxley Highway – Resealing 2020-21	November 2020	December 2020	100%	Works completed.
Oxley Highway – Heavy patching 2020-21	November 2020	May 2021	20%	Heavy patching works commenced and due to be completed by end of May 2021.
Oxley Highway – Reseal preparation 2021-22	January 2021	June 2021	90%	Shoulder grading and crack sealing works completed. Heavy patching on next year’s reseal segments will be completed by end of May 2021.
Oxley Highway – ARL2 Culvert repair works	January 2021	June 2021	15%	Culvert cleaning has been completed by contractor. Relining to take place in end of May 2021 and completed by June 2021.
Oxley Highway Safety Project 2602 – Segments 2700 to 2720 –	January 2021	June 2021	5%	Scoping of pavement drainage improvements, installation of curve alignment markers and guardrail underway. Expecting quotes from Contractor. Site works planned to be completed by 30 June 2021.



3. Regional Roads

Funding Source: Transport for NSW – Regional Roads Block, Traffic facilities, REPAIR & Supplementary Grants - Annual				
Project	Project Start	Planned Completion	Tracking Status	Comments
Thunderbolts Way and Topdale Road – Routine works	1 July 2020	30 June 2021	88%	Routine road maintenance works underway. Pothole repairs, slashing, weed spray completed last month.
Thunderbolts Way – Resealing Program – 2020/21	1 October 2020	30 April 2021	100%	Line marking completed in April. All works completed.
Thunderbolts Way Road – Heavy Patching and Shoulder Grading program	July 2020	July 2021	80%	Shoulder widening and sealing works have been completed. Heavy patching in progress – due to be completed by June 2021.

Funding Source: Black Spot Program Grant – Federal Government				
Project	Project Start	Planned Completion	Tracking Status	Comments
Cobrabald River Rest Area – Widening of Road to Bridge Approaches	Jan 2020	July 2020	100%	Works completed
Smiths Creek - Widening of Road to Bridge Approaches	Jan 2020	August 2020	100%	Works completed.



Funding Source: Thunderbolts Way Strategy – Grant agreement requires all work completed by May 2022				
Project	Project Start	Planned Completion	Tracking Status	Comments
Rehabilitation of Remaining 4.2 km section near of Lakes Road. (Segments 4540 to 4570)	July 2021	May 2022	5%	Pavement investigation, design completed. Site works recommence in July 2021 and completed by May 2022.
Rehabilitation of Walcha Township Approaches - Derby Street – (Segments 4710 and 4720)	July 2018	August 2021	10%	Delay in finalising the engineering design has delayed the tendering of this project. With Council entering “caretaker” mode in late July, it is unlikely a tender will be let until the first meeting of the new Council on 28 September 2021, further delaying commencement until November 2021. i
Rehabilitation of 1 km section near Glen Morrison Road (Segment 4600)	1 July 2019	September 2020	100%	Works completed.
Rehabilitation of 1 km section near Glen Morrison Road (Segment 4590)	1 July 2019	November 2020	100%	Works completed.
Rehabilitation of 1 km section near Glen Morrison Road (Segment 4580)	1 May 2021	August 2021	10%	Works to commence in July 2021
Rehabilitation of 1km Section at Box Hill (Segments 4760)	July 2020	June 2021	80%	Construction works commenced and due to be completed by June 2021.
Rehabilitation of 1km Section at Bergen (Segment 4810)	July 2020	June 2021	70%	Construction works commenced and due to be completed by June 2021.



4. Water, Sewer & Waste

Funding Source: Restart NSW Grant				
Project	Project Start	Planned Completion	Tracking Status	Comments
Walcha Truck Wash Bay Upgrade	Early 2019	June 2021	50%	Concrete works to be completed mid May. Sewer installation, construction of pump house and gantry to commence in late May.

Funding Source: Restart NSW Grant																										
Project	Project Start	Planned Completion	Tracking Status	Comments																						
Walcha Sewerage Treatment Plant Upgrade	2019	September 2021	86%	New channel screw sieve has been installed but not yet commissioned, safety grills and civil work required. Lagoon drying beds are completed, electrical upgrade for running of mixers complete, lagoon refurbishment to commence.																						
Walcha Water Security – Off Creek Storage	March 2020	Sept 2022	18%	Milestones: <table border="1"> <tbody> <tr> <td>• Concept Design</td> <td>Completed</td> </tr> <tr> <td>• Review of Environmental Factors</td> <td>Approved</td> </tr> <tr> <td>• Construction Grant up to 90% or \$9M of Construction Costs</td> <td>Secured</td> </tr> <tr> <td>• 60% Detailed Design</td> <td>Completed</td> </tr> <tr> <td>• Dedicated Project Manager Engaged</td> <td>Completed</td> </tr> <tr> <td>• 90% Detailed Design:</td> <td>Completed</td> </tr> <tr> <td>• Design and Tender Documents Completed</td> <td>On track for June 2021</td> </tr> <tr> <td>• Council's \$1M Funding Co-contribution</td> <td>To be budgeted in 2021/22</td> </tr> <tr> <td>• Tender</td> <td>On track for July 2021</td> </tr> <tr> <td>• Construction Commences</td> <td>Forecasting November 2021</td> </tr> <tr> <td>• Commission</td> <td>Forecasting September 2022</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	• Concept Design	Completed	• Review of Environmental Factors	Approved	• Construction Grant up to 90% or \$9M of Construction Costs	Secured	• 60% Detailed Design	Completed	• Dedicated Project Manager Engaged	Completed	• 90% Detailed Design:	Completed	• Design and Tender Documents Completed	On track for June 2021	• Council's \$1M Funding Co-contribution	To be budgeted in 2021/22	• Tender	On track for July 2021	• Construction Commences	Forecasting November 2021	• Commission	Forecasting September 2022
• Concept Design	Completed																									
• Review of Environmental Factors	Approved																									
• Construction Grant up to 90% or \$9M of Construction Costs	Secured																									
• 60% Detailed Design	Completed																									
• Dedicated Project Manager Engaged	Completed																									
• 90% Detailed Design:	Completed																									
• Design and Tender Documents Completed	On track for June 2021																									
• Council's \$1M Funding Co-contribution	To be budgeted in 2021/22																									
• Tender	On track for July 2021																									
• Construction Commences	Forecasting November 2021																									
• Commission	Forecasting September 2022																									
Walcha Waste Strategy 2025	August 2020	April 2021	60%	Survey results workshopped on 10 February 2021. Service scenarios to be developed and workshopped with Council prior seeking resolution to place on public exhibition. Staff resourcing shortfall is delaying progress. Will be priority project for new Manager - Waste & Water. Recruitment currently underway.																						



5. Community Projects

Funding Source: Stronger Country Communities				
Project	Project Start	Planned Completion	Tracking Status	Comments
Levee Bank Walk Lighting – SCCF3	2020	Dec 2021	5%	Procurement and investigation in progress. Report to be workshopped with Council in the near future to finalise scope details before procurement finalised and physical works proceed.
Youth Hall Renovations – roof and flooring	June 2020	Dec 2021	100%	Completed
Walcha Men’s Shed Relocation	2020	Aug 2021	10%	Construction commenced.

Funding Source: Drought Communities Program				
Project	Project Start	Planned Completion	Tracking Status	Comments
Walcha Water – Chlorine Mixers	Mar 2020	Dec 2020	100%	Completed.
Walcha Water – Back up Power Supply for Treatment Plant	Mar 2020	Dec 2020	100%	Completed.
Ingleba Hall upgrade	Mar 2020	Dec 2020	100%	Completed
Nowendoc Rest Stop	May 2020	Dec 2020	100%	Completed
Public Infrastructure – Bin Surrounds	Mar 2020	Oct 2020	100%	Completed.
Public Infrastructure – Water Fountains	Mar 2020	Dec 2020	95%	First fountain completed in December 2020. Purchase of McHattan Park fountain provided in this project and installation to be completed as part of the McHattan Park pathway construction project.
McHattan Park – Picnic Shelter	Mar 2020	April 2020	100%	Completed



Funding Source: Drought Communities Program				
Project	Project Start	Planned Completion	Tracking Status	Comments
Walcha Showground - Event Centre Disabled Access	Mar 2020	Sept 2020	100%	Completed.
Walcha Showground – Youth Hall toilets	Mar 2020	Oct 2020	100%	Completed
Stampede Ground Woolbrook.	Mar 2020	Nov 2020	100%	Completed.
Yarrowitch Hall Upgrades	May 2020	Dec 2020	100%	Completed
Lions Park Upgrades	Mar 2020	April 2021	99%	Practically completed. Screen delivery delayed and to be installed prior to issuing of the contract completion certificate.

Funding Source: Transport for NSW Walking and Cycling Program 2020/21 Grant agreement requires all work completed by June 2021				
Project	Start Date	Planned Completion	Tracking Status	Comments
Improve Walcha Pathways	Oct 2020	June 2021	80%	Project connects existing pathways in Walcha township to Walcha Central School and John Oxley Oval. Works commenced and expected to be completed in July 2021. Council has sought approval for a 2 month extension from the funding body.

Funding Source: Bushfire Local Economic Recovery Fund – TBA				
Project	Project Start	Planned Completion Date	Tracking Status	Comments
Walcha Swimming Pool Refurbishment	TBA	TBA	5%	Aquatic engineering assessment in progress. Procurement for Solar heating of pool completed and works to be scheduled.



Funding Source: Local Roads & Community Infrastructure Phase 1 Grant agreement requires all work completed by June 2021				
Project	Start Date	Planned Completion	Tracking Status	Comments
Walcha Pool Fence Replacement- Stage 1	Oct 2020	June 2021	100%	Completed
McHattan Park Works to Improve Access and Facilities	Oct 2020	June 2021	5%	Site works commenced in March 2021. Scheduled to be completed 30 June 2021.
Walcha Hospital – Improve Street Access	Oct 2020	June 2021	2%	Site works to commence in May 2021. Scheduled to be completed 30 June 2021.
Improve Pedestrian Safety on Blue Hogan Bridge	Oct 2020	June 2021	5%	Works to commence May 2021. Scheduled to be completed 30 June 2021.
Improve Walcha Preschool Access	Dec 2020	June 2021	100%	Completed.
Level Footpath Area and Culvert Works at Lions Park	Dec 2020	June 2021	5%	Project rescope to complete improved foot paving refurbished toilet block. Original scope proposal was found to be unaffordable. Work to be completed in May 2021.
Preschool Air Conditioning	April 2021	May 2021	100%	Completed



Funding Source: Local Roads & Community Infrastructure Phase 2 Grant agreement requires all work completed by June 2022				
Project	Start Date	Planned Completion	Tracking Status	Comments
Walcha Truck Wash Bay	Oct 2020	June 2021	50%	Concrete works to be completed mid May. Sewer installation, construction of pump house and gantry to commence in late May.
Walcha Community Gym – equipment, signage, painting and security	Oct 2020	June 2021	Not started	Project nomination submitted and awaiting funding body approval.
Electrical Assessment Upgrades	Oct 2020	June 2021	Not started	Project nomination submitted and waiting Departmental approval

6. Proposed Works for the Coming Period

6.1 Rural Roads:

One maintenance grading crews are currently operating on our local road network. :

Brackendale Area –Maintenance grading works continuing in this area, with the following roads remaining: Nine Mile Church, Bishops Road and Tia Diggings Road.



9.3 ENVIRONMENT & DEVELOPMENT:

Ref: WO/21/01815

Responsible Executive: Director Environment & Development

Community Strategic Plan Reference:

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

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

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

1. Development
2. Planning
3. Building
4. Environmental management
5. Regulatory services
6. Animal control
7. Building and amenity maintenance

1. Development & Construction

Development Statistics 2020/2021	DAs	CCs	CDCs
Total Number Approved	39	10	6
Approved under Delegated Authority	30		
Approved as a Registered Certifier		7	2
Approved by Council	9		
Approved by Private Certifier		3	2
Value	\$4,522,032.00	\$1,776,500.00	\$807,600.00
Number Withdrawn / Cancelled	2	0	1
Number Rejected	0	0	0
Number Refused	1	0	0



1.1 Determinations Issued

May 2021			
Development Application's			
Number	Description	Address	Determination
10.2021.4.2	Dwelling	188W Apsley St Walcha	Approved under delegated authority
10.2021.5	Dwelling	13823 Thunderbolts Way Walcha	Approved under delegated authority
10.2020.33	Business premises	66E Fitzroy St Walcha	Approved under delegated authority
10.2020.3	Extractive Industry - Basalt Quarry	1643 Oxley Highway Walcha	Approved by Council
Construction Certificate's			
Number	Description	Address	Determination
11.2021.26	New single dwelling	563 Aberbaldie Road Walcha	Approved by private certifier
11.2021.7	Dwelling	13823 Thunderbolts Way Walcha	Approved by Council registered certifier
11.2021.2	Construct a shed	217 Oxley Drive Walcha	Approved by Council registered certifier
Complying Development Certificate's			
Number	Description	Address	Determination
Nil			

1.2 Occupation Certificates

May 2021				
Number	Description	Address	Part / Whole	Determining Authority
13.2021.5	Erect a shed	59W North Street Walcha		Approved under delegated authority

1.3 Subdivision Certificates

May 2021		
Subdivision Certificates Issued		
Number	Description	Address
10.2020.32	Two lot subdivision	604 Brackendale Road Walcha

1.4 Planning Certificates

Planning Certificates	2019/2020	2020/2021	Current Period
Number Issued	92	130	20



1.5 Building Information Certificates

Building Information Certificates	2019/2020	2020/2021	Current Period
Number Issued	1	-	-

1.6 Outstanding Notices and Orders Certificates

Outstanding Notices & Orders Certificates	2019/2020	2020/2021	Current Period
Number Issued	7	19	4

1.7 Critical Stage Inspections for DAs, CCs and CDCs

Compliance Inspections	2019/2020	2020/2021	Current period
Site inspections	35	34	4
Footings & slab inspections	13	10	2
Framework inspections	6	5	-
Waterproofing inspections	2	3	-
Stormwater inspections	2	-	-
Final inspections	8	6	2
Food premises fitout inspections	2	2	-
Complaints	-	-	-

1.8 Bushfire Attack Level Certificates

BAL Certificates	2019/2020	2020/2021	Current Period
Number Issued		1	-
Number Not Issued	1	-	-

1.9 Dwelling Entitlement Information Advice

Dwelling Entitlement Advice	2019/2020	2020/2021	Current Period
Number Issued	6	8	-

1.10 Bushfire Recovery Grant Funding – Regulatory & Associated Fees Waiver

Information on regulatory and associated fees under the Environmental Planning & Assessment Act 1979 and Local Government Act 1993 for repairing and replacing bushfire affected property waived.

Fee Type	No.	\$ each	Total
Dwelling Entitlement Advice		\$110.00	-
		TOTAL	-



2. Environment & Regulatory

2.1 Section 68 Activities

Section 68 Activity Data			
	2019/2020	2020/2021	Current Period
Number Issued	9	17	3

S68 Compliance Inspections	2020/2021	Current period
Site inspections	9	-
Internal drainage inspections	5	1
External drainage inspections	7	1
Water supply work inspections	3	-
Final inspections	-	-

2.5 Swimming Pool Inspection and Compliance

Swimming Pool Compliance	2019/2020	2020/2021	Current Period
Certificates of Compliance Issued	-	1	-
Certificates of Non-Compliance Issued	-	2	-
Inspections Conducted	-	2	-

3. Animal Control

Companion Animal Registrations 2020/2021								
	Desexed	Non desexed	Pensioner (desexed)	Pound Purchase (desexed)	Cat Desexed	Under 6 Months	Working	Value
Jul*								\$328.00
Aug	2	1		1	2			\$462.50
Sep	4	3						\$826.00
Oct	1	2		1				\$618.00
Nov	-	-	2	-	-	-	1	\$52.00
Dec	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	\$436.00
Jan	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Feb	-	1	-	2	-	-	-	\$268.00
Mar	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	\$86.00
Apr	1	1		1				\$302.00

Companion Animal Seizures 2020/2021						
	Seized	Surrendered	Released	Rehomed	Euthanised	Stolen/Escaped
Jul*	-	-	-	-	-	-
Aug	-	1	-	-	1	-
Sep	2	8	2	8	-	-
Oct	3	1	3	1	-	-
Nov	1	8	-	9	-	-
Dec	-	5	-	5	-	-



Jan	2	2	-	2	2	-
Feb	2	-	1	-	1	-
Mar	-	-	-	-	-	-
Apr	1	-	1	-	-	-

Companion Animal Ranger Services 2020/2021				
	Dog attack investigation	Roaming dogs	Roaming cats	Barking dogs
Jul*	-	-	-	-
Aug	1	5	1	-
Sep	1	2	-	2
Oct	2	6	-	1
Nov	2	4	-	1
Dec	-	2	-	3
Jan	2	2	-	1
Feb	1	6	-	-
Mar	1	2	-	3
Apr	1	2	1	2

	Caution	Dangerous Dog		Nuisance Dog		Menacing Dog		Penalty Notice
		Notice	Order	Notice	Order	Notice	Order	
Jul*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Aug	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sep	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Oct	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nov	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dec	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Jan	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Feb	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mar	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Apr	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-



9.4 COMMUNITY AND TOURISM

Ref: WO/2021/01720

Responsible Executive: Director Community & Tourism

Community Strategic Plan Reference:

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

RECOMMENDATION: that items included in the Community & Tourism Management Report be **NOTED** by Council.

1. WALCHA COUNCIL COMMUNITY CARE

April 2021

1.1 Groups

This month has had a few variations for a number of reasons. Easter kicked off the beginning of April, which moved all of the events down the calendar. We also had lower staff numbers due to school holidays and capped off the end of the month with the Coordinator fracturing both leg and elbow which meant some adjustments had to be made.

The Women's Group were still able to go on a trip to Nundle, where they did some shopping, had a tour of the Woolen Mill and had lunch at the pub. They all seemed to have a great time and are keen to do it again in the future.

The Men's Group went to Inverell for a jam packed day at Rural Wrecking Co. There they have a shed that is a full acre and has every sort of tractor and tractor part that you can find in the southern hemisphere. The men had a joyous time sifting through it all, followed by lunch and a cold beer at the Bowling Club. They also have every intention of returning one day.

Community Café only had one sitting this month, as the second was cancelled due to the Coordinators inability to cook with a broken arm, however the first session with a menu of bacon and egg pie followed by butterscotch pudding for dessert was very well received.

The Art Group had a wonderful morning, with Gwen Higgins being celebrated for her first place artwork in the Walcha Show. It seemed to be an inspiration to all of our budding artists.

The morning teas for the respective groups were well attended and provided a great opportunity to make plans for the later months when it is warmer and everyone is more comfortable travelling further afield.

The Card Group has been working hard to increase their numbers and have managed to get a few new recruits to come in for their weekly game. We will continue to promote this and hopefully build it up into a great weekly event.

As the weather cools, more clients have come on board for Meals on Wheels and it appears that this uptick is going to continue on, with daily phone enquiries. A funding grant for





Meals on Wheels was offered by Barnaby Joyce's office and an application has been sent, with the focus of the funding being an event to celebrate the volunteers with a dinner and awards ceremony. This both encourages continued support from our volunteers and may garner us some more assistance for the future.

New Clients for the month- 4
Exited Clients- 0

Women's Group 7 April- 14 21 April- 14	Wanderer's Group 28 April- CXL
Men's Group 13 April- 12 27 April- 10	Craft Group 22 April- 2
Art Group 14 April- 5	Card Group 6 April- 5 13 April- 3 20 April- 6 27 April- 6
Community Café 16 April- 11 30 April- Cancelled due to Jess' injuries	Joint Excursion No excursion planned due to Easter.

1.2 Transport – 2020

Medical drives – 36 trips were delivered during the month, including local trips as well as to Tamworth and Armidale.

Walcha Access bus (every Monday) 6 April (due to Easter)- 1 12 April- 1 19 April- 2 26 April- 2	Bus to Armidale (every Thursday) 1 April- 4 8 April- 4 15 April- 5 22 April- 7 29 April- 5
Bus to Tamworth (monthly) 30 April- 4	Uralla Food Pantry (fortnightly) 12 April- N/A 26 April- N/A
Taxi Vouchers – 26 clients used the service with 219 trips being provided.	

1.3 Meals on Wheels

Meals on Wheels volunteers are back in place and we now have a completed monthly roster for this. All security check ups (including police checks) are being maintained to ensure they are up to date. This month clients received hot main meals with some of those clients also receiving desserts and frozen meals throughout the 7 day week.

The total number of meals this month was: 467

- 216 hot meals
- 90 frozen meals and
- 161 desserts.



1.5 Feedback and Complaints

There have been no complaints received this month. We have received phone calls thanking us for birthday cards and clients have shown appreciation while at events. Barbara Dunn brought in Get Well Soon flowers for the Coordinator and a box of chocolates for the staff to thank everyone for their continued efforts. The support group also sent a get well soon card.

2. LIBRARY

April 2021

Stats:

- Loans: 718
- Returns: 649
- Reservations placed & issued: 217
- New members: 1
- Door count: 923
- Wi-fi use: 25
- Computer use: 52
- Housebound: 6

Other statistics:

- Borrow Box Eaudio: 39 users, 183 downloads
- Borrow Box Ebooks: 22 users, 88 downloads
- eAudiobook usage has decreased, however eBook usage has slightly risen
- New eLibrary app Libby can't provide branch specific statistics yet, but for all of the CNRL libraries is has a total of 111 users, 192 audiobooks borrowed & 35 ebooks in its first month

The Walcha Library has remained busy throughout April, mostly due to the increased activity that the Council school holiday program generates. The total door count remained high this month, and the daily average typical of a school holiday period, at 61 per day. Last month had particularly high loans and returns, so this month showed a return to average borrowing trends. There have been less loans and returns this month, however reservations places and issued have doubled. Given that the Tech Savvy Seniors program boosted the wifi and public access computer usage last month, usage has decreased this month since the completion of the program. Also, after last months peak in new member registrations (12), April has seen that significantly recede back to just one new member registered. The busy nature of the library and library staff during the school holiday period could account for the lack of new membership processed.

Library promotion and outreach projects

The 'What's New' window display has continued to provide information about library, Council and community programs, events and activities throughout the month. Footpath traffic has been noted, demonstrating the benefits of this display.

The Walcha Library Social Media pages have continued to promote the library and youth programs this month. The popularity of the Library Facebook page increased again this month and now 180 people have liked our page (increasing by a further 7 this month) and 198 followers (8 new followers). Over the month of April, there were a lot of library and youth activities promoted and shared on social media. A total of 27 posts on our Facebook page reached 720 people (280 more than last month). The 19 Instagram posts throughout April received 363 'likes'. Library and Youth Instagram posts are now followed by 163 people – this has increased by 10 people this month.



The programs, activities and information shared via Instagram this month included:

- April school holiday program and Youth Week event information: timely posts to encourage participation in activities organised (7 posts) and post-activity posts to celebrate the success of the program with photos and reports (8 posts)
- NSW State Library legal information for NSW Seniors Week and NSW Youth Week this month.
- Promotion of 2021 Reading Challenge and in-library display
- Mothers Day Craft kit and display promotion

Many of the social media posts overlap, and are shown on both Instagram and Facebook. The following were shared on the Walcha Library Facebook Page this month:

- Easter closure information
- A series of Youth Week promotional posts regarding the Comedy Workshop activity, applications and reporting back on its success by sharing of pictures and summary of the day.
- Photos and summaries of each school holiday activity
- Regular monthly Storytime and Baby Booktime advertising
- State Library post promoting the NSW Premiers Literary Award winning titles.
- Library display promoting resources held in the library collection to help those with the 2021 Reading Challenge 'New Beginnings'

The 2021 Reading Challenge launched by CNRL is called 'New Beginnings'. It challenges the library community to explore the library resources and expand their reading repertoire. The CNRL team print out the challenge cards for branches to promote to their library members. Throughout April, Walcha Library staff have promoted the challenge on social media, and by creation of a physical display stand in the library. Casual library staff member Nerida Hoy organised the display, recommending some of the items herself, and selecting others that meet the criteria of the challenge. The challenge will call for members to submit their cards in December and prizes will be awarded for those who chose to interact with this initiative.

Training

This month Library Coordinator Cassie Mckenna has performed two webinar training sessions provided by CNRL. A webinar about the eLibrary app 'Indyreads' was provided to highlight some of the recent improvements to the interface, provide an update on collection development and promotional activities, and preview upcoming Indyreads initiatives webinar & prejudice training. Cassie was also able to watch an online tutorial via the Niche Academy, providing training for librarians. This tutorial was on 'Prejudice: how to respond to prejudicial comments from customers'. Both webinars were offered for free, through the State Library and CNRL networks and offered as interactive recorded videos, able to be watched in a flexible manner, during work hours.

NSW Seniors Week was celebrated by the Walcha Library this month from the 13 – 24 April. A series of social media posts were shared to provide legal advice and resources via the NSW State Library website. The Tech Savvy Seniors group were given a chance to celebrate their learning with a small graduation morning tea at the library, where a webinar on 'scam awareness' was live streamed for the participants and their guests. 10 of the 18 participants attended this event, and appreciated the informative webinar and social gathering to celebrate and wrap up their 2021 Tech Savvy journey.



Library staff have continued to notice a heightened increase in library visitors that are seeking assistance with their smartphones and tablets since the Tech Savvy seniors program began. The program encouraged participants to seek clarification, ask questions and practice using their devices, and staff have offered support with this beyond the workshop. During March, library staff noted the time spent on these enquiries, and can report that they have provided over 4.5 hours of additional support to participants and other locals that couldn't attend the workshop, but still had questions about their device. This support has continued into April where a further 1.5 hours have been attributed to this drop-in IT support. This month many of the visits are related to issues with CNRL eLibrary programs, log ins and accessing the new Libby app, as well as the usual Service NSW app & smartphone navigation.

Walcha Book Club continued at full capacity this month at the Library. Members discussed their latest book over a small morning tea in the Historical Society room adjacent to the library.

The 'New Book Club' held its second meeting in April at the Walcha Taphouse. The new group of interested readers included 9 members, discussed the second book 'Honeybee', which divided the group and provided some great discussion. This book club welcomes another new member this month, and will remain open for new members, with posters and social media posts advertising it to the public.

Housebound services have continued in April and Quota volunteers have continued to assist with the Riverview Nursing home delivery and some housebound individuals. The new trolleys are making the delivery a lot less strenuous for the volunteers, and the baskets are making it easier to organise for staff at both ends.



The Walcha Library has continued to support locals who are studying this month. This month the facilities have continued to be used by several adults who are remotely studying at TAFE or University. Use of the facilities has included a space to study, a space to have a zoom/video call, Wifi, printing or public access computers.

Walcha Library Storytime and Baby Book time ran again this month for babies and toddlers, on the advertised third Thursday of the month. A smaller group attended, with only 3 parents and 5 children due to the school holidays. An additional Storytime was included in the school holiday program to celebrate ANZAC day. A collection of ANZAC day picture books were read to the group, before the children were guided through ANZAC themed craft activities including felt poppy sewing and colouring in. Excess craft kits were made available for collection from the library, and advertised on social media. It was interesting to note that the hand sewed felt poppies that the children made were spotted at the school and community ANZAC services in Walcha the following week.



The library volunteer program has continued this month and the first volunteers Leah, has continued her valuable work with a further 3.5 hours this month. Volunteer support throughout April has been crucial to maintaining the library collection and processing returns, as staff have been preoccupied with the demands of school holiday and youth week activity preparations and coordination.

Walcha Library collection information:

- The 'weeding' has continued this month and staff have processed a further two batches throughout April. The processing will be spread over the coming months. This time and labour intensive job commenced in the fiction, thriller and western sections each week and will continue until the entire Walcha collection has been checked.
- Changes have been made to the 'exchange' procedure this month, which will involve some additional steps for Walcha library staff to perform each week, when processing the items sent in the Friday delivery. A further check on every item is required to make sure duplicates aren't sent to the receiving library. Walcha staff are adjusting to these changes, and the new processing time required to complete this task.
- CNRL headquarters staff have asked branch staff to consider which magazine subscriptions that would like to change in the upcoming year. Significant changes were made to the subscriptions last year, and staff have decided to continue with last years changes, and give the new collection more time to see the borrowing and usage trends. No changes will be made until 2022.

The April School Holiday program run by Council this month received funding from the NSW Government Office for Regional Youth's April Holiday Break Program. This allowed staff to plan 10 activities over the two week break for Walcha youth aged 5 to 17 yrs. These activities included, photography workshops, Lego and STEM games, Storytime and Craft sessions, a Coding workshop, an Armidale bowling excursion, and a series of sports clinics held in conjunction with local sporting clubs. A total of 162 participants were able to enjoy these activities!

Lego workshop – 7

The Walcha library lego challenge involved a number of lego kits and freestyle building challenges.



AFL Clinic – 30

Walcha kids attended an AFL 'come and try' day held by AFL development officer Xavier Walsh and New England Nomad coach Neil Dunn. The two age groups (under 10's and over 11's) were able to run drills and learn new skills, and play a game of AFL.

Golf clinic - 8

The Walcha Golf Club connected us with Tamworth based golf coach Terry Hayes, who visited Walcha these holidays for a clinic with 8 local boys. The whole day clinic allowed them to learn and practice skills, and play a few holes of golf with each other.

STEM Games - 11

The STEM game session at the Walcha Library encouraged 11 young people to build the tallest straw tower and the fastest propeller cars, having a bit of fun with Science, Technology, Engineering and Mechanics (STEM).





ANZAC – 10

ANZAC Storytime & Poppy making craft session was a lovely chance to explore the ANZAC spirit through children storybooks at the library, followed by hand sewing felt poppies to wear for upcoming ANZAC day.

Photography for kids - 9

Two photography workshops were held at Walcha Handmade and 9 Walcha young people took along their cameras to learn how to capture great photographs.

Armidale Bus trip – 10

With the use of the Walcha Council Community Care bus, a small group of younger Walcha kids (under 11's) were able to enjoy some ten pin bowling and the indoor adventure playground at the Armidale Sport and Rec centre these holidays.



Tennis – 16

16 Walcha kids aged 7 and up enjoyed 'Twilight Tennis' under the lights these holidays. The Walcha District Tennis Club helped to teach skills and run drills to encourage youth to have a go at tennis.



Sphero Bridge Building Workshop – 10

The CNRL team presented sphero coding technology to the young people of Walcha these holidays through a workshop.

Hockey – 51

The Walcha Junior Indoor Hockey committee helped to run a series of workshops. 51 kids enjoyed the 3 Indoor hockey workshops held at the Tennis Courts. Kindy to year 2 and Years 3-6 practiced their 'hockey positions' and skills while the highschoolers learnt referee skills.



This school holiday program's success can be attributed to the early launch of the program and the booking confirmation work staff put in, to ensure places were filled and resources fully utilised. With the program finalised two weeks before the holidays, there was ample time to share the details on social media, giving all local schools time to publish the details in their newsletters, the Advocate time to publish two ads and Council staff time to distribute flyers and posters to local families and young people. Bookings were taken in person at the library, over the phone, email and via Facebook & Instagram messages. Monitoring booking numbers helped to guide the success of advertising, and increase promotion where needed. These holidays, staff took proactive measures to ensure less places in activities were wasted by 'no shows' (places that are booked but the child doesn't attend, without notice given). A series of timely social media posts reminding parents and young people of the upcoming event, and text message reminders for the activities with limited places, gave parents the opportunity to cancel a booking, and allowed staff to find a replacement participant from a waiting list of interested children when required. This confirmation process was labour and time intensive, however it was helpful in ensuring that the limited places available in the activities were all utilised and enjoyed by young Walcha people. There was also a lot of work put into making these activities COVID Safe, and COVID plans were put into place for each activity at each different venue, with restrictions, contact tracing signing in processes and additional cleaning practices implemented to ensure everyone's safety.



2021 NSW Youth Week was held from the 16 – 24 April and the theme was ‘Together more than ever!’ Nothing brings a community together more than laughter, so Walcha Council organised a comedy workshop and performance for Walcha’s young people. Professional comedian Anthony Lamond delivered this workshop in stand up comedy to provide the opportunity for young people to develop skills in performance, storytelling, expression, public speaking and the ‘science of laughter’.

Walcha Council youth staff took up this opportunity after consulting with Walcha’s Youth Advisory Committee and tapping into the data from last years’ Youth survey and draft Youth Strategy. Walcha youth were invited to join a working group to help with the organising and promotion of the event in recent weeks. Previous years Youth Week activities have focussed on creating opportunities for young people outside of Walcha, such as excursions and experiences, usually of an outdoor or sporty nature. The opportunity that has presented itself this year is arts focused, to ensure we are also creating experiences to meet the interests of the more artistic youth of our district.

The whole day workshop targeted young people in Years 6 to 12, and gave them an opportunity to produce their own comedy show and perform it to a live audience of family and friends. 11 of the 12 young people who participated took up the opportunity to perform to over 40 friends and family members. Feedback was positive from those who participated and attended, and the wider community have commented about the great unique opportunity it presented to our youth.



The Walcha Library also run a social media campaign using the State Library legal and drug support resources throughout Youth Week 2021.

Cassie McKenna
Library Coordinator



3. Preschool

April 2021

Easter Egg Hunt

The end of term 1 brought with it the excitement of Easter and in particular the annual Easter egg hunt. Over the past few weeks the children have been working hard on Easter craft ad gifts to take home. These crafts included bunt ears and bunny masks to wear during the hunt. The children were informed that the Easter bunny left one egg each for them, the children were amazing at finding 1 egg and leaving the others for their friends to find. Inside the egg each child got a small solid egg, an Easter sticker and a fluffy chick. They had to work hard to find the eggs, this year the bunny gave them a real challenge to find the eggs!



The Spotty Bear Show

This term the preschool children were lucky enough to experience the Spotty Bear Show with Lionel. The Spotty Bear show was very interactive with lots of singing and participation by the children. the message in the show was to teach the children about different feelings by using colours to describe different moods they might be feeling.



**Zoe Herbert
Nominated Supervisor**





4. Tourism

March and April 2021

March

Number of visitors to VIC

MARCH	2021 Road closures from 21 st March - flood	2020 closed VIC 19 th March	2019	2018
Walk in's	429	218	379	514
Phone enquiries	34	19	35	37
Email enquiries	0	2	2	4
WEBSITE 2021	February	January	December '20	
Unique Visits	9,839	9,540	11,250	10,408
Visits	22,226	17,024	18,121	22,908
No of Hits	951,269	784,862	921,594	653,077

Road Closures impact Walcha again

Due to excessive rain, flooding and landslides over and under roads both the Thunderbolts Way and Oxley Highway were closed on 21st March 2021. Thunderbolts Way opened within ten (10) days to two (2) weeks however the Oxley Highway remains closed. These road closures seriously impact Walcha and the businesses within.

I have contacted ABC radio to ask that they mention Walcha is open for business and the two waterfalls are still accessible when they do their daily road report stating that the Oxley is closed. When the Oxley Highway and Thunderbolts Way were closed due to bushfires last year businesses reported of 80% downturn in trade. I imagine the impact is somewhat similar with these road closures.

Australian Traveller Campaign

A recently run digital campaign, funded through BCRERF (Bushfire Community Resilience and Economic Recovery Fund).

Walcha Council - Mid-Campaign Report: Australian Traveller 'City To Outback' Digital Ad Campaign.

Updated - 19/04/2021

Articles	https://www.australiantraveller.com/nsw/new-england/walcha-the-great-aussie-town-you-have-never-heard-of/
Unique Visitors	3,012
Editorial Clicks	271
CTR Click through Rate	9.00%
Time on page	3:03



April

Number of visitors to VIC

APRIL	2021	2020	2019	2018
	Road closures from 21 March - flood	closed 19 March	VIC	
Walk in's	505	0	590	712
Phone enquiries	27	4	22	22
Email enquiries	0	2	1	0
WEBSITE 2021	April	March	February	January
Unique Visits	9,850	9,839	9,540	11,250
Visits	24,290	22,226	17,024	18,121
No of Hits	875,736	951,269	784,862	921,594

Walcha Motorcycle Rally

The Motorcycle Rally has been seemingly all-consuming of late. Lisa and I have temporarily increased our work days to get on top of the workload.

Website has gone live www.walchamotorcyclerrally.com.au and on Monday May 10, an EDM (electronic direct mail) was sent out to last years list of people who didn't unsubscribe from the event and people who registered their interest in the event. The first ticket sold within a few hours of sending out the EDM and tickets seem to be steadily selling.

We had news on May 11 that we had been successful in securing \$8,000 in discretionary funding from the office of Deputy Premier John Barillaro, through Kevin Andersons office for the Walcha Motorcycle Rally.

Website Visits:

Aboriginal Diggers: 10	Armidale Catholic Precinct: 7
Bingara: 16	Freedom Rides Moree Baths: 10
Goonoowigall: 40	Myall Creek: 108
Nambour: 32	Nanango: 4
Nimbin: 12	Scu Cubewalk: 6
Tenterfield: 25	Uralla: 10
Walcha Sculptures: 96	Walgett: 4
Warialda: 8	

Soundtrail Walk Data:

Name	Down-loads	Opens	Name	Down-loads	Opens
Bingara	20	42	Catholic Precinct	6	7
Goonoowigall	13	16	Moree Baths	8	7
Moree Cemetery	5	5	Myall Creek	21	36
Nambour	8	21	Nanango Heritage	4	10
Nimbin	12	37	Tenterfield	25	72
Uralla	11	22	Walcha Sculpture	35	55
Walgett	3	7	Warialda	10	38



Entrance upgrade proposal for Apsley Falls

Representatives from; Amaroo LALC, Walcha Historical Society, National Parks, Apsley Landcare, Arts Advisory Committee, Walcha Council, and Walcha Tourism have been meeting to discuss an upgrade of the Apsley Falls entrance. National Parks have engaged with landscape designer, Steve Gorrell (who does a lot of work for National Parks) to draw up plans for the entrance upgrade. These meetings have been productive and we are waiting on final plans from amendments discussed in a recent meeting.

Domestic Travel

We have noticed a huge increase in domestic and NSW visitors with the international borders closed and the constant state border closures. This is encouraging people to explore closer to home or not be able to head overseas for holidays.

Susie Crawford
Tourism Manager

5. Community Recovery Officer

April 2021

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Resilience NSW for the extension of the Community Recovery Officer Role for a further 12 months.

Blazeaid returned to Walcha LGA for the final time this month. They began setting up camp after Easter weekend at Yarrowitch Hall and packed up the camp by the 18 April 2021. This was Blazeaid's fifth attempt to assist landholders in our area, with COVID, and weather impacting their visits. Blazeaid's focus was now heading toward flood recovery and assistance in other areas although they also have been affected by dwindling donations and low to no volunteers.

We have partnered with Pointer Remote to deliver "doing work differently" program, a tailored program delivered in a module format with access to topic experts each week. The first "module" and introduction to Jo Palmer, Founder and Director, was on Wednesday 21 April over two sessions 10am and 5.30pm. The program has attracted about 15 Walcha women to participate from varied backgrounds. We look forward to seeing how this program builds the capacity and networks of our local women.

Woolbrook Ladies morning tea with guest speakers

A progressive couple of ladies have gotten together to plan this event which was a morning of guest speakers, high tea and social catch up for this otherwise remote rural community. Ingelba Hall is located 35km south west of Walcha and was heavily impacted by a freak wind storm in 2018, then impacted by ash and smoke in 2020. The small hall was full of local women listening to guest speakers supported by Healthwise.

Healthwise cuppa and self care discussion at Nowendoc

I attended the Nowendoc Hall on Tuesday 20 April for self care presentation to the ladies Auxiliary. Leticia Kearny from Healthwise had a guest speaker from Moree who met with the ladies for the morning.

Meeting with Lifeline representatives - On Thursday 22 April 2021, Armidale National Bushfire Recovery Agency officer, Community Recovery Officer and Department Primary Industries Recovery Support officer, along with Walcha NBRA and DPI Recovery Support Officer and myself met with representatives from Lifeline to discuss our communities and



their current health and well being. Lifeline were interested on how they can assist in disaster recovery and opening “shop fronts” in the Armidale area. Both Michael and Kimberly were grateful for the community insight provided by an across the board local, state and federal perspective.

Metal health presentation at Nowendoc

On Tuesday 27 April, I attended Nowendoc Hall again (the Ladies Auxiliary were very pleased to see us come out!) with Christina from the National Bushfire Recovery Agency to meet with Andy Daley, Daiva Newby and Julie Ward (Bushfire Clinicians) who delivered a presentation on mental health and well being, Andrew Daley from Rural Adversity Mental Health Program has attended various events at Nowendoc in the past few months, and the community respond to his approach and he is well received. Julie and Diva had not been to Nowendoc before and were pleased with the opportunity for an introduction and chat.

Yarrowitch Community Group

During April I have met and spoken to several Yarrowitch residents who have formed a community group which myself and Department of Primary Industries Rural Recovery support assisted with. These meetings were in person and over the phone with individuals who each requested assistance with planning their event and funding options. The Yarrowitch Community Group has met regularly over the last four weeks and implemented a monthly evening BBQ catch up (approx. 60 people in attendance) as well as being successful to host a “Small Halls tour” by Fanny Lumsden at the end of May.

Brooke Jeffery
Community Recovery Officer



Item 10:

Committee Reports

RECOMMENDATION: That Council RECEIVE and NOTE the following Committee Minutes.



Walcha Council Arts Advisory Committee Meeting

held on

Thursday, 25 March 2021

at

9:30am

at the

Walcha Council Chambers

PRESENT:

Carley McLaren, Stephen King, James Rogers, Cllr Jennifer Kealey – (Chairperson) and Peter Murray – Director Infrastructure.

IN ATTENDANCE:

Nil.

1. APOLOGIES:

John Heffernan

**2. CONFIRMATION OF THE ORDINARY MEETING
MINUTES HELD ON 5 NOVEMBER 2020:**

The Committee **RESOLVED** on a motion moved by James Rogers and seconded by Peter Murray that the Minutes from 5 November 2020 were circulated and agreed that with the following amendment are a true record of the meeting.

Committee Minutes



3. BUSINESS ARISING:

3.1 Indigenous Artwork for Shirley Davison Bridge and Apsley Falls Entry

Clr Kealey advised that the proposal for Shirley Davison Bridge is currently with the Aboriginal Advisory Committee for feedback. Next meeting is scheduled for 14 May 2021.

With regard Apsley Falls, this project is being led by National Parks & Wildlife Service and is awaiting the production of concept drawings. Whilst this project will be predominantly funded by NPWS there is a Council resolution for Council to match Roads & Maritime Services contribution to the project to the value of \$30,000. Clr Kealey advised that an amended resolution may be sought once the project is further quantified.

ACTION: With regard artwork for the Shirley Davison Bridge, on receipt of feedback from the Aboriginal Advisory Committee, a Public Art Submission form to be prepared by Peter Murray

3.2 Crocodile Bridge – decision on options to improve safety.

Peter Murray advised that Council resolved the following at the November 2020 Ordinary meeting: "...that Council remove the current temporary barriers and the concrete path connections, and restore the excavation with turf and extend the existing garden beds on either side of the creek be to preclude pedestrian access to the Crocodile Bridge."

3.3 Levee Bank Walk Lighting Project Update

Peter Murray advised that the project has been delayed pending suitable project management resourcing being available. However, a concept will be presented to the Committee for feedback before project scoping is finalised.

3.4 New Policy – Section 355 Committees

Peter Murray advised that a brief training session will be completed with all Council 355 Committees in the near future once a training package is completed.

4. GENERAL BUSINESS:

4.1 "Faith" and "A Wing and A Prayer Installation"

Peter Murray advised that the steel reinforcing materials are being quoted and ordered.

Stephen King suggested that the installation of Faith should be delayed until the aforementioned footing is constructed to ensure the pieces are installed essentially at the same time.



ACTION: James Rogers asked that the selected footing design be confirmed with him after the meeting to ensure the proposed hold down bolt spacing matches the column end plate.

4.2 “Weather Sign” Renovation

Peter Murray advised that this work is funded and proceeding in coming weeks.

4.3 “The Mother” Reinstallation

Peter Murray advised that the Committee’s “talking points” were well received and valuable.

ACTION: Peter Murray to prepare a Media Release based on the talking points to seek community feedback regarding the reinstallation of the “The Mother”. Based on feedback, a Council resolution will be sought at a future Council Ordinary Meeting.

The Committee recommended that all pieces be informed by either a plaque or some other means such as a readily accessible webpage. The Committee noted it would like to work with our Tourism team to develop a solution.

4.4 Christmas Decorations and the Open Art Gallery

The Committee RECOMMENDED to Council that the *Open Air Gallery* is now an integral part of Walcha’s identity and reputation in the wider arts community and tourism and that no piece should be used for the purposes of future Christmas decorations.

4.5 Vandalism

A discussion was held on the recent graffiti of the “Big Window”.

The Committee RECOMMENDED that due to ongoing vandalism, the Arts Advisory Committee encourages the installation of closed circuit television surveillance in Walcha CBD to discourage future acts of vandalism.

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS THE CHAIR DECLARED THE MEETING CLOSED AT 11:30AM.



Walcha Town & District Beautification & Tidy Towns Committee Meeting



Held on

Wednesday, 7 April 2021

2:00pm

at

Walcha Council Chambers

Minutes



Present

Councillor Peter Blomfield – Chair, Citizen Representatives – Jim Hallenan, Phyllis Hoy, Robyn Vincent & Caroline Street, Works Supervisor – Stephen Sweeney and Director Infrastructure – Peter Murray

1. Apologies

Beverley Betts, Joanne Ireland and Councillor Clint Lyon

2. Confirmation of Previous Minutes – 8 July 2020

RESOLVED on the motion of Caroline Street and Robyn Vincent that the Minutes of the Walcha Town & District Beautification & Tidy Towns Committee meeting held on 7 October 2020, copies of which have been distributed to all members, be taken as read and confirmed a true record.

3. Project Status Updates

Including the inclusion of potential new projects:

Active Projects – 2020/21	
Project	Status
Crocodile Bridge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council resolved at the Ordinary meeting of 25 November 2020 to remove the concrete path connections to the Crocodile Bridge and extend the existing garden beds to the south to preclude pedestrian access to the bridge. Council will schedule to complete this work in mid 2021.
Hospital Wall Upgrade	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> \$20,000 funding for construction of steps and footpath under Local Roads & Community Infrastructure grant program confirmed. Will defer finalising the Project Scope form until the steps and path are completed in the coming months and further discussions with the Arts Advisory Committee are completed.
Rose Garden	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Site being prepared. Concerns raised with regard the removal of the Blue Fir and the existing rock in particular Committee to arrange meeting with James Rogers to discuss details of the proposed plans.
Mill Hole – Stage 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plans to be amended to include parking and extension of shared path as part of the adjoining Thunderbolt Way Strategy roadworks. Currently awaiting design consultant to provide amended drawings Expect works to commence mid 2021
Mill Hole – Stage 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project substantially commenced with shrub planting, signage, path waypoints and gravelling to be completed.
Streetscape Works – 2020/21	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stephen Sweeney advised that footpath replacements will continue within the available budget and will focus on replacing damaged existing paving in Fitzroy Street, likely in east of the bridge to the New England Hotel and then Derby Street next financial year
Street Tree Plan for Showground area – Derby Street	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Thunderbolt Way Strategy roadworks to include street tree planting to provide shade and break up the likely expanse of sealed shoulder. Currently awaiting design consultant to provide amended drawings Expect works to commence mid 2021 Whilst the planting of Liquid Ambers was suggested, other species will be considered at the next Committee meeting
Parking Bay South of Walcha (Glen Grow Rest Area)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Peter Murray advised the pull off area will be strengthened and sealed as part of the adjoining Thunderbolt Way Strategy roadworks later in 2021
Street Trees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Caroline Street and Steph Sweeney to meet and confirm Caroline’s current draft planting scheme.
Cemetery Seating	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work commenced on preparing the new seats for installation



John Oxley Tree Replacement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Replace the dead conifers with Aspens when Park's staff are available
Derby Street Corner – Hill & Derby Streets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stephen Sweeney advised of the intension to plant out the bank with low shrubs in 2021 when Parks staff are available.

Future Projects	
Project:	Status:
Peter Fenwicke Oval	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planting of top corner to occur when Parks staff are available.
Garden Irrigation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Program of irrigation installations to be developed.
Catholic Cemetery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Replacement replanting to occur when Parks staff are available.
Ohio North Street - Camping Area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rotary have approval to install a shelter Council needs to prepare an overall concept plan for the site, using the aerial photos to guide the improvements for the site.
Walcha Long Term Tree Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A program of replacement dead street trees has commenced. Committee to update the street tree planting list as a future project. The committee identified Fleming Lipstick Maples, Flame Trees, Crepe Myrtles and Chinese Elms as possibilities.
Angle Park Arboretum Planting Scheme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Peter Murray to arrange an aerial photograph to allow a native planting scheme to be designed Suggested possible plantings are Monkey Puzzle, Bunya Pines, Snappy Gum and for sheltered areas, Wollomi Pines
Pakington Street Tea Tree Stand	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stephen Sweeney agreed to mulch and plant out the "bare" area to screen out the sight of the backyard when Park's staff are available
Shirley Davidson Bridge – Path Seating	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stephen Sweeney to investigate a suitable location and construct a suitable seat.
Road Cutting Beautification on Uralla Road, Walcha	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No details of the "Matt Fanning" original concept plan can be located. However discussions identified that the planting of Pigface or any other suitable ground cover
Carpark at Walcha Central School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Estimated cost to place 150mm of roadbase, shape and compact, place 14/7mm seal and to top soil and tidy surrounds is \$24,000. No provision for tree planting. Available budget: \$2,500. Committee agreed to stage the works by planting trees at appropriate locations as Stage 1 and then seek funding for the Stage 2, car park sealing, in future budgets or grants.
Winterbourne Stone Ruin	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Investigate funding sources for the construction of viewing platform, pathways and fencing plus historic information signage.
Apex "Blair Gully" Park Improvements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Investigate further plantings noting that the Commercial Hotel propose to install picnic tables and additional trees
Murals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Investigate collaboration with the Arts Advisory Committee to consider murals for the west end of Youth Club Hall, west end of Walcha Trout Hatchery Building and east end of Squash Courts
Pedestrian Bridge over Apsley River	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project needs to have the scope and cost estimate of the previous tourism grant application verified.



4. General Business

4.1 Section 355 Policy Revision

ACTION: – Peter Murray to place on the next meeting agenda when a training package is available

4.2 Walcha Motorcycle Rally

The Committee's only comment is to take care with regard the placement to avoid conflict with the existing entry signage and Open Air Gallery installations

4.3 Dead Elm in Hospital Grounds

It was noted that this tree would be under the control of Department of Health

4.4 Trees in Angle Street

ACTION: – Steph Sweeney advised that the trees would be pruned in coming months when Parks resources are available.

5. Future Proposed Meeting Dates:

- 2pm Wednesday 7 July 2021
- 2pm Wednesday 6 October 2021

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



Item 11:

Delegate Reports

RECOMMENDATION: That Council RECEIVE and NOTE the following Delegate Reports / Minutes.

MINUTES

Central Northern Regional Library (CNRL)

Ordinary Meeting

Wednesday, 21 April 2021 at 1:30pm

Tamworth Regional Council, Ray Walsh House

Level 4 Function Room, 437 Peel Street, Tamworth

Gwydir Shire Council	Cr Catherine Egan
Gwydir Shire Council	Carmen Southwell
Liverpool Plains Shire Council	Cr Paul Moules
Liverpool Plains Shire Council	Cian Middleton
Narrabri Shire Council	Cr Cathy Redding
Narrabri Shire Council	Naomi Radford
Tamworth Regional Council	Cr Juanita Wilson
Tamworth Regional Council	Kay Delahunt
Tamworth Regional Council	Shiralee Franks
Tamworth Regional Council	Megan Pitt
Tamworth Regional Council	Narelle Lightfoot
Tamworth Regional Council	Johnathan Stilts
Tamworth Regional Council	Jacqueline O'Neill
Uralla Shire Council	Cr Isabel Strutt
Uralla Shire Council	Christine Valencius
Uralla Shire Council	Donna Garrad
Walcha Council	Cr Bill Heazlett (Chair)

1. Administration / Action

1.1. Welcome and Acknowledgment of Country

Meeting Opened: 14:00pm

Cr Bill Heazlett, as chair opened the meeting with an Acknowledgement to Country and welcomed all those in attendance.

2. Introductions and Apologies

Cr Bill Heazlett, called for an introduction of all members present.

Apologies were received from; Scott Pollock, Narrabri Shire Council and Gail Phillipott, Gwydir Shire Council

Motion: That the apologies be accepted

Moved: Cr Paul Moules **Seconded:** Cr Isabel Strutt **CARRIED**

3. Confirmation of Minutes of Previous Ordinary Meeting

11 November 2020 – Minutes accepted as read.

Motion: That the minutes from the previous Ordinary Meeting of the Central Northern Regional Library, dated 11 November 2020, be accepted as a true and accurate record.

Moved: Cr Paul Moules **Seconded:** Cr Isabel Strutt **CARRIED**

4. Business Arising from Previous Minutes

Cr Wilson asked to be provided with an update on where we are at with Child Safety Checks?

Narelle Lightfoot provided an update outlining that this is continuing with all Volunteers' and staff are up to date.

5. Staff Restructure Report

Kay explained the re-structure of Tamworth Regional Council's Cultural and Community Services Division was implemented in February 2021. The library staff structure was changed as part of this process. No library staff members were negatively impacted by the implementation of the new structure.

The new structure introduces a Library Co-ordinator role with a two- team structure;

A Library Resources Team – this includes collection development, local studies, stock rotation, the service roster and performance reporting

A Customer Experience Team – this includes information services, home library services and management of Tamworth branches

In addition, a new work unit has been formed that reports to the Manager Cultural and Community Services. This work unit is called the STEAM and Childhood Literacy Unit. It is responsible for the innovation studio and literacy programs across CNRL. It is intended that this unit will work beyond the traditional library reach with greater emphasis on partnerships and outreach.

Motion: That the staff re-structure report be received and noted

Moved: Cr Isabel Strutt **Seconded:** Cr Juanita Wilson **CARRIED**

6. Library Services Co-ordinators' Report

Shiralee Franks spoke to the report .

6.1. Library Staff development opportunities

ALIA APLA – Public Libraries supporting people living with disability

The Australian Library and Information Association (ALIA) and the ALIA Australian Public Library Alliance (APLA) are providing a training opportunity about Public Libraries and people living with disability. The free information session is an opportunity for staff leading and working in Australian public libraries to share ideas about how libraries can better serve users living with disability.

Zoom meeting: April 30, 2021 2:00pm.

Register:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZUqcu2qrzggEtf7fuiXlvtqrca8CooWnsLK>

NSW Public Libraries Association – Members: engaging, retaining and growing

NSWPLA invites you to a series of highly interactive online workshops where you will be asked to look realistically at your current members and how you engage with them before moving onto establishing achievable steps to guarantee that you will keep and build this base.

CNRL Staff Training Day May 6, 2021 9:00am – 3:00pm The Youthie

Agenda includes discussion of the new CNRL Strategic Plan, feedback from the CNRL staff survey, the new CNRL staff wiki, stocktake wand training, 3D printer training. Brainstorming session on how to attract new members / promote our libraries. General business session – branch information, updates, information sharing.

6.2. Update from Closed Committee meeting on 11 November 2020

Council delegates will be aware that there was a closed committee session at our last meeting where discussion took place regarding an approach by another council to join CNRL. The content of that meeting is still closed however the approach is currently on hold. The Manager Cultural and Community Services and the Library Services Co-ordinator supplied information and recommendations to the council but they have not yet reached any decision.

6.3. NSW Reads

In January CNRL participated in a new reading program in collaboration with NSW public libraries: NSW Reads. This was a state-wide book group which encouraged library members to read a book and then discuss with other readers in NSW, either face-to-face or via social media. Events included a virtual book group over four weeks via Instagram, a panel discussion and an author talk via Zoom.

The first book chosen for this program was Lucky's by Andrew Pippas and 59 NSW Public Libraries joined, including Central Northern Regional Library.

113 books were purchased to go on the catalogue, 10 of which have gone into a book group kit. There are 6 e-audio copies and 6 e-book copies.

Physical book loans = 250

e-audio loans = 45

e-book loans = 34

Total loans = 329

Tamworth staff filmed a promotional video which reached more than 7000 people and had 385 engagements. CNRL branches were encouraged to share the video and it was shared 25 times. CNRL staff made several posts on Facebook and Instagram. The program was also promoted on the CNRL website. The author talk event was online via zoom and a total of 189 people across the state attended.

6.4. Sydney Writers Festival Live Stream

The Sydney Writers Festival has once again offered streaming session to CNRL. The sessions will be streamed at Tamworth, Uralla, Narrabri, Nundle and Bingara Libraries. The festival runs from Friday April 30 to Sunday May 2. Tamworth Library will be showing all the sessions. Uralla, Narrabri, Nundle and Bingara Libraries will show the sessions that are on when they are open on those dates.

6.5. CNRL Innovation Studio

Innovation Studio staff have travelled around the CNRL branches during the January and April school holidays running exciting programs including Robot Soccer, Secret Agent workshops and Sphero Bridge Building.

A number of FAST (Food, Art, Science, Technology) videos have been posted online which include workshops on: French toast, 3D scanning, pendulum art, soda bread, sugar crystals, microwave lemon slice, rainbow oven pancakes, mini hologram, rainbow wizards brew, chewy ANZAC biscuits, make a solar cooker, using a remote camera and fluffy slime.

6.6. Technology upgrades

All CNRL staff computers have now been upgraded.

The Spydus Library Management System has been upgraded from version 10.1 to version 10.6.

The CNRL SOLUS app has been upgraded from version 10.3 to version 10.6.

SMS integration is being investigated.

6.7. RBDigital content now on the Libby App

One of CNRL's e-content supplier, RBDigital, has been acquired by a large US digital supplier, Overdrive. Overdrive provide their resources via an app called Libby, by Overdrive.

Initially there were some teething problems with the app not recognising borrower numbers but this has now been rectified and borrowers are able to borrow e-content as normal

6.8. NSWPLA North East Full Zone Meeting

The next NSWPLA NE full zone meeting will be held in Walcha on Thursday afternoon 13 May 2021. The meeting will be held upstairs in the Walcha Community Consultative rooms behind the hospital Veterinary Supplies with lunch from 12pm. On Friday morning artist James Rogers will give a walking tour of Walcha to show and talk about the art sculptures installed around the town.

Motion: That the Library Services Co-ordinators Report be received and noted

Moved: Cr Paul Moules **Seconded:** Cr Juanita Wilson **CARRIED**

7. **Quarterly Report for December 2020**

Cr Isabel Strutt noted that its really good seeing these reports and online services are popular within the community

Motion: That the CNRL Quarterly Report for December 2020 be received and noted
Moved: Cr Isabel Strutt **Seconded:** Cr Cathy Redding **CARRIED**

8. Quarterly Report for March 2021

Motion: That the CNRL Quarterly Report for March 2021 be received and noted
Moved: Cr Isabel Strutt **Seconded:** Cr Cathy Redding **CARRIED**

9. CNRL Strategic Plan

Shiralee took the committee through the new Strategic Plan 2021- 2026, adding that the current Strategic Plan ends in June 2021. The quarterly reports that staff submit will align with the new Strategic Plan.

Cr Cathy Redding refers to Collaboration;

CNRL Will – 1 Expand and develop partnership and collaboration opportunities

Please clarify what partnership are you looking at developing? Shiralee advises it could be local, depends what agencies you have. But certainly, local is recommended.

UNE partnership Collaboration.

Cr Paul Moules – this forms part of the annual plan to show if we are on track? Shiralee advises yes, it informs the quarterly reports which inform the annual report

Cr Isabel Strutt noted that the Strategic Plan clearly states the objectives and gives good criteria. Cr Strutt intends to attach this copy of the Strategic Plan 2021 – 2026 to her next Councillors report for Uralla Council.

Motion: That the CNRL Strategic Plan 2021 - 2026 be adopted.
Moved: Cr Catherine Egan **Seconded:** Cr Juanita Wilson **CARRIED**

10. Selection of a “One Book One Region” title

The Thursday Murder Club by Richard Osman

Consensus All Agreed

Motion: That the majority of Community members agreed on The Thursday Murder Club by Richard Osman

Moved: Cr Juanita Wilson **Seconded:** Cr Paul Moules **CARRIED**

11. Guest Speaker – Blanca Pizzani, University Librarian, University of New England

Blanca and Shiralee presented opportunities for collaboration between CNRL and UNE Libraries. These opportunities included, inter library loans, professional development, children's literacy, literacy programs, staff sharing, exhibitions, student volunteers. General discussion took place.

Cr Bill Heazlett, thanked Blanca for coming as our guest and presenting to the Committee.

12. CNRL Agreement

Kay Delahunt explained, that The Central Northern Regional Library Agreement is due for renewal as at 30 June 2021. Minor updates will take place. A copy of the 2021-2026 Central Northern Regional Library Agreement is attached for delegates to present to their Council for a resolution.

Kay spoke to updates in the agreement as follows;

- Section 3.5, page 4
- Clause 6.5, page 7
- Clause 10.2.d, 10.2.f, 10.2.g, page 9
- Schedule 2, updated addresses of Libraries, page 18

Updated copy will be sent to each Council.

Motion: That the current Central Northern Regional Library Agreement be renewed for a period of five years with the continued provision that Gwydir Shire Council shall not be entitled to share in reserves which existed before it became a delegating Council

Moved: Cr Cathy Redding

Seconded: Cr Isabel Strutt

CARRIED

13. General Business

Walcha Council update – Cr Bill Heazlett

Cr Bill Heazlett, reported on the location options for a new Library in Walcha. Having considered a few venues including the Local RSL, they are still looking. They are looking at operational hours that would meet the Community's needs, and will seek Community feedback on this.

Liverpool Plains Shire Council update – Cr Paul Moules

Since the last CNRL meeting our council has had an organisational restructure and during this time long time employee Ms Donna Ausling moved on. I am very grateful for her assistance, co-operation, and support that I received whilst the CNRL delegate for Parry and LPSC (councils) and I wish her well for the future.

Quirindi Library is on track for completion in May 2021. In the previous meeting I advised completion was for March, however, the builders have had some delays due to COVID-19 requirements and the two major rain events, January and March 2021.

The outside pergola will stay as our sister city (Blacktown) architect originally designed. We believe when completed we will be able to provide the "state of the art" facility that our ratepayers expect.

Council is actively looking at improving the Wi-Fi, providing youth gaming accessibility, and they would like to target/attract a broader mix of community members using these facilities.

Bingara and Warialda update – Cr Catherine Egan

Gwydir libraries are proving they are the hub of their respective communities by providing not only day to day library services, but additional programs to keep young and older members of our community engaged.

Some examples of additional community events and programs.

- Local historian Rodney King hosts Bingara historical talks in the Bingara Library every month for the general public and members of U3A.
- Volunteers from the community op shop meet in the Bingara Library on the Third Monday of each month.
- Both libraries host Golden Oldie craft sessions, storytime for young and old (older residents attend storytime participating with the children), knitting groups.
- Reading Writing Hotline, assistance to complete forms and paperwork is always available at the library. (paperwork such as hospital admission, RMS dine and event voucher applications and much more)

Bingara Library successfully gained \$7,500 funding from Good Foundations for the *Be Connected* program. \$5,000.00 for iPads to lend to seniors enrolled in tutorials and \$2,500 to assist with costs associated with hosting sessions in the outer villages.

Gwydir Shire Council successfully gained funding for \$10,000 to purchase devices for youth to use services across the shire. The devices will be held at both libraries monitored by council. The devices will be available to youth and library services across the shire.

Following the COVID closure one project we are happy to launch is Librarian's choice.

A review and survey with members regarding click and collect services during Covid closure proved to be very positive with many members requesting assistance with their reading preferences to this day. Both libraries offer Librarian's choice, staff select items according to the borrowers preferred authors and genre. Like authors are selected, wrapped and ready for collection. The program will be monitored monthly by a short questionnaire.

Bingara Library very proudly hosted the film *Looby* a celebration to mark 100 years of the Archibald Looby. 33 people attended followed by supper and discussion.

Book exchanges/street libraries in outer villages, local tourist spots and tourist

Uralla Update – Cr Isabel Strutt

Very supportive and proud of our Uralla library and staff and the range of programs across the board is really good.


We have a new display cabinet for the community to display their promotions. Display area for the local communities, Lions, Rotary, Men's Shed.

Facilities for students to come in after school into a safe environment to do school homework.

Might be time to do another survey of what times may benefit the community for the library.

Tamworth Update – Cr Wilson

Tamworth is great at what they do and how they work. The Heritage Festival is starting tomorrow and our library is contributing to this.



Kootingal hall has a dual use, it's a memorial hall use and library. I would like to commend our library for their consultations with the community. Council and Kay have been methodical and ethical on this information within the community.

General

Cr Bill Heazlett, congratulated Kay on the restructure of the Tamworth Library team and congratulated Shiralee on her newly appointed position.

Kay passed on her thanks to Cr Bill Heazlett for his contribution to the Committee as chair and made mention that it has been an absolute delight working with him.

14. Next Ordinary Meeting

To be advised.

Meeting Closed: 15:40pm



Item 12:

Questions with Notice



There are no Questions with Notice items for
May 2021



Item 13:

Referral to Closed Council Meeting



Item: 13A **Ref:** WO/2021/01916
Title: Referral to Closed Meeting – Evaluation of Tenders for:
1. Supply of Quarry Materials
2. Supply and Delivery of Bulk Fuel – T102122NEC
Author: Director Infrastructure
Previous Items: Nil.
Attachment: Nil.

RECOMMENDATION: That, in accordance with the provisions of Section 10A (2)(c) of the *Local Government Act, 1993*, the matters of Evaluation of Tenders for Supply of Quarry Materials AND Supply and Delivery of Bulk Fuel T102122NEC be referred to be discussed in Closed Council and close the meeting to the public for the reason that 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.

Introduction:

Council approval is sought for matters to be discussed in Closed Council.

Report:

Council approval is requested to refer matters for discussion in Closed Council and close the Meeting to the public in accordance with the provisions of Section 10A (2)(c) of the *Local Government Act, 1993*.

Approval to refer the matters to Closed Council 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.