



MINUTES

of the
Ordinary Meeting
Held
15 August 2022

**Our Values: Leadership • Integrity • Progressiveness • Commitment •
Accountability • Adaptability**

**Minutes of the Ordinary Monthly Meeting of Lockhart Shire Council held in the Council Chambers,
Lockhart on Monday, 15 August 2022 commencing at 5.00pm.**

PRESENT

Cr G Verdon (Mayor), Cr A Rockliff (Deputy Mayor), Cr F Day OAM, Cr G Driscoll, Cr J Hunter, Cr I Marston, Cr R Mathews, Cr P Sharp and Cr J Walker. Crs Day, Hunter and Walker attended via audio-visual link.

Also in attendance were the General Manager, Director Corporate and Community Services, Director Engineering & Environmental Services, Tourism and Economic Development Officer and Executive Assistant.

The meeting opened with a prayer, followed by an Acknowledgement of Country.

The Mayor reminded Councillors of their ethical obligations as reflected in the oath and affirmation of office, and the Code of Conduct.

The Mayor also informed all persons present that the proceedings of the meeting were being recorded.

APOLOGIES

Nil.

REQUESTS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE OR ATTENDANCE VIA AUDIO VISUAL LINK

Cr James Walker requested to attend the 15 August 2022 meeting via audio visual link.

148/22 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Rockliff and Sharp that Cr Walker's request to attend the 15 August 2022 meeting via audio visual link be approved.
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CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES ORDINARY MEETING HELD 18 JULY 2022

149/22 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Mathews and Walker that the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on Monday, 18 July 2022 as printed and circulated be taken as read and confirmed.

DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY AND NON-PECUNIARY INTERESTS

Nil.

MAYORAL MINUTE

Nil.

SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS

150/22 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Driscoll and Sharp that standing orders be suspended, the time being 5.04pm to allow Council's Tourism and Economic Development Officer to present his six-monthly update on tourism and economic development matters.

RESUMPTION OF STANDING ORDERS

151/22 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Driscoll and Rockliff that Council resume standing orders, the time being 5.44 pm.

REPORT ON MAYORAL & COUNCILLOR ACTIVITIES

The Mayor, Cr Verdon, verbally reported on activities during the past month as follows:

1 Aug 2022 Along with the General Manager met with Mitch Hume and members of the Transgrid team regarding Project EnergyConnect.

4-5 Aug 2022 With the General Manager, attended the Country Mayors Association meeting in Sydney.

9 Aug 2022 With Crs Rockliff and Driscoll, undertook the annual review of the General Manager's performance.

15 Aug 2022 Along with Cr Sharp and the General Manager, attended the commemoration of Victory in the Pacific Day at Yerong Creek.

Cr Day verbally reported the following activities:

20 Jul 2022 Hosted Coffee with A Councillor

4 Aug 2022 Attended Council's Tourism and Economic Development Steering Committee meeting at Pleasant Hills.

152/22 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Sharp and Mathews that the Mayoral and Councillor Activities Report be received.

URGENT MATTERS

Nil.

NOTICE OF MOTION

Nil.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- 1. MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE LOCKHART SHIRE COUNCIL AUDIT, RISK AND IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE HELD AT THE LOCKHART SHIRE COUNCIL OFFICES, AND REMOTELY VIA ZOOM, ON THURSDAY 21 JULY 2022 AT 4.00PM**

(GM: 22/9544)

1. Present

James Davis (Independent Chairperson) – remotely via Zoom
Luke Taberner (Independent Member) - remotely via Zoom

2. In Attendance

Peter Veneris (General Manager) – in person
Craig Fletcher (Director Corporate and Community Services) – in person
Elizabeth Cummings (Internal Auditor) – part meeting only
Danielle McKenzie (Crowe) – part meeting only
Hong Wee Soh (Audit office of NSW) – part meeting only


CHAIRPERSON

3. Apologies

Cr Andrew Rockliff (Lockhart Shire Councillor)

4. Confirmation of Minutes

It was RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 27 April 2022, as printed and circulated, be confirmed as a true and correct record of the proceedings of that meeting.

5. Business Arising

Nil.

6. Internal Audit Reports

6.1 Developer Contributions

The Chairperson invited Elizabeth Cummings to present her internal audit report focusing on developer contributions. Ms Cummings provided an outline of her report and, in particular, drew attention to the following:

- Council is by and large applying the legislation appropriately.
- The recommendations contained in the report relate predominantly to matters that should be considered as part of the next review of the Developer Contributions Plan.
- Council should make particular reference in the Plan to the Ministerial Directions issued in respect of Developer Contributions which are aimed at avoiding “double dipping”.

The General Manager noted that the report indicated that Council does not have any development servicing plans and confirmed that Council does in fact have a Sewerage Development Servicing Plan.

Ms Cumming responded that it did not appear to be on Council’s website and if Council does have any development servicing plans it should make sure that they are made available on the website.

It was RESOLVED that the Committee receive the Internal Audit Report and the recommendations contained therein noting that management was in agreement with them.

The Chairperson thanked Mrs Cummings for her report and she departed the meeting at 4.11pm.

6.2 Internal Audit Methodology – Commercial Leases and Property Management

There was general discussion regarding the methodology for the next internal audit and the approach adopted by other Internal Audit Alliance member councils.

It was RESOLVED that the internal audit methodology as circulated be adopted subject to excluding “managing asset maintenance” from the scope of the audit.

7. Interim Audit Update

Danielle McKenzie of Crowe, Council’s external audit contractor to the Audit Office of NSW (AONSW), and Hong Wee Soh of the AONSW joined the meeting at this juncture to provide an update on the 2021/22 interim audit. The following points were noted:

- The interim audit has been completed.
- No new matters have been added to the Audit Management Letter (AML).
- There is one AML matter past its due date relating to a provision for gravel pit remediation however it is expected to be closed out at the final audit.
- The other AML issues carried forward relate to:
 - The recognition of Rural Fire Service (RFS) Assets
 - Related Party Transactions
 - Asset revaluations

The General Manager informed the meeting that a Mayoral Minute was passed at the Council meeting held on 18 July 2022 which reinforced Council’s position regarding RFS mobile assets i.e. that Council

does not control the RFS mobile assets and therefore will not be recognising them in its financial statements.

Hong Wee Soh drew attention to the risk of a qualified audit opinion being issued by the AONSW in relation to the RFS assets issue and advised that Council should consider the consequences of a qualified audit including in relation to existing loan agreements and grant agreements.

The Chairman thanked Danielle McKenzie and Hong Wee Soh for their update and they left the meeting at 4.20pm.

It was RESOLVED that the interim audit update presented by the representatives of Crowe and the AONSW be received and noted.

8. Prior Internal Audit Recommendations – Status Report

It was RESOLVED that the status of prior internal audit recommendations be noted.

9. Annual Tabling of Gifts and Benefits Register

It was RESOLVED that the tabling of the Gifts and Benefits Register be noted.

10. Annual Tabling of Fraud Control Policy and Fraud Control Action Plan

It was RESOLVED that the tabling of the Fraud Control Policy and Fraud Control Action Plan be noted.

11. Annual Tabling of Local Government Act Compliance Checklist

It was noted that the requirement to review the organisation structure within 12 months of a council election was yet to be complied with. The General Manager advised that he was waiting to fill a vacancy in a Director's position before progressing this matter prior to the statutory deadline of December 2022.

There was also discussion regarding the interpretation of the Integrated Planning and Reporting Guidelines issued by OLG in relation to asset management plans which were still under review. The Chairperson expressed the view that these plans did not have to be reviewed prior to 30 June but that the 30 June deadline may apply to the review of the asset management strategy.

It was RESOLVED that the tabling of the Local Government Act Compliance Checklist be noted.

12. Notice of Reportable Incidents

The General Manager advised that there were no incidents to report.

13. General Business

Nil.

14. Date of Next Meeting

2 November 2022 (tbc).

There being no further business the meeting closed at 4.35pm.

James Davis
Chairperson

Recommendation: that the Minutes of the Lockhart Shire Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee be received.

153/22 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Marston and Mathews that the Minutes of the Lockhart Shire Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee be received.

2. MINUTES OF THE TOURISM & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STEERING COMMITTEE HELD ON 4 AUGUST 2022 AT PLEASANT HILLS COMMUNITY HALL AND VIA ZOOM

Date & Time	Thursday 4 th August 2022 – 6pm.	
Location	Pleasant Hills Community Hall and via Zoom.	
Attendees	Erica Jones (Chair), Matt Holt (TEDO - Secretary), Navneet Choujar (Zoom), Brent Alexander (Zoom), Cr Fran Day (Zoom), Cr Ian Marston, Cr Bob Mathews (Zoom), Cr Peter Sharp, Fiona Beckett, Mandy Strong (Zoom), and Michelle Bailey (Zoom).	
Apologies	Heather Trevaskis, Rachel Viski, Jared Walker, Sharon Lambert.	
Declarations of Interest	Nil.	
The meeting opened with a Welcome from the Chair and an acknowledgment of country. All members present gave thirty seconds introduction of themselves.		
1. Confirmation of the minutes for the meeting Wednesday 1st June 2022		
Minutes	Nil.	Presenter/s
Actions	Nil.	Erica
Resolutions	Recommended on the motion of Fiona Beckett and Cr Fran Day that the minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 1st June 2022 as circulated, be confirmed as a true and correct record of the proceedings.	
2. Action from previous minutes		
Minutes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Code of Conduct – All committee members to sign they understand the Code of Conduct sheet in the share drive. • Membership – Lockhart Shire signed up to three memberships – Country Change, Visit Albury/Wodonga Tourism Partner Program and Visit Wagga Tourism Partner Program for 2022/2023. Complete. • Street lighting <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) New streetlights can be requested by Council, however full cost is to be paid for by Council, leaving budget implication. 2) Director of Engineering has requested information from Essential Energy re audit and who is responsible for lighting under the verandahs in Lockhart. • Visitor Signage/Maps – on Agenda. • Toilets <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) New toilets at CWA park added to Council project wish list for Councillors to consider. 2) Audit of locations, details of age and times cleaned etc requested via the Director of Community Services. • Marrocka Emu Farm - Open Charity Day in September 2022 – TEDO contacted Ian – Complete. 	Presenter/s Erica/Matt
Actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All committee members to read the code of conduct and sign the sheet acknowledge they understand it. • TEDO to action the outstanding items. 	

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Resolutions	Recommended on the motion by Cr Peter Sharp and Fiona Becket that all-committee members read the code of conduct and sign the sheet acknowledging they understand it and TEDO action the outstanding items.	
3. Projects Update		
Minutes	Project spreadsheet in share drive.	Presenter/s
Actions	Nil.	Matt
Resolutions	Recommended by Mandy Strong and Brent Alexander that the project list is updated and noted.	
4. I Love NSW Campaign Report		
Minutes	Full report and summary provided by TEDO in Share Drive.	Presenter/s
Actions	Nil.	Matt
Resolutions	Recommended on the motion by Michelle Bailey and Cr Ian Marston that Council note the report.	
5. The Driveway Campaign Report		
Minutes	Full report and summary provided by TEDO in Share Drive.	Presenter/s
Actions	Nil.	Matt
Resolutions	Recommended on the motion by Cr Fran Day and Michelle Bailey that Council note the report.	
6. Memberships – Visit Riverina		
Minutes	Prospectus, review of Visit Riverina, minutes of member and board members meeting from June provided as well as summary by TEDO in Share Drive asking members for recommendation to Council.	Presenter/s
Actions	Matt to action pending Council endorsement.	Matt
Resolutions	<p>Recommended on the motion by Mandy Strong and Fiona Beckett that Council.</p> <p>a) Hold its membership of Visit Riverina in recess for 2022/2023 due to ongoing uncertainty. (This will mean that very small promotions may be lost in the short term from the Visit Riverina website, social media, newsletter).</p> <p>b) Continue to work with Visit Riverina, Destination Riverina Murray, and other bodies to find the best possible solution for Councils and Industry to promote the Riverina in a more open, transparent, results driven and collective way that will bring greater results for Lockhart Shire and the wider region.</p> <p>c) TEDO provide ongoing updates of the review of Visit Riverina to Council through the TEDSC for the remainder of 2022/2023.</p>	
7. Visit Lockhart Shire Website/Maps/Brochures/Promotions		
Minutes	<p>TEDO spoke to members about phase one of the new Visit Lockhart Shire website including logo, features and what is included in Phase Two.</p> <p>TEDO also went through the newly designed shire/towns maps, brochures, and recent promotions.</p>	Presenter/s
Actions	TEDO to circulate brochures and maps to all members and ask for feedback by 19 August 2022.	Matt

Resolutions	Recommended on the motion of Cr Ian Marston and Cr Peter Sharp that Council note the marketing material and TEDO to action the above.	
8. Questions/Comments/Feedback/Updates		
	Topic	Member
Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional Development Australia - Riverina Board Meeting – Tour and Lunch - 11 August 2022 • Alirah Lub - Tourism and Administration Trainee has started with Council. Massive help so far for TEDO. • Project Energy Connect – surveyors, risk assessors etc will start at the end of the month in our area, with the project ramping up to the end of the year and into 2023. • Industrial Land in Lockhart all under deposit with full sale subject to approved DA application 	TEDO
Answer	Members to note.	
Update	The Rock Memorial Bowling Club - proposed mural.	Cr Ian Marston
Answer	TEDO to talk to Cr Ian Marston offline.	
Question	Riverina Bird Guide Brochure – can make our own brochure, with similar information and new locations.	Fiona Beckett
Answer	Yes, we can, on the list for projects.	TEDO
Question	Is the Australian Adventure Passport available at the Lockhart Shire Visitor Information Outlet?	Fiona Beckett
Answer	TEDO referred Fiona to contact Heather.	TEDO
Question	Is there plans for future Industrial Land blocks at Lockhart.	Brent Alexander
Answer	Yes, development of the residual lot will be up for discussion at the next Council meeting with a DA to be prepared	TEDO
9. Next meeting: Wednesday 7th September 2022 – 6pm – The Rock Bowling Club		
10. Meeting Closed: 7.50pm		

Recommendation: that the Minutes of the Tourism and Economic Development Steering Committee be received and the recommendations contained therein be adopted.

154/22 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Marston and Rockliff that the Minutes of the Tourism and Economic Development Steering Committee be received and the recommendations contained therein be adopted.

DELEGATES' REPORTS

1. INLAND RAIL (ALBURY TO ILLABO) COMMUNITY CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE – 27 JULY 2022 (GM: 22/9661)

I report having participated in a meeting of the Inland Rail (Albury to Illabo) Community Consultative Committee in Wagga Wagga on 27 July 2022. A summary of the main points emanating from the meeting is provided below.

- Three contractors have been shortlisted for the project i.e. John Holland, Laing O'Rourke and Martinus Rail.
- The Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) document is currently being finalised for public exhibition which is anticipated to occur on 17 August 2022.


 CHAIRPERSON

- Once the EIS is placed on public exhibition individuals will be able to register to receive a Summary of Findings document which will be made available for collection in digital format (USB). The full EIS document will be available on the DPIE website. There will also be community information sessions and an information podcast will be produced.
- Submissions will be able to be made during the 28 public exhibition period online via the Department's major projects website or by post.
- Briefings by Inland Rail on the EIS will also be offered to local councils.
- Public exhibition of the EIS will be followed by the release of further reports including the following:
 - A Response to Submissions Report outlining the proponent's response to the matters raised in submissions lodged during the public exhibition.
 - An Amendment Report outlining changes to the project made since public exhibition of the EIS and in response to submissions made.
- Detailed design is expected to commence in Q2 2023 with the appointment of a contractor with construction to commence in late 2023.
- There has been further engagement with identified schools, including Yerong Creek Public School, regarding noise impacts.
- The next round of funding (\$1,000 - \$4,000) through Inland Rail's Sponsorship and Donations Programme closes on 31 October 2022.

Peter Veneris
Delegate

2. RURAL SKILLS FORUM AND COUNTRY MAYORS' ASSOCIATION GENERAL MEETING HELD IN SYDNEY ON 4 AND 5 AUGUST 2022

(GM: 22/10345)

I attended a Rural Skills Forum and meeting of the Country Mayors Association in Sydney on 4 and 5 August 2022.

The Rural Skills Forum was addressed by the:

- National Commissioner for Rural Education.
- Minister for Skills and Training
- Shadow Minister for Skills and TAFE and Shadow Minister for Education
- Director of Policy, McKell Institute
- Manager, Parkes Country Universities Centre
- Chairman and CEO of Riverina Joint Organisation

The following points were noted:

- NSW TAFE trains 45% of Australia's TAFE students.
- Obstacles to undertaking vocational subjects at HSC level are being removed (e.g. cyber security, emergency management)
- Some 70,000 fee free courses are being offered by NSW TAFE (e.g. RSA and RSG).
- Two Institutes of Applied Technology are being established in NSW focusing on digital connectivity and advanced construction technology respectively.
- More needs to be done regarding digital connectivity in the regions to accommodate TAFE's shift to offering more online courses
- A trend showing an increase in the number of enrolled students not completing their course (dropout rate) needs to be addressed.

The Country Mayor's Association meeting was addressed by the:

- President of Local Government NSW
- Head of NBN Local

- Minister for Planning and Minister for Homes
- External Monitor of the Biodiversity Offset Scheme
- Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Health

The following points were noted:

- LGNSW continues to advocate for a change in legislation to resolve the recognition of RFS Assets issue.
- NBN will be investing \$750m to extend the range of fixed wireless towers which will benefit current users of the Sky Muster satellite service
- NBN is extending the free download (off peak) hours to 12 midnight – 4.00pm
- The NSW Government is allocating \$70 million to address health worker accommodation.

Cr Greg Verdon
Mayor

Recommendation: That the Delegates' reports be received and noted.

155/22 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Driscoll and Sharp that the Delegates' reports be received and noted.

STATUS REPORT/PRÉCIS OF CORRESPONDENCE ISSUED

Status Report: Council Resolutions and Tasks to be finalised

Minute No:	Officer to Action	Council Resolution	Action Taken
Council Meeting held 18 July 2022			
147/22	GM	<p>The Rock Community Centre Council:</p> <p>a) Authorises the General Manager to purchase Lot 2, Section 17, DP758971 in accordance with the updated valuation advice received by Council, and</p> <p>b) Request the General Manager to further investigate the possible purchase of Lot 2, DP1196082 Burke Street, The Rock.</p>	<p>Council's acceptance of the asking price has been conveyed to the vendor.</p> <p>Awaiting confirmation from vendor.</p> <p>Preliminary contamination report has been provided to a suitably qualified person to advise of remediation requirements (if any) if land is used for car parking purposes only.</p>
144/22	GM	<p>Policy Reviews</p> <p>1. Policy 2.54 Contract Management, as presented, be adopted.</p> <p>2. The following policies be placed on public exhibition for a period of not less than 28 days and any submissions received be considered prior to the policies being reaffirmed.</p> <p>a) Policy 2.28 Asbestos Cement</p> <p>b) Policy 2.55 Roadside Vegetation Management</p> <p>c) Policy 2.56 Mobile Food Vans</p>	<p>Policies placed on public exhibition – closing date for comment 15/8/2022.</p> <p>Complete.</p>

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Minute No:	Officer to Action	Council Resolution	Action Taken
143/22	GM	Membership of Regional Organisations Councillor Workshop to be held at 4.00pm on Monday, 15 August 2022 to consider Council membership of REROC and RIVJO and the proposed transition to a single organisation.	Workshop convened as scheduled. Complete.
141/22	GM	Request for Council to Purchase Private Access Council agrees to the request in principle subject to Council and the applicants agreeing to a reasonable cost sharing arrangement.	Quote for upgrading the access to an acceptable standard prior to transferring to Council has been prepared for forwarding to the landowners.
137/22	GM	Local Environmental Plan Review Council to engage LGNSW to deliver the "Planning for Councillors" training module in house.	LGNSW has been formally engaged to deliver the training on 6 September 2022 in the Council Chamber. Complete.
136/22	GM	Request for Financial Assistance – Explorers Rifle Club Council to carry out grading of the internal access road and other minor works at the Explorers Rifle Club with the cost of the works to be funded from the 2022/23 budget allocation for Section 356 contributions.	Explorers Rifle Club has been advised of Council's decision. Works to be scheduled.
132/22	GM	Mayoral Minute: Financial Accounting Treatment of RFS Mobile Assets "Red Fleet" 1) Council writes to the local State Member and Ministers 2) Council writes to Shadow Ministers 3) Council writes to the Auditor General 4) Re-affirms its position that RFS assets are not controlled by Council. 5) That Lockhart Shire Council affirms its support to Local Government NSW (LGNSW) and requests LGNSW continue advocating on Council's behalf to get clarification finally from the State Government about the accounting treatment of RFS assets.	Correspondence forwarded to Auditor-General, relevant Ministers, Shadow Ministers and MPs. Complete.
Ordinary Council Meeting held 20 June 2022			
121/22	GM	Preparation of Plans of Management – Council-managed Crown Land and Council-owned "Community" Land 1. Place the <i>Draft Lockhart Shire Council Plan of Management for Crown Land managed by Council and Council-owned land classified as 'community'</i> on public exhibition. 2. Hold a public hearing in accordance with section 40A of the Local Government Act in relation to the proposed change in categorisation.	Public notice of the public exhibition of the Draft PoM was given in the Daily Advertiser on 23 July 2022 and in the July Council Newsletter with submissions closing on 12 September 2022. Complete.

*Lockhart Shire Council
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Minute No:	Officer to Action	Council Resolution	Action Taken
116/22	GM	<p>Riverina Regional Library – Deed of Agreement 2022-2026</p> <p>Authority be granted for the Riverina Regional Library 2022-2026 Deed of Agreement be executed under Council's seal.</p>	Awaiting receipt of the original Deed for execution. The document is currently being circulated amongst member councils.
Ordinary Council Meeting held 16 May 2022			
109/22	GM	<p>Tender – 109 Green Street</p> <p>Council declines to accept the tender received from ASCO Group (Aust) Pty Ltd for the provision of public toilets at 109 Green Street Lockhart and seek separate quotations for the individual components of the project for the following reasons:</p> <p>a) Seeking separate quotations and being able to negotiate with different contractors for the different components of the project will provide more flexibility in seeking the most cost-effective solution bearing in mind that the funding approved under Round 4 of the Stronger Country Community Fund is less than the amount for which Council applied.</p> <p>b) Accepting the one tender that has been received for the public toilets without a contract in place for the community space component of the project will prove problematic as the community space and landscaping is critical to providing access to the public toilets.</p>	<p>Unsuccessful tenderer notified of Council's decision.</p> <p>Local builder engaged for the public toilets and individual quotations currently being sought for the landscaping component.</p>
92/22	GM/ TEDO	<p>Reconnecting Regional NSW – Community Events Program</p> <p>Council applies under the Reconnecting Regional NSW – Community Events Program subject to consultation with local event organisers.</p>	Application lodged based on responses received from event organisers and currently awaiting approval.
Ordinary Council Meeting held 21 March 2022			
59/22	DEES	<p>Review of Road Classification</p> <p>That Council:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> establishes a Road Classification Working Group to oversee a review of road classifications in the Shire; and nominates the following Councillors to participate in the Working Group <p>A Ward Cr Rockliff B Ward Cr Sharp C Ward Cr Verdon</p>	Meeting proposed for 22 August 2022.
56/22	GM	<p>Development of Lockhart Industrial Estate</p> <p>Council prepares a subdivision application for the development of Stage 3 of the Lockhart Industrial Estate.</p>	Refer separate report to Council (Staff Report 17 (Closed Session)).


 CHAIRPERSON

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Minute No:	Officer to Action	Council Resolution	Action Taken
48/22	GM	<p>Public Access – Plums Lane, The Rock</p> <p>Council agrees to maintain public access along the north/south section of Plums Lane at The Rock as the current laneway is not on the correct alignment and the adjoining landowner has blocked public access and that Council staff investigate the options for formation of a public road in the correct location.</p>	<p>A previously commissioned land survey held on file confirms that the existing formed track is situated on the adjoining private property.</p> <p>The corridor which is dedicated as public road is heavily treed with a significant amount of vegetation on it and therefore the formation of an all-weather access track on it will require significant expenditure.</p> <p>No further action proposed at this stage.</p> <p>Complete.</p>
Ordinary Council Meeting held 21 February 2022			
33/22	DEES	<p>Flood Mitigation Review – The Rock and Yerong Creek</p> <p>That Council:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Notes the information provided in this report. 2. Allocates \$65,000 from Council Reserves for the purchase of a mobile water pump and hoses. 3. Awaits the outcome of works to be undertaken by Transport for NSW to clear the table drains along the Olympic Highway before determining whether additional works are required to be funded by Council. 4. Applies to the next round of Floodplain Management grants (2022/23) to revise the Floodplain Risk Management Studies and Plan for The Rock. 5. Applies to the next round of Floodplain Management grants (2022/23) to undertake a Floodplain Risk Management Study and Plan for Yerong Creek. 6. Notes that a final report will not be available until after funding opportunities are finalised. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Noted – complete. 2. Pumps have been ordered, delivery is now expected during the week commencing 15 August 2022. Hoses have been received. 3. Table drains cleaned – final section to be completed. 4. Application lodged – complete. 5. Application lodged – complete. 6. Noted – complete.
23/22	DCCS	<p>Lockhart – Out of School Hours Care Service</p> <p>Further investigation of out-of-school-hours care requirements in Lockhart be undertaken.</p>	<p>Provider indicated current demand is not sufficient for a before & after school care program to be viable with the additional staff and programming required.</p> <p>Survey circulated during week commencing 20/06/2022.</p> <p>Refer separate report to Council (Staff Report 4).</p>

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Minute No:	Officer to Action	Council Resolution	Action Taken
Ordinary Council Meeting held 18 October 2021			
180/21	TEDO	<p>Committee Minutes – TEDSC held 5 October 2021</p> <p>Minutes of the Tourism and Economic Development Steering Committee held on 5 October 2021 be received and the recommendations contained therein be adopted with the exception that an information board be erected at Lockhart Caravan Park.</p>	<p>Information board at Caravan Park to be included in list of locations yet to be scoped.</p> <p>New maps and signs are being progressed.</p>
Ordinary Council Meeting held 20 September 2021			
174/21	GM	<p>Potential Property Acquisition for Community Development at The Rock</p> <p>Council authorises the General Manager to submit an offer for the purchase of Lot 2 Sec 17 DP758971 based on the independent valuation received by Council.</p>	<p>Superseded by minute no 147/22. Complete.</p>
Ordinary Council Meeting held 16 August 2021			
148/21	GM	<p>Proposed “Tim Fischer Way”</p> <p>Council to reinstate investigations into the erection of tourism signage indicating “Tim Fischer Way”.</p>	<p>Submission made to the Tourism Attractions Signs Assessment Committee.</p> <p>Plan to incorporate “Tim Fischer Way” touring route on new Visit Lockhart Shire website.</p> <p>New website now live. Functionality to facilitate “Tim Fischer Way” touring route being developed.</p>
Ordinary Council Meeting held 19 April 2021			
63/21	GM	<p>Residential Development – Lockhart</p> <p>1) That Council proceed with the subdivision of Lots 62 and 90 Prichard Place Lockhart as outlined in the report.</p> <p>2) That the cost of subdividing the land be funded from the Infrastructure Reserve with the proceeds of any land sales to be returned to the Reserve.</p>	<p>The development application for Lot 62 (westernmost lot) has been approved. The application for Lot 90 is still being processed as further investigation has been required regarding sewerage services to the site and compaction of a former dam on the site.</p>
Ordinary Council Meeting held 15 February 2021			
9/21	DCCS	<p>The Lockhart Recreation Ground Management Committee – Request for Financial Assistance</p> <p>Approve an interest-free loan to the Lockhart Recreation Ground Management Committee of up to \$70,000 with repayments being Year 1 \$4,200 and the remaining 14 years will be repayments of \$4,700 to support an application to Building Better Regions Fund – Infrastructure Projects Stream – Round Five.</p>	<p>This resolution will be actioned if the application to the Building Better Regions Fund – Infrastructure Projects Stream – Round Five is successful.</p> <p>The Lockhart Football Netball Club have been advised the grant application has been successful. A report will be provided at a future Council meeting.</p>

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Minute No:	Officer to Action	Council Resolution	Action Taken
Ordinary Council Meeting held 20 July 2020			
133/20	GM	<p>Naming of Bridges – Brookong Creek and Urana Lockhart Road</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Propose the bridge on Urana Lockhart Road be named Brookong Creek Bridge. 2. Propose the culvert over Brookong Creek in Green Street, Lockhart, be named Greens Gonyah Bridge, Brookong Creek. 3. Write to Transport for NSW advising of the proposed names for the bridge on Urana Lockhart Road and the new culvert over Brookong Creek, Lockhart. 	<p>Written to TfNSW advising of the proposed bridge and culverts names.</p> <p>Received response from TfNSW requesting further information. Wrote to NSW Aboriginal Land Council re proposed names. DEES also contacted TfNSW liaison officer on several occasions.</p> <p>Advice received on 3/8/22 regarding consultation with Wagga Local Aboriginal Lands Council.</p>
Ordinary Council Meeting held 20 April 2020			
70/20	GM	<p>Review of Operational Land</p> <p>Council adopts the following actions in relation to the review of land classified as “operational land”:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approach the adjoining owner of the land situated at 2410 Albury Road, Urangeline regarding potential sale or transfer of the land. 	<p>Contact has been made with the adjoining landowner and information provided regarding the Council owned land in anticipation of further discussions.</p> <p>The landowner is liaising with their solicitor.</p>
Ordinary Council Meeting held 18 July 2022 – Councillor Questions & Statements			
	GM	<p>Cr Rockliff – Essential Energy</p> <p>Raised concerns that Essential Energy may not be continuing its presence in Lockhart and the associated jobs may be lost to the town as a result. He suggested that Council write to Essential Energy requesting its depot and staff remain in Lockhart.</p>	<p>Correspondence has been forwarded to the CEO of Essential Energy.</p> <p>A reply has been received, confirming that there is no plan to close the depot.</p> <p>Complete.</p>
	GM	<p>Cr Rockliff – Commercial Approvals</p> <p>Enquired if Council can put on an understudy or trainee to assist in the processing of commercial applications? The process of referring them to Wagga is not satisfactory as they may be looked at differently.</p>	<p>Alternative arrangements have been made with a private firm providing building certification services.</p> <p>Complete.</p>
	DCCS	<p>Cr Mathews – Rates</p> <p>Advised he had received enquiries regarding why the calculations of rates for The Rock and Lockhart are different.</p>	<p>Mayor suggested to Cr Mathews that he arrange to meet with the Director Corporate and Community Services to gain an understanding of Council's rating structure.</p> <p>Meeting held with Cr Mathews on 10/8/22.</p> <p>Complete.</p>
	DCCS	<p>Cr Driscoll – The Rock Recreation Ground Toilets</p> <p>Advised that The Rock Recreation Ground toilets are looking very scrappy at the moment with mud etc. and enquired as to the current cleaning regime.</p>	<p>Currently cleaned 3x per week.</p> <p>Complete.</p>

Lockhart Shire Council
Ordinary Meeting – 15 August 2022

Minute No:	Officer to Action	Council Resolution	Action Taken
	DEES	Cr Driscoll – Laneway, Yerong/Bretton Streets Advised that the laneway between Bretton and Yerong Streets The Rock has a tree across it and a deep divot.	Tree has been removed and divot has been filled. Complete.
	GM	Cr Driscoll – New Subdivision, Lockhart Enquired if the new subdivision in Lockhart is progressing.	GM advised that the subdivision involves two Development Applications one of which has been approved with the other requiring additional information regarding dam that was previously on the site and has since been filled in. Refer minute no 63/21. Complete.
	GM	Cr Driscoll – Latest Census Data Enquired if the last census has shown that the Shire has grown? If so, it should be positive for sales.	Refer separate to Council (Staff Report 11). Complete.
	GM	Cr Day – Accommodation for Health Workers Enquired about accommodation for doctors and nurses. Has there been any discussion on where they stay when they come to Lockhart?	GM advised that Local Government receives updates through the Murrumbidgee Local Health District and noted that MLHD has received government funding to assist with accommodation for health workers. Complete.
	DCCS/ DEES	Cr Marston – The Rock Pony Club Advised that pony clubs are now required to load and unload horses from their floats in an enclosed area and requested some minor improvements to facilitate this.	Meeting held with DEES, DCCS and Pony Club on 29 July. Cost estimate for minor works being prepared.
	GM/ MB&P	Cr Marston – Mural, The Rock Bowling Club Provided a photo of a war memorial mural taken elsewhere in NSW and advised that The Rock RSL is considering something similar for The Rock Bowling Club and enquired as to whether a development application is required.	A DA may be required depending on the size and scale of the mural, i.e. surface area, further information to be obtained from applicant.
	DCCS	Cr Marston – Lighting Upgrades, LRCI P3 Enquired as to the progress of the lighting upgrades to be funded under the LRCI Phase 3 grants program.	Funding has been allocated under LRCI Phase 3. Project nomination form has been submitted to the funding body and waiting approval. Complete.
	GM	Cr Verdon – Letter of Thanks for Donation Requested that a letter of thanks be forwarded to The Rock Touch Association for the trees donated to The Rock Recreation Ground.	Letter forwarded 27 July 2022. Complete.

Lockhart Shire Council
Ordinary Meeting – 15 August 2022

Minute No:	Officer to Action	Council Resolution	Action Taken
Ordinary Council Meeting held 20 June 2022 – Councillor Questions & Statements			
Questions & Statements	GM/ DEES	Cr Sharp – Jim Willis Lane Referred to a previous request for a road sign at the end of this road and further advised the resident has requested gravel at the end of the lane as access has become very difficult in a normal passenger vehicle.	Signage installed. Road scheduled in mid-August.
	DCCS	Cr Hunter – Yerong Creek Bowling Club Advised the Bowling Club are still awaiting receipt of an Occupation Certificate for the building.	An accredited certifier for Class 2-9 buildings has been engaged to review and identify outstanding works to be completed for the issue of an Occupation Certificate.
	DCCS	Cr Walker – Electricity Bills, The Rock Showground Could the committee have some assistance in working out a split for the bill.	Electricity bills have been received and currently being analysed.
	GM	Cr Verdon – The Kings Own Hotel Advised he is receiving continual complaints regarding the stalled works at this property. Asked if a meeting could be arranged with the owners to ascertain their plans for the site and asked if a clean-up order could be issued.	A clean up Order has been issued pursuant to the Local Government Act.
	GM/ DEES	Cr Verdon – Tree, John St The Rock Advised he has received a complaint about a tree which has been pruned by Essential Energy and is now growing in a way which is causing the resident issues.	Claret Ash at 15 John St, The Rock was the only tree that fit the description. A fungal disease, Ash Dieback was discovered during assessment. Tree is not high risk but there is no cure other than removal of affected limbs to prevent further infection, causing further disfigurement in this case. Removal recommended. Resident to be advised in writing.
Ordinary Council Meeting held 16 May 2022 – Councillor Questions & Statements			
Questions & Statements	GM	Cr Day: Heavy Vehicle Access, Green Street Has received comments from residents expressing concern about the number of heavy vehicles still accessing Green Street and asked what more could be done to deter B-Double operators from using Green Street.	The Mayor raised the issue at the Police & Community Consultation Group meeting held on 24 May 2022 (refer Delegates Report). Cr Sharp advised that further directional signage is required on Spanish Avenue to direct vehicles to Flood Detour Road. Signs have been ordered, should be received and erected soon.
	DCCS	Cr Driscoll: Picket Fence, The Rock Rec Ground Requested an update on the progress of the replacement of the picket fence at The Rock Recreation Ground.	Contractor commenced work week of 11 July 2022. Complete.

Lockhart Shire Council
Ordinary Meeting – 15 August 2022

Minute No:	Officer to Action	Council Resolution	Action Taken
	GM/ DEES	Cr Driscoll: Yerong Street, The Rock Enquired as to when Yerong Street is likely to be reopened as any works in this area appear to be complete.	Works have been completed; Yerong Street is open. Complete.
	GM/ DEES	Cr Mathews: Footpath Strategy Asked if Council has a footpath strategy document as location of footpaths in Lockhart township seems to be haphazard, with some blocks having paths on both sides, some only have one and some having none at all.	Council does not have a formal footpath strategy or forward program. The most recent consideration of priorities was made in February and March 2020 when Council adopted a program for upgrading footpaths at Lockhart and The Rock with funds provided at the time under the Drought Communities Programme Extension. It is proposed to prepare a footpath strategy in the current financial year. Complete.
	GM	Cr Sharp: Ryans Lane Drew attention to this road, which is terrible condition, and requires some maintenance.	Ryans Lane – works complete. Ryan Stock Route – works began July 2022 (refer Works Program-June 2022). Complete.
	DEES	Cr Rockliff: Streetsweeper Asked for an update on the purchase of a streetsweeper suitable for use on the pavers.	Council to resource – Manager of Works to speak with Workshop Supervisor, to source pricing for a smaller streetsweeper than what Greater Hume used.
	DCCS	Cr Verdon: Public Showers, The Rock Rec Ground Advised the public showers at The Rock Recreation Ground are continually leaking, with campers reporting they are unable to turn off the taps completely, asked if all the washers could be replaced.	Plumber to inspect and fix. Complete.
Ordinary Council Meeting held 19 April 2022 – Councillor Questions & Statements			
Question & Statements	DEES (GM)	Cr Rockliff: Tree, Galore Street Referred to an email received by Council regarding a tree near 58 Galore Street, which appears to be eaten out at the bottom and could be dangerous. Cr Rockliff asked for an update on this matter.	Tree assessment has been completed in accordance with Australian Standards and landowner advised of the outcome. Tree assessment to be reviewed.
	GM	Cr Hunter: Connectivity Asked if there were any outcomes from the recent meeting with the Regional General Manager of Telstra.	Council currently collating information on blackspots and connectivity issues across the Shire to provide to the NSW Telco Authority. A survey for this purpose has been distributed to Shire residents and made available on Council's website. The survey responses are currently being collated.

Lockhart Shire Council
Ordinary Meeting – 15 August 2022

Minute No:	Officer to Action	Council Resolution	Action Taken
	DEES (GM)	Cr Driscoll: German Church Road “Davidsons Hill” Referred to the road being too narrow for heavy vehicles and the hill providing poor visibility. Cr Driscoll asked if something can be done on 500m of road in Lockhart Shire to where it meets the Wagga City Council boundary.	Cost estimate to be prepared.
	GM	Cr Day: Christmas Would like Council to consider Christmas lights in the main streets across the Shire, to bring back some positivity post-Covid.	Funding has been allocated under LRCI Phase 3. Project nomination form has been submitted to the funding body and waiting approval. Complete.
	GM	Cr Marston: Lighting, The Rock Recreation Ground Asked that replacement of the lights be considered for any unspent LRCI funds.	Funding has been allocated under LRCI Phase 3. Project nomination form has been submitted to the funding body and waiting approval. Complete.
	DEES	Cr Verdon: Pedestrian Crossing Brought attention to the section of Urana Street at the post office, where heavy vehicles are causing major “shoves” impeding the travel of mobility scooters.	A works request has been submitted and the matter is being attended to.
	DEES	Cr Verdon: Roads Budget Asked that Council considers a widening project near “Ryans Hill” on The Rock Collingullie Road.	Cost estimate to be prepared.
Ordinary Council Meeting held 21 March 2022 – Councillor Questions & Statements			
	MP&B	Cr Mathews: Bluebird Café Expressed concerns regarding the Bluebird Café, which has been closed for some time. Referred to the bird droppings at the front of the building and the possibility of harbourage of vermin inside the building, being a health and safety issue.	A notice of intention to serve an order was issued to the property owner. The property owner has now consented to the installation of bird netting, and this will be done in the coming weeks together with the other remaining shop fronts in Green Street. Property has been cleaned up and readied for sale. No further action to be taken, Complete.
Ordinary Council Meeting held 21 February 2022 – Councillor Questions & Statements			
Questions & Statements	DEES	Cr Walker: Bulloc Hill Road Asked for an update on progress of negotiations with Wagga City Council for the works done inadvertently in WWCC area.	Wagga City Council's Director Infrastructure Services (DIS) advised that their General Manager is supportive of reimbursing costs. DIS to validate work.

Lockhart Shire Council
Ordinary Meeting – 15 August 2022

Minute No:	Officer to Action	Council Resolution	Action Taken
Ordinary Council Meeting held 10 January 2022 – Councillor Questions & Statements			
Questions & Statements	DCCS	<p>Cr Driscoll: Technology</p> <p>Referred to the address via Zoom by Council's auditor and asked if the equipment in the Council chamber could be upgraded to allow better connectivity for online participation in Council meetings.</p>	<p>Upgrade currently being investigated as the projectors, which were installed during construction of the building, are now 10 years old and outdated.</p> <p>Contact has been made with a Leeton-based company and an on-site meeting is being scheduled.</p> <p>Funds allocated in the 2022/23 Operational Plan Budget.</p> <p>Quotes are being sourced.</p>
	DEES	<p>Cr Driscoll: Urana Street Median</p> <p>Enquired whether it was possible to reclassify the median strip in the road reserve of Urana Street at The Rock as recreation space so the road does not need to be closed for events such as markets.</p>	<p>Options will be investigated, an LEP review is soon to be undertaken which may assist in the process.</p>
Ordinary Council Meeting held 18 October 2021 – Councillor Questions & Statements			
Questions & Statements	DEES	<p>Cr Rockliff: Bridge on Green Street</p> <p>Noted that cumbungi and poplars are growing and becoming a bush fire concern.</p>	<p>Poplars and other introduced species in Brookong Creek have been earmarked for removal when budget and resources allow; with current staffing and workload it may be necessary to engage a contractor. The spillways are being cleared when water levels allow.</p> <p>No permit is required for further works within the creek bed.</p> <p>Requests for quotes to remove the poplar and other non-native species on the eastern bank from the pedestrian bridge to the roadhouse have been sent out. Quote accepted; work has been completed.</p> <p>Complete.</p>
	DEES	<p>Cr Marston: Sign, The Rock Recreation Ground</p> <p>Referred to an information sign at the recreation ground which has information on both sides but can only be read from the footpath because of access issues, asked if the sign could be relocated nearer to the playground to allow both sides to be viewed.</p>	<p>A new site has been decided. Relocation works are programmed.</p>

Lockhart Shire Council
Ordinary Meeting – 15 August 2022

Minute No:	Officer to Action	Council Resolution	Action Taken
Ordinary Council Meeting held 21 June 2021 – Councillor Questions & Statements			
Questions & Statements	DEES	<p>Cr Driscoll: Community Reflection Space</p> <p>Asked if it was possible the park across the road from The Rock Central School could be utilised as a place of quiet reflection for the town, particularly for those suffering the loss of loved ones due to suicide, which has had an impact on the community in recent years.</p>	<p>Park deemed appropriate for reflection space. Proponent to present proposal to Council for consideration.</p> <p>Cr Driscoll met with the General Manager and Manager Parks & Facilities to progress the project.</p> <p>Position agreed upon. Design to be finalised and costed.</p>
Ordinary Council Meeting held 15 February 2021 – Councillor Questions & Statements			
Questions & Statements	DEES	<p>Cr Driscoll – Natural Gas</p> <p>Referred to the natural gas pipeline which runs just outside The Rock township. Mentioned previous investigations which found that connection of the town was unfeasible. Asked if investigations could take place to see if the recent growth of the town might make that connection viable, and that Council pursue any opportunities that may assist in making it a feasible project.</p>	<p>Contact has been made with APA (pipeline owner) and Gemena (responsible for connection). The current network is 4km out of The Rock, crossing The Rock Mangoplah Road. Both APA and Gemena indicated that they have no current plans to extend the line. However, further enquiries are being made with Gemena.</p> <p>The issue has also been identified for inclusion in an MoU with a tenderer for the Inland Rail project.</p>

Date sent to Councillors	From	Subject
13/07/2022	General Manager	Advising of new DEES contact information.
25/07/2022	Executive Assistant	Enclosing ALGA News dated 15 July 2022.
25/07/2022	Mayor (via Exec Asst)	Mayoral Update
25/07/2022	Executive Assistant	Enclosing LG NSW news dated 25 July 2022.
01/08/2022	Executive Assistant	Enclosing ALGA News dated 29 July 2022.
02/08/2022	Executive Assistant	Enclosing LG NSW news dated 2 August 2022.
05/08/2022	General Manager	Providing details of Stronger Country Communities Fund Round 5.
09/08/2022	Executive Assistant	Enclosing LG NSW news dated 9 August 2022.

Recommendation: That the Status Report and Correspondence Précis be received and noted.

156/22	RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Marston and Rockliff that the Status Report and Correspondence Précis be received and noted.
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STAFF REPORTS

STRATEGIC DIRECTION A: A Connected and Resilient Community

1. REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE – VICTORY IN THE PACIFIC (VP) DAY EVENT – YERONG CREEK (DEES: 22/9527)

Executive Summary

Council received a request for a road closure and event assistance to hold a VP Day event at Yerong Creek on 15 August 2022. Relevant approval for the traffic changes have been received from the Local Traffic Committee. This report is for information.

Report

Council received a request from the Yerong Creek ANZAC Day Committee to hold a special event on VP Day to commemorate peace and acknowledge the service of local people during WW2 and reunite the families of those who served overseas. A senior officer of the RAAF is invited as guest speaker. Arrangements for the commemoration of VP Day will be as follows:

- From 10:30 AM, 15 August 2022, the march will assemble in Plunkett St at the corner of Finlayson Rd.
- Led by the Kapooka Army Band, group will march west to the end of the traffic islands, then east to in front of Stanley Galvin Park. The road will be clear by 11:20 AM.
- Parking will be normal except for a clear area of 30 metres in front of the park.
- The event in the park will conclude by 12:30 PM.

The Committee requested assistance with the traffic management arrangements including development of a traffic control plan and implementing the plan. Invitations were extended by the committee to the Mayor, General Manager and Tourism and Economic Development Officer.

The assistance was provided as requested.

Integrated Planning and Reporting Reference

- A1: Facilitate and support our community to deliver vibrant and dynamic community events.
A1: Build capacity, capability and partnerships to encourage sustainable community groups and clubs.
E2: Provide effective community engagement practices with the community.
E3: Promote strong and beneficial relationships between local government and service providers, other levels of government and the community.

Legislative Policy & Planning Implications

Nil.

Budget & Financial Aspects

The estimated cost to assist is approximately \$400 and will be funded from existing budgets.

Attachments

Nil.

Recommendation: That Council note the assistance provided to the Yerong Creek ANZAC Day Committee to hold a VP Day event on 15 August 2022.

157/22 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Sharp and Hunter that Council notes the assistance provided to the Yerong Creek ANZAC Day Committee to hold a VP Day event on 15 August 2022.

2. **ROUND 5 – STRONGER COUNTRY COMMUNITIES FUND**

(GM: 22/10292)

Executive Summary

The NSW Government has announced a fifth round of funding under the Stronger Country Communities Fund. The purpose of this report is to endorse the projects identified at a Councillor Workshop to be held prior to the Council meeting for submission under the grant program.

Report

On 5 August 2022 Round 5 of the Stronger Country Communities Fund (SCCF) was announced.

The funding available under Round 5 for projects in the Lockhart Shire Local Government Area is \$1,252,640. Of this amount \$861,190 is available to Council as the applicant with the balance of the allocation open only to eligible community organisations i.e. community organisations registered as incorporated associations and not-for-profit community organisations registered as public companies.

The aim of Round 5 of the SCCF is to boost the wellbeing of communities in regional areas by providing new or upgraded social and sporting infrastructure, or community programs that have strong local support.

Projects must be for infrastructure or community programs that boost the wellbeing of regional areas through improved amenity and positive social outcomes. Funding is available for local community and sporting infrastructure, street beautification, projects enhancing accessibility and inclusion for people with disability, projects improving outcomes for Aboriginal people, and community programs and local events. Community amenity projects must be for either:

- construction of new, or upgrades to existing, local community infrastructure
- construction of new, or upgrades to existing, local sporting infrastructure
- capital works related to street beautification and other public places that promote the health, happiness and wellbeing of the community
- delivering programs that benefit the local community and provide public benefit
- infrastructure to assist the delivery of general community programs
- infrastructure or community projects or programs which improve and promote accessibility and inclusion.

Projects are not eligible for funding if they are:

- located outside an eligible regional Local Government Area
- not submitted by an eligible entity
- located across multiple Local Government Areas boundaries
- exclusively for planning activities (e.g. master planning or heritage studies)
- for the maintenance or construction of local roads or other ongoing core service infrastructure works that are the ordinary responsibility of council or other levels of government
- for the delivery of essential or core government services funded from another source, such as local government, NSW Government or Commonwealth Government
- seeking retrospective funding to cover any project component already completed before applicants are informed of the outcome or funding is announced
- for ongoing staff or operational costs beyond two years from project announcement for programs, or any ongoing staff or operational costs for infrastructure projects
- for a general works package without specific scope, costs and location (e.g. 'upgrading lighting at sports ovals' without identifying the work required, number of sites or locations)
- exclusively for marketing, branding, advertising or product promotion, including tourism marketing
- providing direct commercial and/or exclusive private benefit to an individual or business
- not clearly providing benefits that will significantly contribute to the objectives of the Stronger Country Communities Fund.

- the recipient of duplicate grant funding from another NSW or Australian Government grant program for the same project.
- Solely for the maintenance of any infrastructure i.e. painting or beautification repairs without upgrading the functionality of the infrastructure.

The minimum grant amount is \$100,000.

The closing date for applications is 23 September 2023.

A Councillor Workshop is being convened at 3.30pm on Monday 15 August to enable projects to be discussed and agreed upon for submission under Round 5 of SCCF.

Integrated Planning and Reporting Reference

- A1: Provide support and advice to community groups, clubs, and volunteers.
- A1: Support cultural and sporting opportunities that respond to the needs of the community.
- A2: Support, or partner to provide, welcoming and well-maintained community spaces and facilities.
- B1: Manage and improve the appearance of our towns, in line with their desired identities
- D1: Our assets and infrastructure are well planned and managed to meet the needs of the community now and into the future

Legislative Policy and Planning Implications

Nil.

Budget and Financial Aspects

A co-contribution is not required for applications submitted under the SCCF Program.

Attachments

Nil.

Recommendation: That, as agreed at the Councillor Workshop held earlier in the day, Council submit the following projects for funding under Round 5 of the Stronger Country Communities Grant Program:

[list to be inserted]

158/22	RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Rockliff and Driscoll that as agreed at the Councillor Workshop held earlier in the day, Council submit the following projects for funding under Round 5 of the Stronger Country Communities Grant Program:	
	• Christmas lights and decorations – Lockhart, The Rock and Yerong Creek	\$100,000
	• Pleasant Hills Tennis Club – Upgrade Tennis Courts & Lights	\$110,000
	• Implementation of Brookong Creek Masterplan	\$120,000
	• The Rock Rec. Ground Precinct – Community Centre	<u>\$531,190</u>
		<u>\$861,190</u>

3. RECOGNITION OF NSW RURAL FIRE SERVICE ASSETS – UPDATE

(GM: 22/10324)

Executive Summary

An update has been received from Local Government NSW regarding its advocacy efforts in relation to the recording of mobile Rural Fire Service (RFS) assets in councils' financial statements.

Report

Council at its meeting held on 18 July 2022 resolved to advise the Auditor-General that it will not be recording the mobile RFS assets i.e. the red fleet, in its financial statements and to support the Local Government NSW (LGNSW) campaign in relation to this matter. LGNSW continues to make representations to the NSW Government and has provided the following update:

“Thank you to the many councils that have advised us they will not be recording RFS assets (the “Red Fleet”) on this year’s financial statements.

In addition to the 68 councils that did not record assets last year, dozens more have joined the LGNSW campaign by resolving to no longer entertain the NSW Government’s fanciful position that RFS assets are controlled by councils and as a result, will no longer be recording assets. We have even received advice from a number of metropolitan councils that they have joined the campaign in support of affected councils.

As part of this campaign, LGNSW wrote to Treasurer the Hon Matt Kean MP, Minister for Emergency Services the Hon Steph Cooke MP, Minister for Local Government the Hon Wendy Tuckerman MP and the NSW Auditor-General.

LGNSW has this week received a response from the Treasurer, which disappointingly reaffirms the RFS and NSW Treasury position that assesses that certain fire-fighting equipment vested to councils is not controlled by the RFS or NSW Government for accounting purposes. The Treasurer has also advised that the NSW Audit Office has accepted this position and made recommendations to support councils recognising red fleet assets in their financial statements.

The Treasurer has also provided a copy of the Treasury Accounting Paper, Rural Fire Service – Considerations of ownership of the red fleet assets. LGNSW finds this paper questionable and without legitimacy – not only because its conclusion is not supported by analysis, but also because the paper is not on an official letterhead, it is undated, and it has no author. It appears the paper has only recently been prepared in response to the sector’s advocacy in a desperate attempt to justify the Government’s position.

Meanwhile, the pressure on councils continues to grow with councils reporting that pre-audit advice from the Auditor-General’s contract auditors is affirming that councils must undertake a stocktake of RFS assets and recognise them as council assets. The advice is that failure to do so will lead to a qualified audit report. Ironically, we understand that some of the contract auditors have raised concerns with the Auditor-General that the Government’s position is without sound foundation.

The Treasurer has also advised that NSW Treasury will provide LGNSW with a current list of red fleet assets compiled by the RFS. We understand specific lists are to be provided to individual councils. LGNSW has not yet received the list and councils have advised that they have not received their individual lists. We have serious concerns that this list is incomplete and inaccurate. We urge high caution in relying on this document when released.

While the Treasurer has acknowledged council concerns about the financial impact of this position, he has unfortunately not offered a solution to alleviate these additional costs. However, the Treasurer has agreed to meet with LGNSW, Minister Cooke, Minister Tuckerman and the Auditor-General in the near future.

While the Treasurer expects that this matter will be resolved on the NSW Government’s terms before the next financial year, this position is not acceptable to the local government sector.

LGNSW commends the many councils that have adopted the LGNSW template Mayoral Minute opposing a stocktake and recording of the RFS assets in council financial statements. It is pleasing that a number of councils have for the first time resolved to not book RFS assets, including a number of metropolitan councils on the urban fringe. Furthermore, a number of inner metropolitan councils have also resolved to support rural and regional councils in this matter.

We strongly urge the remaining councils to adopt the Minute or similar measures to express their opposition.

LGNSW will continue to strongly oppose the NSW Government’s position on this issue, alongside the committed and united voice of councils across the state.

Thank you to all of the councils that have already moved motions and written in support of this campaign.”

Integrated Planning and Reporting Reference

- A1: Work with stakeholders to ensure our community is safe and well prepared to respond to adversity.
- E1: Continue to enhance sound financial management policies and practices.
- E1: Continue the development of asset management strategy and plans.
- E1: Meet all governance and regulatory requirements in the conduct of Council operations

Legislative Policy & Planning Implications

Representations have been made in accordance with the Mayoral Minute passed at the Council meeting held on 18 July 2022 urging the Government to amend s119 of the Rural Fires Act 1997 so that the effect is to make it clear that RFS assets are not the property of councils.

Budget & Financial Aspects

Recognising the RFS mobile assets in Council's financial statements will provide challenges for Council in being able to undertake a complete and accurate stocktake of the assets as well as have implications for the amount of depreciation recorded in Council's financial statements.

Attachments

Nil.

Recommendation: That the information be noted.

159/22 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Mathews and Day that the information be noted.
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4. LOCKHART OUT OF SCHOOL HOURS (OOSH) CARE SERVICE

(DCCS: 22/10467)

Executive Summary

To consider survey results for a proposal to establish an Out of School Hours Care (OOSH) service at Lockhart.

Report

Further to Council's request to investigate the demand for an Out of School Hours Care Service to be established at Lockhart, the following is provided as an update on those investigations.

In late June 2022, a survey was sent to all families of students at St Joseph's Primary School, Lockhart and the Lockhart Central School. To date Council has received 16 survey responses on Survey Monkey.

The survey responses have indicated demand for Before School Care, After School Care and Vacation Care services to be in the range of 8 to 13 children.

Council has also held several positive meetings with representatives from the NSW Department of Education's Before & After School Care (BASC) Program team. The BASC team indicated that demand in the range 8 to 13 for an OOSH service is borderline as to whether the service would be financially viable.

With these response figures to date, the BASC team representative suggested that if an OOSH service was to be established in Lockhart that it be on a trial basis for 12 months.

The proposed location for the OOSH service would be at Lockhart Central School, and most likely in its Library building. The BASC team and the Principal at Lockhart Central School will further investigate the specifications of the Library to assess its suitability. Initial discussions have indicated minimal capital costs to setup for an OOSH service would be required.

Integrated Planning and Reporting Reference

- A2: Our community services and facilities meet the needs of the community.
- A3: People of all ages, abilities and backgrounds participate in community life.
- Support our children and young people.

Legislative Policy & Planning Implications

Nil.

Budget & Financial Aspects

The establishment of an OOSH at Lockhart will impact the budget as it is unlikely to return a surplus or breakeven in the first 12 months.

Attachments

- Survey results distributed to councillors separately.

Recommendation: That Council provides in-principle support to continuing the investigations into establishing an Out of School Hours Care at Lockhart with a further report to be presented to Council.

160/22 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Mathews and Driscoll that Council undertakes a 12-month trial period of Out of School Hours Care at Lockhart, under a single management structure for childcare services in the Shire.

STRATEGIC DIRECTION B: A Dynamic and Prosperous Economy

5. NSW GOVERNMENT ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGING GRANTS

(DEES: 22/9673)

Executive Summary

Applications are currently open for Electric Vehicle (EV) charging stations within specified local government areas (LGAs). Chargers will be funded up to 75% by the NSW State Government.

Background

The NSW State Government is investing \$20 million to assist eligible regional NSW destinations by co-funding the purchase and installation of Level 2 (7kW & 22kW 3-phase AC) EV chargers. Lockhart Shire is an eligible LGA, with Lockhart and Yerong Creek being identified in the NSW Government Master Plan for EV charging.

The grant covers 75% of the purchase cost of each charger and 75% of the cost of installation (installation funding is capped at \$1,000 per charger). Council can also opt to install a software subscription service with grant funding of 50% available. The grants close on 23 September 2022. There is no limit to the number of sites that funding can be applied for however a maximum of four can be funded at the one site.

Report

It is proposed to apply for funding to install EV chargers at Lockhart, Yerong Creek and The Rock. The chargers must be installed off-street which limits the number of locations that meet the funding criteria. The sites must also be specific types such as a caravan park, landmark or recreation ground. Benefits of EV chargers include attracting new visitors to the shire and increasing the length of time visitors spend in the area. All chargers will be dual servicing i.e. two cars can charge at the same time.

This report seeks council endorsement to apply for grant funding at the following locations which meet the funding requirements:

- Lockhart Caravan Park
- Lockhart Water Tower Car Park
- The Rock Recreation Ground
- The Rock Observatory/Golf Course/Showgrounds
- Yerong Creek Recreation Ground

The report also seeks endorsement to apply for grant funding for a software subscription service which allows collection of payments for electricity use.

The estimated cost of each charger is \$7,000. To purchase five chargers Council would need to contribute approximately \$8,750 and a further \$2,000 for installation. Software subscription is approximately \$250 per annum per charge point, 50% being \$1,250.

Integrated Planning and Reporting Reference

- B1: Co-ordinate activities and services in town to attract local shoppers and visitors to town centres.
B2: Support and develop infrastructure for our tourism sector

Legislative Policy & Planning Implications

The installation of the EV chargers is exempt development when it conforms to State Environmental Planning Policy (Transport and Infrastructure) 2021, Div. 17, Subdiv. 3, Clause 2.124.

Budget & Financial Aspects

Council will need to allocate \$12,000 of its own funding if all five applications are successful.

Attachments

Nil.

Recommendation: that Council:

1. Endorse the application for grant funding of EV destination chargers and software subscription at:
 - Lockhart Caravan Park
 - Lockhart Water Tower Car Park
 - The Rock Recreation Ground
 - The Rock Observatory/Golf Course/Showgrounds
 - Yerong Creek Recreation Ground
2. Allocate \$12,000 as Council's contribution to the work.
3. Consult with relevant Section 355 Committees to determine the most suitable location for successfully funded chargers.

161/22 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Sharp and Hunter that Council:

1. Endorse the application for grant funding of EV destination chargers and software subscription at:
 - Lockhart Caravan Park
 - Lockhart Water Tower Car Park
 - The Rock Recreation Ground
 - The Rock Observatory/Golf Course/Showgrounds
 - Yerong Creek Recreation Ground
2. Allocate \$12,000 as Council's contribution to the work.
3. Consult with relevant Section 355 Committees to determine the most suitable location for successfully funded chargers.

STRATEGIC DIRECTION C: An Environment that is Respected and Protected

6. PROJECT ENERGYCONNECT UPDATE

(GM: 22/9986)

Executive Summary

A further update is provided in relation to Project EnergyConnect involving the construction of an above ground transmission line between Robertstown in South Australia and Wagga Wagga in NSW.

Report

Transgrid has advised that SecureEnergy JV will be commencing early works in mid to late August on its new 700km electricity transmission line on the NSW-Eastern section of the project alignment. These activities will affect the local government areas of Wentworth, Balranald, Edward River, Federation, Hay, Lockhart, Murray River, Murrumbidgee and Wagga Wagga.

These works are expected to be completed by mid-2023, weather permitting.

According to Transgrid during these works, nearby residents and businesses can expect very little disruption, with most works being undertaken on private landowner properties.

Before main works can commence on EnergyConnect, several pre-construction activities need to take place to gain a greater understanding of the site conditions at the proposed locations of the powerlines and associated substations. Early works will commence with the following activities:

- Dilapidation and Survey Works – to gather information for the detailed design stage of the project and to set out the environmental and cultural heritage boundaries.
- Environment Monitoring and Assessment – to provide baseline data prior to construction activities taking place. The information will be used to monitor and mitigate any environmental disturbance during construction activities.
- Geotechnical Investigations – to gain an understanding of the underground geological conditions and to inform the detailed design of the project.

Transgrid further advises that SecureEnergy's early works team will comprise between 50 and 70 people. The teams will use the closest available accommodation ahead of the establishment of its workers camps at Wentworth, Buronga, Dinawan (between Jerilderie and Coleambally), Cobb Highway/Booroorban, Balranald and Lockhart which will accommodate more than 1,450 people at peak.

Prior to permanent construction, clearing and grubbing works for the establishment of the camps and laydowns will begin in late 2022. The commencement of road access points on the overhead transmission line route will begin in the first quarter of 2023.

A longitudinal survey measuring community sentiment about Project EnergyConnect and Transgrid more broadly referred to as "Local Voices" is being conducted by Voconiq.

The survey commenced in the Mildura area in early August and will continue across Local Government Areas (LGA) along the alignment for the remainder of August and then at six-month intervals for at least the next 2 years.

Landowners and other stakeholders who have registered to receive Transgrid's Newsletters will be contacted directly but anyone interested can participate.

Voconiq are also placing recruiters on the ground at key towns along the route to ask people to participate. Respondents recruited on foot are offered a grocery voucher to participate. They will be outside the Bluebird Cafe in Lockhart on Saturday 13 August.

As a token of their appreciation for community members participating in the survey, Transgrid will provide \$10,000 to charities that provide important support services to community members in the regions. At the end of the survey three charities are listed and the respondent can provide his/her order of preference for the charities to receive either \$5,000, \$3,500 or \$1,500. Transgrid will continue to support these charities each time it undertakes a round of survey.

Integrated Planning and Reporting Reference

C1: Ensure responsible development practices are exercised.

Legislative Policy & Planning Implications

Project EnergyConnect has been declared Critical State Significant Infrastructure and as a result the NSW section of the project will be assessed at a State Government level under the State Significant Infrastructure process. The consent authority for this Project is the Minister for Planning.

Budget & Financial Aspects

Nil.

Attachments

Nil.

Recommendation: That the information be noted.

162/22 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Marston and Sharp that the information be noted.

STRATEGIC DIRECTION D: Infrastructure for the Long-Term Needs of the Community

7. ENGINEERING AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES REPORT

Executive Summary

Monthly report on engineering and environmental services matters.

Background Information

a) **Works**

Floods November 2021 and January 2022: Emergency works for the November 2021 flood event is completed with emergency works for the January 2022 flood event nearing completion.

Prichard PI: Minor drainage works will be carried out when weather permits to complete the project.

Lockhart Kywong Rd – 1.25km North of Slocums Ln: three structures now completed. Minor roadworks will take place to complete the project, as weather permits.

Mittagong Yerong Creek Road: Funding secured through the Fixing Local Roads program to increase the capacity of two culverts and add additional width on Mittagong Yerong Creek Road with construction scheduled to commence in August 2022, weather permitting.

Unsealed road maintenance of Shire gravel roads has been conducted on: Illetts Lane, Benders Lane, Clancys Lane, Dan Gleasons Lane, Doigs Lane, Erinvale Road, Forcks Lane, Klemkes Road, Jones Lane, Lieschkes Lane, Mount Ulva Road, Pietches Road, Stoney Park Road, Wallendoon Access Road, Munyabla Boundary Road, Ryan Stock Route, Ryan Lane, Spurrells Road and Wetmores Lane.

Gravel resheets have been conducted on, Soldier Settlement Road, Ryan Lane and Wetmores Lane.

The removal of vegetation on local rural roads has been conducted on County Boundary Road and Osborne Yerong Creek Road.

The bitumen crew have been kept busy with an increase of pavement failures due to the weather. Routine maintenance has continued on our Local and Regional Roads.

b) **Parks and Gardens:**

Ave of Honour, The Rock – Kurrajong

Council has sourced advanced Kurrajong specimens for planting where trees were previously removed. Some planting has commenced where possible, a mini digger will be sought to excavate further holes and remove old roots.

Removal of dead trees, pruning of trees suffering from severe dieback, and removal of dead limbs has mostly been completed. The crown has been removed from dead trees, removal of trucks and stump grinding will be scheduled as resources become available. It is hoped that the pruning of the trees with dieback will help encourage new growth and prolong their lifespan, giving new trees time to establish before too many of the older trees succumb.

The Rock Recreation Ground

The over mature peppercorn trees were recently removed as part of the boundary track upgrade. Eucalyptus eximia nana, dwarf yellow bloodwood have been planted thanks to a donation from The Rock Touch Football.

Lockhart Caravan Park Entrance, Green St

Replacement of the old granite path with paving has commenced. Refurbishment will also include replacement of pebble surface with pea granite and the extension of the existing garden bed.

This area is already the home of the annual winner of Spirit of the Land sculpture and will also become the permanent home of the 'Spirit of the Land' Frame Sculpture, kindly donated by its creator David Fenwick of Weathered Garden Art, Mangoplah. The frame was very popular at the 2019 Spirit of the Land Festival with many visitors posing for photos behind it, its permanent inclusion in this position will allow visitors to take photos of themselves with the caravan park and creek backdrop throughout the year and can also be used during the festival.

Parks and Gardens

Along with the ongoing garden maintenance of regular weeding, spraying, pruning, deadheading, and mulching, the shires roses have also been pruned, fertilised and mulched.

Walter Day Park is also looking very open at the moment due to some hard pruning of some very leggy bottlebrush and melaleuca. These species should take the hard pruning well and recover quickly with fresh new shrubby growth to fill out the gardens better.

Weed Control

Weed control by mechanical and chemical methods are undertaken regularly in urban areas. Pesticides commonly used are Glyphosate and Dicamba. Signage will be placed at property entrance when spraying is in progress.

Freehand herbicide has been trialed in several lawn situations to test its ability to suppress the germination of khaki weed and Caltrop (bindii/cathead) seed. Freehand is for pre-emergent weed control of annual grasses, susceptible sedge species and many small-seeded broadleaf weeds in ornamental landscape and warm season turf situations. The trial appears to have been quite successful; use will be extended next season.

Mowing and Slashing

Growth has slowed significantly; slashing in towns and villages is still being conducted as required. Many roadsides are quite saturated; it will be difficult to get machines on these areas for the foreseeable future.

Growth of irrigated lawns is being monitored and mowed as required.

Trees

Replacement trees have been planted on Prichard Place.

The tree maintenance program has continued. Council's priority has been high risk, dead, dying, or damaged trees. The bulk of these have been completed and the usual under pruning of street trees has commenced.

Watering of any trees planted in the last two years has ceased due to regular rain, cooler temperatures, and dormancy of many species.

Lockhart Shires Street Tree Policy 2.44 states: 'Council is responsible for the planting and maintenance of street trees, including the selection of species, regular health, and safety checks, pruning, and removal and replanting requirements.

Issues presented to residents regarding street trees, including species selection, maintenance and/or removal should be made in writing and addressed to the General Manager. Such issues will be resolved based on financial and time restraints.

c) **Biosecurity**

Control Program

Priority has been given to the control of Bridal creeper (*Asparagus asparagoides*) and Horehound (*Marrubium vulgare*) on roadside reserves and council managed land.

Henty Machinery Field Days

The Henty Machinery Field Days are scheduled for the 20 to 22 September. Council's Environmental Officer will represent the Riverina WAP (Weeds Action Program) in the 'Weeds Shed'. This is a great opportunity to interaction with members of the public to: assist with plant identification, discuss best control management practices, advise on new advancements in the biological control sector, and discuss issues regarding biosecurity obligations and land tenure.

PESTS

Common White Snail Baiting Program

Snail baiting application occurred on Fairview Lane on 21 July.

Spring Fox Baiting

In preparation for the spring fox baiting program, advertisement in local newspapers will occur in August. Fox baiting on Galore Hill Scenic Reserve and Kincaid's Reserve is scheduled to begin on 6 September.

ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS

Council Pest Management Practices

BirdLife Australia has requested that councils review their pest management practices, to avoid the use of Second-generation Anticoagulant Rodenticides (SGARs), which are harmful to native birds and wildlife, as well as household pets. An action kit for councils has been developed to assist. This program has been implemented in response to the high number of birds of prey that died from secondary poisoning in the last mouse plague.

WIRES

Following a recent collaboration between WIRES and Sutherland Shire Council, WIRES has contacted councils offering an opportunity to partner with WIRES to support native wildlife. WIRES is hoping to initiate similar programs across NSW to develop plantations that act as an ongoing harvestable food source for native wildlife in the care of WIRES.

TransGrid Project Energy Connect (PEC)

Lockhart Shire Council has been notified of TransGrid intent to construct transmission lines over 24 council roads, as well as Cullivel State Forest, Brookong Travelling Stock Reserve, Brookong State Forest, Brookong Creek and Burkes Creek. Where detrimental environmental aspects will be associated with installation, Lockhart Shire Council is objecting. These decisions have been made based on vegetation composition, endangered ecological communities, threatened species, native fauna habitat, vegetation conservation value, and the presence of Aboriginal culture and heritage.

- d) **Development Applications:** The following development applications were approved, with conditions, from 1 July to 31 July 2022.

DA/CDC No	Development	Applicant	Site of Development
DA79/22	Shed & Awning	Sharni Wheatley, Maxand Pty Ltd	1 Treasure Street, Lockhart
DA80/22	Garage & Carport	Glenn Leckie	11 Cox Street, Yerong Creek
DA82/22	Garage & Carport	Peter Bailey	9 Carson Road, The Rock
CDC02/23	Shed	Andrew Patterson	23 King Street, The Rock
CDC03/23 PC	Inground Swimming Pool	Dartnell Building Certifiers	41 Healys Lane, Milbrulong
DA04/23	Shed	Simon Hounsell	1 Bond Street, Lockhart

DA/CDC No	Development	Applicant	Site of Development
CDC05/23 PC	Dwelling	Fine Eye Designs	118 The Rock Collingullie Road, The Rock

Legislative Policy and Planning Implications

Applications are processed under the provisions of the *Environmental Planning & Assessment Act 1979*. Weed inspections and associated activities are carried out in accordance the *Biosecurity Act 2015* and associated regulations.

Integrated Planning and Reporting Reference

C2: Flora and Fauna are protected across the Shire.

D1: Our assets and infrastructure are well planned and managed to meet the needs of the community now and into the future.

D2: Our Planning and development controls work to attract new residents and investment.

Budget and Financial Aspects

Will be conducted within Council's allocated budget.

Attachment

- Works Programme (to be handed out separately at the meeting).

Recommendation: That Council notes the information provided in the Engineering and Environmental Services report.

163/22 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Day and Rockliff that Council notes the information provided in the Engineering and Environmental Services Report.

8. VARIATION TO LOCKHART DEVELOPMENT CONTROL PLAN 2016 – DA01/23

(MB&P: 22/9128)

Executive Summary

Council have received a development application (DA01/23) for the construction of a shed at 4 Watson Street, The Rock (Lot 1 Section 15 DP977904). The development application has been submitted to Council for determination as the proposed development exceeds the maximum height permitted under the Lockhart Development Control Plan 2016.

Background Information

Council have received a development application (DA01/23) for the construction of a shed at 4 Watson Street, The Rock (Lot 1 Section 15 DP977904). Please refer to the plans at Attachment A.

The subject land is zoned RU5 Village under the Lockhart Local Environmental Plan 2012 and it is located towards the southwestern fringe of the village. The area of the subject allotment is 4.161 hectares (10.281 acres) and it is currently used for small scale agricultural purposes (cropping and livestock). The applicant proposes to build a shed, for the purposes of storing the farm machinery utilised on the property, adjacent to the eastern boundary of the allotment. There is currently a dwelling and several ancillary outbuildings on the property with an existing vehicular access from Watson Street. The proposed shed has the following dimensions.

- 18m long x 12m wide
- Floor area 216m²
- Wall height to the top of the gutter 5.0 metres
- Overall shed height to the ridge 6.1 metres

The Lockhart Development Control Plan 2016 (DCP) has the following development controls relating to sheds in village areas.

Development Control	Comments
2.2 Side setbacks	
<p>All buildings will be set back 3 metres from side street (secondary street) boundaries;</p> <p>All enclosed outbuildings are to be erected a minimum of 900mm from side boundaries (except secondary road frontages) with the exception of brick walls which may be erected up to the side boundary provided that this wall does not contain any windows/doors, etc. and if, in the opinion of Council, it does not affect the amenity of the adjoining property.</p> <p>A clearance of 1 metre is to be maintained from rear boundaries.</p>	<p>Complies. Watson Street is considered to be the principal frontage/boundary and Olympic Highway the secondary frontage/boundary. The proposed setback from the Olympic Highway boundary is approximately 190 metres.</p> <p>The proposed setback (1.0 metre) from the Watson Street boundary is considered satisfactory as the bulk and scale of the proposed shed is not considered to generate significant impacts for the neighbouring properties.</p> <p>Complies. The proposed setback from the southern side boundary is approximately 200 metres.</p> <p>Complies. Rear boundary setback approximately 80 metres.</p>
3. Filling of lots	
<p>Fill must not contribute to unreasonable impacts on amenity or the redirection of water onto adjoining properties; and</p> <p>Any fill used must be certified Virgin Excavated Natural Materials, certified Excavated Natural Material or uncontaminated engineered fill.</p>	<p>The site is relatively flat and a negligible amount of fill is required.</p> <p>Noted.</p>
4. Sheds in village areas	
<p>Sheds must not be used as places of temporary accommodation;</p> <p>Sheds must be sheeted with prefinished steel walls (e.g. Colorbond), or have walls painted to a professional standard;</p> <p>The height of sheds is to be a maximum of 3.1 metres, measured from the surrounding finished ground level to the top of the gutter, and 4.5 metres, measured from the surrounding finished ground level to the highest point of the shed;</p> <p>The maximum roof pitch is to be 22 degrees;</p> <p>While no maximum floor area is stipulated, it should be borne in mind that these sheds are for uses associated directly with a single dwelling house. These uses include the storage of motor vehicles, recreational equipment, gardening equipment, and the like. The use of such sheds for commercial or industrial use is not permitted under this policy without the separate specific written consent of Council;</p>	<p>Noted.</p> <p>Complies.</p> <p>Does not comply.</p> <p>Wall height to the top of the gutter: 5.0 metres (1.9 metres higher)</p> <p>Overall shed height to the ridge: 6.1 metres (1.6 metres higher)</p> <p>Complies. Roof pitch 10 degrees.</p> <p>The applicant has indicated that the building is to be used for storage of farm machinery.</p> <p>A condition, regarding the use of the shed, will be included in the consent.</p>

Development Control	Comments
Facilities which may be provided in sheds are toilets and associated wash basins; and showers may be approved with Council authority. No cooking facilities may be installed; and Any applications to Council for sheds outside the provisions of this Chapter will be referred to Council for determination.	Not applicable. The development application has been submitted to Council for determination as the proposed development exceeds the maximum height permitted under the DCP.

It is noted that variations of up to 25% can be approved under delegation, as resolved at the Council meeting 21/9/2020 (Resolution 189/20).

RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Verdon and Sharp that Council delegates to the General Manager the authority to determine applications where:

- a) *a variation less than 25% of the restrictions set in the Lockhart Shire Development Control Plan 2016 are proposed, and*
- b) *no public objections were received.*

The height of the shed, measured from the surrounding finished ground level to the top of the gutter (5.0 metres), is required to be referred to Council for determination, as it is a 61% variation.

Similarly, the height of the shed, measured from the surrounding finished ground level to the highest point of the shed (6.1 metres), is required to be referred to Council for determination, as it is a 36% variation.

The bulk and scale of the proposed shed is not considered to generate significant impacts for the neighbouring properties. The subject site is relatively large (4.161 hectares) for a residential property and the scale of the proposed shed is consistent with the existing buildings on the property and other development in the locality. The proposed development is not considered to generate negative impacts on the natural or built environments.

The proposed development is considered to satisfactorily meet the objectives of the DCP chapter for Residential and Village Development.

- *Provide guidance for the development of residential dwellings and sheds on land zoned RU5 Village within Lockhart Shire;*
- *Support the efficient use of residential land; and*
- *Set appropriate guidelines for building setbacks, sheds and fencing to ensure development positively responds to the character of existing villages.*

The other sections of the DCP that are of relevance to the proposed development include:

Engineering Standards

The proposed development is considered to satisfactorily address Council's engineering standards relating to vehicular access and stormwater management.

Erosion and Sediment Control

A condition will be included in the consent requiring appropriate erosion and sediment controls during construction.

Notification of Development Applications

The application was notified to the property owners adjacent to the subject site. No submissions were received.

Integrated Planning and Reporting Reference

D2: Our planning and development controls work to attract new residents and investment.

Legislative Policy and Planning Implications

The development application has been assessed in accordance with the provisions of Section 4.15 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979. The proposed development requires the determination by Council of a variation to the Lockhart Development Control Plan 2016.

Budget and Financial Aspects

Nil.

Attachment

- Attachment A - Site plan, floor plan and elevations
- Attachment B - Draft Schedule of Conditions

Recommendation: That Council supports the requested variation to the Lockhart Development Control Plan 2016 and grant consent to Development Application DA01/23 for a “Shed” at 4 Watson Street, The Rock (Lot 1 Section 15 DP977904), subject to compliance with the conditions set out in the Draft Schedule of Conditions at Attachment B.

<p>164/22 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Walker and Driscoll that Council supports the requested variation to the Lockhart Development Control Plan 2016 and grant consent to Development Application DA01/23 for a “Shed” at 4 Watson Street, The Rock (Lot 1 Section 15 DP977904), subject to compliance with the conditions set out in the Draft Schedule of Conditions at Attachment B.</p>

STRATEGIC DIRECTION E: Strong Leadership and Governance

9. INVESTMENT AND BANK BALANCES REPORT – 31 JULY 2022

(DCCS: 22/10487)

Executive Summary

The purpose of this report is to inform Council of the funds that have been invested and bank account balances.

Report

It is required under Clause 212 of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005 and Section 625 of the Local Government Act 1993 to provide the Council with a written report each month detailing all money that Council has invested.

Cash at Bank

Opening Combined Cashbook Balance			2,124,572.62
Add: Total Receipts			
	Rates	46,594.19	
	Debtors	35,981.90	
	Miscellaneous	56,772.58	
	Interest	2,073.44	
	June BAS Return	9,948.00	
	Apprenticeship Incentives	2,500.00	
	CCCF Sustainability Assistance	14,850.00	
	NSW EPA - PIP Grant M5	22,185.00	
	Dept Regional NSW - Wellbeing Recovery Funding	10,000.00	
	Dept Regional NSW - SCCF2 -0472 - Milestone 3	34,000.00	
			234,905.11
Less: Total Payments			1,039,588.00
	New Investments	0	<u>1,500,000.00</u>
Closing Combined Cashbook Balance			<u>1,319,889.73</u>
Closing Bank Statement Balance	Bendigo Bank	1,400,871.02	
	Macquarie Bank	116,446.68	
	Bendigo Bank-Prichard Trust	31,667.84	
			<u>1,548,985.54</u>
Add: Outstanding Deposits			3,434.60
			<u>1,552,420.14</u>
Less: Outstanding Cheques			232,530.41
Closing Combined Cashbook Balance			<u>1,319,889.73</u>
Investments:	Interest Rate per Annum	Amount Invested	% of Total
Bendigo	2.20	500,000.00	6.06
Bendigo	2.20	500,000.00	6.06
Bendigo	1.00	500,000.00	6.06
Bendigo	AT CALL	100,000.00	1.21
Bendigo	1.30	400,000.00	4.85
Commonwealth	3.01	500,000.00	6.06
Commonwealth	1.71	500,000.00	6.06
Commonwealth	2.31	250,000.00	3.03
Commonwealth	1.62	500,000.00	6.06
Commonwealth	2.31	500,000.00	6.06
MACQUARIE BANK	1.20	500,000.00	6.06
MACQUARIE BANK	1.20	500,000.00	6.06
MACQUARIE BANK	1.77	500,000.00	6.06
NAB	1.05	500,000.00	6.06
NAB	1.05	500,000.00	6.06
NAB	1.75	500,000.00	6.06
NAB	2.26	500,000.00	6.06
NAB	2.05	500,000.00	6.06
		<u>8,250,000.00</u>	100.00
			AMOUNT
General (PTD)	1490-3000-0000		-992,504.74
Combined Sewerage	8490-3000-0000		2,280,726.63
Trust Fund	9991-3000-0000		31,667.84
		<u>1,319,889.73</u>	<u>1,319,889.73</u>
	TOTAL FUNDS HELD ARE:	<u>9,569,889.73</u>	

Integrated Planning and Reporting Reference

E1: Council is strong, sustainable and able to stand alone.

E1: Plan for the long-term sustainability of the Shire.


CHAIRPERSON

E1: Meet all governance and regulatory requirements in the conduct of Council operations.

Legislative Policy and Planning Implications

- Local Government Act 1993 Section 625 Investments.
- Local Government (General) Regulation Clause 212.

Budget and Financial Aspects

Council's 2022/23 Operational Budget has forecast a total of \$39,750 income from interest on investments for General Fund & Sewer Fund combined. For the month of July 2022, the average end of month balance of funds invested has been \$8.25 million and the average return on invested funds has been 1.76%. On these year to date figures, Council's budgeted income on investments will be achieved for the General Fund and Sewer Fund.

This will be monitored and if required adjusted at the 1st Quarterly Budget Review.

Responsible Accounting Officer Statement

I, Craig Fletcher, hereby certify that all investments listed in this report have been made in accordance with Section 625 of the Local Government Act 1993, Clause 212 of Local Government (General) Regulation and Council's Investment Policy. The Internal and External Reserve amounts and Unrestricted Funds are estimate valued only, they are subject to change and review in part with the audit of Council's Financial Statements and each Quarterly Budget Review.

Recommendation:

- a) That the 31 July 2022 Investment and Bank Balances Report be received and noted.
- b) That the Responsible Accounting Officer Statement be noted, and the report be adopted.

165/22 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Mathews and Walker that:

- a) That the 31 July 2022 Investment and Bank Balances Report be received and noted.
- b) That the Responsible Accounting Officer Statement be noted, and the report be adopted

10. LOCAL GOVERNMENT NSW ANNUAL CONFERENCE

(GM: 22/9541)

Executive Summary

Council is required to determine its voting delegate and other attendees to the Annual Conference of Local Government NSW (LGNSW).

LGNSW Annual Conference

LGNSW is the peak industry body representing NSW councils. It is also the registered employer organisation representing NSW councils in industrial matters and in award negotiations with the relevant unions.

The LGNSW Annual Conference is the annual policy-making event for all councils of NSW. Councils are provided with the opportunity to submit motions for consideration and debate by delegates. Motions passed at the Conference become Resolutions, which LGNSW takes forward on behalf of councils as part of the sector's advocacy agenda.

This year the Annual Conference will be held from 23 to 25 October 2022. The Conference will be held at the Crowne Plaza Hunter Valley.

Historically the Mayor has attended the Conference as the Council's voting delegate along with the General Manager. However, the Councillors' Professional Development Program adopted by Council also makes provision for one other councillor to attend the LGNSW Annual Conference each year in addition to the Mayor.

The deadline for councils to provide the names of their voting delegates is 10 October 2022.

Member councils are invited to put forward motions by 25 September 2022 to be considered at the Conference. LGNSW advises that proposed motions should be strategic, affect members state-wide and introduce new or emerging policy issues and actions. When submitting motions, councils are

encouraged to familiarise themselves with the existing principles and positions of LGNSW on issues of importance to the sector, as councils will be asked to identify if their motion is seeking a change to LGNSW's existing Policy Position.

The full Conference Business Paper, containing the motions that have been submitted for consideration, will be available on the LGNSW website two weeks prior to the Conference.

Integrated Planning and Reporting Reference

- E3: Advocate for the appropriate representation of the needs of the Lockhart Shire community at a state and regional level.
- E3: Continue to lead and advocate on key social and community issues.
- E3: Ensure Council staff and Councillors participate regularly in professional development to support high quality customer service and professional skills.

Legislative Policy & Planning Implications

The LGNSW Annual Conference is the annual policy-making event for all NSW councils.

Budget & Financial Aspects

The LGNSW Annual Conference costs are provided for in the 2022/23 Budget, except for any partner costs not covered by Council's policy, which will be on-charged, if applicable.

Attachment

Nil.

Recommendation: That Council:

1. Appoints the Mayor as its voting delegate at the 2022 LGNSW Annual Conference; and
2. Nominates one other Councillor to attend the Annual Conference together with the Mayor and the General Manager.

166/22 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Sharp and Marston that Council:

1. Appoints the Mayor as its voting delegate at the 2022 LGNSW Annual Conference; and
2. Nominates Cr Sharp to attend the Annual Conference together with the Mayor and the General Manager.

11. 2021 CENSUS INFORMATION AND POPULATION PROJECTIONS

(GM: 22/9731)

Executive Summary

The Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) has commenced progressively releasing information from the 2021 Census. The Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPIE) has also released its forward population growth projections.

Report

Set out below is information relating to the 2021 Census publicly released by the ABS. The information provided below is only a short extract and a significant amount of additional information is available on the ABS website. There will be more staged releases of Census information by the ABS in the coming months.

People

Population 3,319

Male 49.7% Female 50.3%

Median age 46

Families

- Total 868
- Average number of children per family
 - for families with children 2.1
 - for all families 0.8

Dwellings

- Total 1,412
- Average number of people per household 2.5
- Occupied private dwellings 1,202 (90.2%)
- Unoccupied private dwellings 121 (9.1%)

Dwelling structure

- Separate house 1,158 (96.3%)
- Semi-detached, row or terrace house, townhouse etc 8 (0.7%)
- Flat or apartment 17 (1%)
- Other dwelling 5 (0.4%)

Occupancy

- Family households 849 (70.5%)
- Single (or lone) person households 323 (26.8%)
- Group households 33 (2.7%)

The Shire's population as recorded in the 2016 Census was 3,119. The 2021 Census figure of 3,319 represents a 6.41% increase for the five-year Census period or an annual average population growth of 1.28%.

Notably the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPIE) has released its population projections and has forecast that Lockhart Shire's population will grow to approximately 4,500 by 2041, representing an average annual population growth of over 1.5%.

According to DPIE in the Lockhart Shire Local Government Area (LGA) births are exceeding deaths i.e. natural increase, and net migration is positive i.e. more people are moving to the LGA than are leaving it.

Integrated Planning and Reporting Reference

- E3: Represent and acknowledge the needs, challenges and characteristics of our communities
- E3: Remain updated and informed on current demographic and social data pertaining to Lockhart Shire communities and population groups

Legislative Policy & Planning Implications

The demographic information being made available by the ABS will prove valuable information for Council's strategic planning including the current review of the Lockhart Shire Local Environmental Plan.

Budget & Financial Aspects

Nil.

Attachments

Nil.

Recommendation: That the information be noted.

167/22 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Hunter and Walker that the information be noted.

12. AUDIT, RISK AND IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEES – DRAFT GUIDELINES

(GM: 22/9745)

Executive Summary

The Office of Local Government (OLG) has issued a further update regarding the draft guidelines for the operation of Audit, Risk and Improvement Committees (ARIC) particularly with respect to eligibility requirements for ARIC chairs and independent members.

Report

As previously reported to Council, amendments inserted into the Local Government Act in recent years require councils to appoint an Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee (ARIC).

The OLG has previously issued *Guidelines for Risk Management and Internal Audit for Local Councils in NSW* to guide the operations of ARICs and to require councils to have a risk management framework and internal audit function to support and inform their operations. The Guidelines have not been finalised and remain in draft form.

Originally, the draft guidelines required that ARIC chairs be prequalified under the NSW Government's prequalification scheme. However the OLG has now provided the following update regarding the eligibility requirements for ARIC chairs and independent members:

- *“Following recent discussions, the OLG and NSW Treasury have agreed that the NSW Government’s Prequalification Scheme for Audit and Risk Committee Chairs and Members will not be suitable for use by councils and joint organisations.*
- *OLG’s draft Guidelines for Risk Management and Internal Audit for Local Councils in NSW, issued for consultation last year, contemplated that from June 2027 councils and joint organisations would be required to appoint Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee (ARIC) chairs and a prescribed number of ARIC members from the NSW Government prequalification scheme. Following discussions with NSW Treasury, OLG has taken the opportunity to revisit this requirement, delaying the finalisation of the Guidelines.”*
- *Under the new requirements, all councils (including county councils) and joint organisations will be required, at a minimum, to have an ARIC that comprises of the following:*
 - *one independent chair who meets the independence and eligibility criteria for an ARIC chair, and*
 - *at least two independent members who meet the independence and eligibility criteria for ARIC members – councils may appoint additional independent members should they choose to do so.*
 - *Councils will also have the option of appointing one non-voting councillor member to their ARIC who meets the eligibility criteria for councillor members.*
- *Given that councils and joint organisations will no longer be required to appoint ARIC chairs and members from the NSW Government prequalification scheme, the timeframe for compliance with the ARIC membership requirements in the Guidelines will be brought forward to 1 July 2024.*

The original guidelines required councils to comply by 2027.

The new eligibility requirements announced by the OLG to replace the NSW Government's Prequalification Scheme are attached. In particular, it is noted that ARIC chairs and independent members cannot:

- *currently be a councillor of any NSW council*
- *be a non-voting representative of the board of a joint organisation*
- *be a candidate at the last election of the council*
- *be a person who has held office in the council during its previous term*
- *be currently employed by the council or joint organisation, or been employed during the last 12 months*
- *conduct audits of the council on behalf of the Audit Office of NSW*

- *have a close personal or business relationship with a councillor or a person who has a senior role in the council that may lead to a real or perceived conflict of interest*
- *currently, or within the last three years, provided any material goods or services (including consultancy, legal, internal audit, and advisory services) to the council which directly affect subjects or issues considered by the ARIC*
- *be (or have a close family member who is) a substantial shareholder, owner, officer, or employee of a company that has a material business, contractual relationship, direct financial interest or material indirect financial interest with the council or a related entity which could be considered a real or perceived conflict of interest, or*
- *currently or have previously acted as an advocate of a material interest on behalf of the council or a related entity which could be considered a real or perceived conflict of interest.*
- *Current staff of councils cannot serve as the chair of an ARIC but may serve as an independent member of another council's ARIC, provided they meet the independence and eligibility criteria for membership of the council's ARIC and their employer is not participating in a shared arrangement with the other council in relation to the ARIC or the internal audit function.*

Council has collaborated with five other councils in the region to form an Internal Audit Alliance, The Alliance is a cost-effective way of sharing the services of a contracted internal auditor and having general managers and finance staff sit as independent members of another council's ARIC. For example the General Manager and Director Corporate and Community Services are the chair and independent member respectively of Temora Shire Council's ARIC whilst the Junee Shire Council's General Manager and Director Corporate and Community Services are the chair and independent member respectively of Lockhart Shire Council's ARIC.

This arrangement will not be compliant with the new eligibility requirements and will have to be re-visited by the Internal Audit Alliance member councils.

Integrated Planning and Reporting Reference

- E1: Advocate and prepare for the long-term sustainability of our Shire.
- E1: Continue to enhance sound financial management policies and practices.
- E1: Meet all governance and regulatory requirements in the conduct of Council operations.
- E1: Minimise Council's exposure to risk and promote a strong risk management culture within Council.

Legislative Policy & Planning Implications

Council has complied with the primary obligation under the Local Government Act to establish an ARIC. However, the composition of the ARIC does not comply with the new eligibility requirements for ARIC chairs and independent members. Council will need to transition its ARIC in terms of its composition and to comply with the eligibility requirements by July 2024.

Budget & Financial Aspects

An allocation has been included in the 2022/23 Operational Plan Budget which covers the cost of a contracted internal auditor whose services are shared with other member councils which Council has collaborated with to form an Internal Audit Alliance.

Whilst the updated eligibility requirements will not impact on the 2022/23 budget, they will in time result in additional governance costs to Council.

Attachments

- OLG – Eligibility Requirements for ARIC Chairs and independent members.

Recommendation: That the information be noted.

168/22 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Day and Hunter that the information be noted.

13. POLICY REVIEWS

(GM: 22/7970)

Executive Summary

A number of policies are due to be reviewed in accordance with the three-year cycle referred to in Policy No. 1.0 Policies – Procedure for Consideration and Adoption.

Report

At its meeting held on 16 March 2020, Council endorsed “Policy No. 1.0 Policies – Procedure for Consideration and Adoption” which set out a process for the systematic review of Council policies and the development of new policies.

Policy 1.0 Policies – Procedure for Consideration and Adoption, provides that:

In order to ensure that policies remain relevant a program of ongoing review of policies not later than every three years will be developed and maintained.

Individual policies will be reviewed and amended in advance of the scheduled review date when circumstances warrant. This may be prompted by factors such as a change in legislation, a change in government policy or as a result of a need identified by the Council, management and staff or internal and external audit activities.

Policy 1.0 also provides that any new or amended policies that, in the Council’s opinion, may impact on residents and ratepayers and/or on the provision of services to the community, are to be placed on public exhibition for a period of not less than 28 days, and any submissions received will be considered by Council prior to adoption of the Policy,

The following Policies are now due for review in accordance with the scheduled three-year cycle referred to in Policy No. 1.0:

- Policy 1.21 Investment Attractions Incentives
- Policy 3.1 Provision of Protective Clothing/Equipment
- Policy 3.29 Excessive Leave

No significant changes are proposed to the above policies.

Policy 1.21 has been referenced into the Council Operational Plan which was adopted following public exhibition.

Policies 3.1 and 3.29 have been referred to the Local Government Award Staff Consultative Committee.

Integrated Planning and Reporting Reference

E1: Meet all governance and regulatory requirements in the conduct of Council operations.

E1: Minimise Council’s exposure to risk and promote a strong risk management culture within Council.

Legislative Policy & Planning Implications

A process for the identification, development and review of appropriate policies and procedures facilitates an effective governance and control environment.

Budget & Financial Aspects

Nil.

Attachments

1. Policy 1.21 Investment Attractions Incentives
2. Policy 3.1 Provision of Protective Clothing/Equipment
3. Policy 3.29 Excessive Leave

Recommendation: That the following policies, as presented, be adopted.

1. Policy 1.21 Investment Attractions Incentives
2. Policy 3.1 Provision of Protective Clothing/Equipment
3. Policy 3.29 Excessive Leave

169/22 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Marston and Walker that the following policies, as presented, be adopted.

1. Policy 1.21 Investment Attractions Incentives
2. Policy 3.1 Provision of Protective Clothing/Equipment
3. Policy 3.29 Excessive Leave

14. ADOPTION OF COUNCIL POLICIES FOLLOWING PUBLIC EXHIBITION

(GM: 22/8806)

Executive Summary

Three policies are tabled for adoption by Council having been publicly exhibited for a period of 28 days.

Report

The following policies were tabled for Council's consideration at its meeting held on 18 July 2022:

- a) Policy 2.28 Asbestos Cement
- b) Policy 2.55 Roadside Vegetation Management
- c) Policy 2.56 Mobile Food Vans

At that meeting Council resolved that the policies be placed on public exhibition for a period of 28 days during which time comments and submissions in relation to the policies would be accepted and considered by Council prior to formal adoption.

No submissions were received following the public exhibition. The policies are now presented for adoption by Council.

Integrated Planning and Reporting Reference

- B1: Provide business support to our community.
B1: Support the growth of the business and industry sector.
C1: Provide efficient and sustainable waste management practices.
C2: Increase the amount of native flora, fauna and protect threatened species.
C2: Map local population of threatened and endangered plant species and protect where practical.

Legislative Policy and Planning Implications

A process for the identification, development and review of appropriate policies and procedures facilitates an effective governance and control environment.

Budget and Financial Aspects

The Policies will have no discernible impact on Council's Budget.

Attachments

The relevant policies have previously been distributed to Councillors.

Recommendation: That the following policies, as publicly exhibited, be adopted:

- a) Policy 2.28 Asbestos Cement
- b) Policy 2.55 Roadside Vegetation Management
- c) Policy 2.56 Mobile Food Vans

170/22 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Sharp and Walker that the following policies, as publicly exhibited, be adopted:

- a) Policy 2.28 Asbestos Cement
- b) Policy 2.55 Roadside Vegetation Management
- c) Policy 2.56 Mobile Food Vans

15. REVIEW OF POLICY 2.13 LIGHT MOTOR VEHICLES

(DEES: 22/9324)

Executive Summary

Council *Policy 2.13 Light Motor Vehicles* was reviewed and adopted by Council in June 2020 with the next review scheduled for June 2023. However to encourage the adoption of more fuel-efficient vehicles including hybrid and electric vehicles into Councils fleet, an amendment to the current policy is proposed in accordance with *Policy 1.0 – Procedure for Consideration and Adoption*.

Background

At its meeting held on 16 March 2020, Council endorsed “Policy No. 1.0 Policies – Procedure for Consideration and Adoption” which set out a process for the systematic review of Council policies and the development of new policies. Policy 1.0 Policies – Procedure for Consideration and Adoption, provides that: In order to ensure that policies remain relevant a program of ongoing review of policies not later than every three years will be developed and maintained.

Individual policies will be reviewed and amended in advance of the scheduled review date when circumstances warrant. This may be prompted by factors such as a change in legislation, a change in government policy or because of a need identified by the Council, management and staff or internal and external audit activities.

Policy 1.0 also provides that any new or amended policies that, in the Council’s opinion, may impact on residents and ratepayers and/or on the provision of services to the community, are to be placed on public exhibition for a period of not less than 28 days, and any submissions received will be considered by Council prior to adoption of the Policy.

Report

Policy 2.13 outlines the conditions under which Council provides vehicles to eligible key employee positions. Eligible employees make a contribution for which they can use Councils vehicle for private use and each vehicle is issued with a Council fuel card for purchasing fuel within NSW. The Policy outlines the vehicle type available for employee choice including Passenger Car, Passenger SUV and Utility.

The policy currently states: “*Council is conscious of the requirements of Workplace Health and Safety (WHS) legislation, as well as issues surrounding the environment and global warming.*” In order to encourage and incentivise the adoption of more fuel-efficient vehicles including hybrids and electric vehicles, it is proposed to amend the policy to include a reduction in the contribution payable for those vehicles. The amendment to the policy proposes a 15% reduction for hybrids, 20% for plug-in hybrid and a 30% reduction for electric vehicles. This recognises both the fuel savings to council in the case of hybrid and electric, and the cost incurred privately by the employee to charge a plug-in hybrid or electric vehicle.

The policy has also been amended under ‘Vehicle Type’ to include hybrid, plug-in hybrid and electric options.

Due to the changes proposed to the above policy it is considered appropriate that the policy be placed on public exhibition prior to being reaffirmed by Council.

Integrated Planning and Reporting Reference

C1: Our environmental practices are sustainable

E1: Meet all governance and regulatory requirements in the conduct of Council operations.

E1: Minimise Council’s exposure to risk and promote a strong risk management culture within Council.

Legislative Policy & Planning Implications

A process for the identification, development and review of appropriate policies and procedures facilitates an effective governance and control environment.

Budget & Financial Aspects

A reduction in Council income from employee contributions towards private use of council vehicles, offset by a reduction in fuel expenses.

Attachments

- Policy 2.13 Light Motor Vehicles.

Recommendation: That Policy 2.13 Light Motor Vehicles be placed on public exhibition for a period of not less than 28 days and any submissions received be considered prior to the policy being reaffirmed.

171/22 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Marston and Mathews that Policy 2.13 Light Motor Vehicles be placed on public exhibition for a period of not less than 28 days and any submissions received be considered prior to the policy being reaffirmed.

QUESTIONS AND STATEMENTS

Cr Hunter

Nil.

Cr Walker

- i) **Vincent Road** – Cr Walker advised this road is suffering badly from the ongoing wet weather and suggested Council could consider sealing the next 3-4km to alleviate some of the issues, possibly funded by future grant programs.

Cr Day

- i) **Heavy Vehicle Routes** – Cr Day asked if there is signage on Albury Road to direct heavy vehicle traffic down Reid Street.

Response – Director of Engineering & Environmental Services

The Director advised signs have been ordered, and will be installed as soon as practicable after delivery.

Cr Rockliff

- i) **Rail Bridge, Brookong Creek** – Cr Rockliff asked what the status was of the representations regarding the rail bridge in Lockhart. Cr Rockliff would like to make sure it doesn't "fall off" the agenda re its impact on flooding in Lockhart township.

Response – General Manager

The General Manager advised that the matter was raised with the then Minister for Regional Transport and Roads, the Hon Paul Toole, with the eventual response being unfavourable.

Cr Sharp

- i) **Thanks** – Cr Sharp thanked fellow councillors and staff for the flowers and messages of condolence, he received on the recent passing of his mother.

Cr Mathews

- i) **New Gonyah Hotel** – Cr Mathews asked if the owners of the property can be asked to remove the sandbags from the front of the building as it has been some time since the last threat of flood to that property.

- ii) **Roads** – Cr Mathews referred to some significant problems with Albury Road, caused in part by the recent wet weather and asked how Council prioritises remediation and if additional equipment would be required.

Response – Director of Engineering and Environmental Services

The Director briefly outlined the process involved in preparing an Asset Management strategy which includes upgrade and repair priorities as well as resourcing requirements in terms of staff, plant and equipment.

- iii) **Refugee Settlement in Regional Areas** – Cr Mathews referred to a Federal government initiative regarding settlement of refugees in regional areas and asked if Council is eligible to participate in the program?

- iv) **Domestic Violence** – Cr Mathews asked if Council could receive a report on the levels of domestic violence in the Shire to give an indication of whether the Shire is meeting related needs, e.g. womens' refuges.

Response – the Mayor

The Mayor advised the Police and Community Consultation Meeting is being held on 23 August 2022 and he would raise the topic in that forum.

Cr Driscoll

Nil.

Cr Marston

- i) **The Rock Recreation Ground** – Cr Marston referred to the drain behind the building at the Recreation Ground needs cleaning out, possibly as part of works for the Second Oval project. Cr Marston advised water is pooling in the drain and becoming stagnant.

Response – Director of Engineering and Environmental Services

The Director of Corporate & Community Services asked if alternate arrangements could be made by the Committee with a local contractor/volunteer to carry out the works it would be appreciated in consideration of the already large workload Council's maintenance crews have due to the ongoing wet weather.

Cr Verdon

- i) **Thanks** – Cr Verdon expressed his thanks to Council's Tourism and Economic Development Officer, Matt Holt; Facilities Manager, Julie Hush; and Parks and Maintenance Team Leader, David Fellows; for the fantastic work at Yerong Creek on 15 August. Very positive feedback was received from people for the assistance given to the VP Day event organisers.

- ii) **Rain Event, The Rock** – Cr Verdon asked if any issues had been identified during the most recent rain event, particularly any possibly caused by the Transport for NSW work.

Response – Director of Engineering and Environmental Services

The Director advised most issues continued to arise in Emily Street. Small washouts caused in the new works on the highway will be repaired by Transport for NSW soon.

- iii) **Sealing of Internal Roads, The Rock Recreation Ground** – Cr Verdon referred to discussions which took place with the former Director of Engineering and Environmental Services regarding sealing from the sealed road (Wilson Street) to the entrance of the Recreation Ground and enquired whether this was still a possibility.

Response – Director of Engineering and Environmental Services

The Director advised he would investigate and provide a response.

- iv) **Shire Newsletter** – Cr Verdon asked if it was possible for photographs and details of some of Council's events to appear in the Shire newsletter, for example the Victory in the Pacific Day commemoration, citizenship ceremonies etc.

Response – General Manager

The General Manager advised Council's events would be included in future issues of the newsletter.

The General Manager advised a training session for Councillors on planning will be held on 6 September 2022. An email will be sent out to remind Councillors following advice from LG NSW on starting times.

The Director of Engineering and Environmental Services thanked all for the welcome and assistance received on his commencement with Council.

The Director of Corporate and Community Services thanked Cr Mathews for his feedback on the changes to Council's rate notices and asked if any other Councillors had received feedback or questions. Cr Sharp advised he has received questions from three families and would share the recently provided information as a response.

CLOSED SESSION

In accordance with the Local Government Act 1993 the following business is considered to be of a kind referred to in subsection 10A(2) of the Act and should be dealt with as part of the meeting closed to the media and public.

172/22 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Mathews and Hunter that Council close the meeting to the public as per section 10A(2)(c) of the Local Government Act 1993.

The meeting moved into Closed Session at 6.52 pm.

173/22 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Mathews and Marston that Council move into Open Session.

The meeting moved into Open Session at 6.57pm.

OPEN COUNCIL

The resolutions of Council, relating to Items 16, 17 and 18, passed while the meeting was closed to the public were read to the meeting by the General Manager.

16. PROPOSED SALE OF LOT 5 REID STREET LOCKHART

(GM: 22/9803)

174/22 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Rockliff and Day that Council:

- 1) Authorise the General Manager to complete the sale of Lot 5 DP758621 Reid Street Lockhart in accordance with the terms and conditions contained in the Contract of Sale and the Deed of Agreement for the Construction of a Service Station outlined in the report.
- 2) Authorise the General Manager to execute the Contract of Sale and the Deed of Agreement for the Construction of a Service Station.

17. LOCKHART INDUSTRIAL ESTATE

(GM: 22/9865)

175/22 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Sharp and Mathews that Council:

1. Note the information regarding land sale negotiations at the Lockhart Industrial Estate; and
2. Authorise the General Manager to undertake the rectification works outlined in the report including a boundary adjustment with the owner of Lots 21-24 Harry Davies Drive, Lockhart.

18. TENDER – MOTOR GRADER 170-200HP

(DEES: 22/9945)

176/22 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Rockliff and Marston that Council awards contract for 'Motor Grader 170-200HP' to WesTrac for the sum of \$447,140 (ex GST).

The meeting concluded at 7.00pm.

The minutes of the meeting held on Monday, 15 August 2022, were confirmed as a true and accurate record at the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 19 September 2022, at which time the signature was hereunto subscribed.



CHAIRPERSON



CHAIRPERSON