



MINUTES

**of the
Ordinary Meeting
held
21 February 2022**

**Minutes of the Ordinary Monthly Meeting of Lockhart Shire Council held in the Council Chambers,
Lockhart on Monday, 21 February 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.

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

The meeting opened with a prayer.

APOLOGIES

Nil.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Cr Rockliff – March 2022.

17/22	RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Mathews and Sharp that leave of absence be granted to Cr Rockliff for the March 2022 Ordinary Council Meeting.
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CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES ORDINARY MEETING, 10 JANUARY 2022

18/22	RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Walker and Driscoll that the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on Monday, 10 January 2022 as printed and circulated be taken as read and confirmed.
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DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY AND NON-PECUNIARY INTERESTS

Cr Day declared a non-pecuniary interest in Item 4 – Staff Report: Request to Refund Development Application Fees Paid to Council.

Cr Rockliff declared a pecuniary interest in Item 7 – Staff Report: Engineering and Environmental Services Report.

MAYORAL MINUTE

1. RECOGNITION OF SERVICE OF RETIRING COUNCILLORS

(22/1652)

I wish to bring to Council's attention that Lockhart Shire Council has the opportunity to recognise retiring councillors for their service to the Lockhart Shire.

Local Government NSW (LGNSW) is the peak body representing NSW councils. LGNSW has a number of awards it grants to long-serving elected members.

One such award, the Emeritus Mayor Award, provides ongoing recognition to those who have served as a Mayor. Academic institutions recognise their retiring valued members with the title of Emeritus Professor; LGNSW recognises its senior members as Emeritus Mayors.


CHAIRPERSON

In terms of eligibility the "Emeritus Mayor" award can be conferred only on a former mayor who has served an aggregate of five (5) years as a mayor. The title cannot be used while in office.

Former Mayor, Cr Rodger Schirmer, has served as Mayor from September 2016 until December 2021 and therefore is eligible for nomination for the Emeritus Mayor Award.

A fee of \$179 will apply for the Emeritus Mayor certificate and lapel pin issued by LGNSW.

In addition, the Merit Award, acknowledges the work of retiring or long-serving elected members.

Retired elected members who have completed two terms of committed and dedicated service to the pursuit of achievement for the community of a local government are eligible for the Award.

The following councillors did not seek re-election at the local government elections held on 4 December 2021 and are eligible for the LGNSW Merit Award:

1. Cr Max Day
Councillor 2012 to 2021
2. Cr Derek Douglas
Councillor 2012 to 2021

A fee of \$120 will apply for each merit award (framed certificate) issued by LGNSW.

I believe it would be appropriate for Council to recognise the important contribution made by the former Mayor and Councillors by making application to LGNSW.

Recommendation: That Council make application to LGNSW for the award of Emeritus Mayor to be conferred on former Cr Rodger Schirmer and Merit Awards to be issued to retiring Councillors Max Day and Derek Douglas in recognition of their service to Lockhart Shire Council.

19/22 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Sharp and Rockliff that Council make application to LGNSW for the award of Emeritus Mayor to be conferred on former Cr Rodger Schirmer and Merit Awards to be issued to retiring Councillors Max Day and Derek Douglas in recognition of their service to Lockhart Shire Council.

MAYORAL REPORT

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

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|-------------|--|
| 21 Jan 2022 | Met with the Mayor of Federation Council at Urana, with Crs Marston and Driscoll. |
| 25 Jan 2022 | Attended function at the General Manager's residence to welcome Australia Day Ambassador, Ange Clarke. |
| 26 Jan 2022 | Presided over Australia Day celebrations at Pleasant Hills and conducted a citizenship ceremony. |
| 7 Feb 2022 | Attended the Councillor Workshop in Lockhart. |
| 8 Feb 2022 | Attended the Police and Community Consultation Group meeting in Lockhart. |
| 11 Feb 2022 | Attended a civic function, with the General Manager, to farewell former Coolamon councillor, John Seymour. |
| 13 Feb 2022 | Attended the Annual General Meeting of The Rock Recreation Ground Management Committee, with Crs Marston and Driscoll. |
| 15 Feb 2022 | Attended presentation at The Rock to Council employee Chris Nesbitt for 10 years' service. |
| 16 Feb 2022 | Took part in a Zoom conference with the Country Mayors Association and ALGA. |
| 18 Feb 2022 | Officiated the opening of The Rock Regional Observatory, with Crs Day, Rockliff, Mathews, Marston and Driscoll. |

20/22 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Marston and Hunter that the Mayoral 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 WEDNESDAY, 24 NOVEMBER 2021 AT 9.00AM**

(GM: 21/15652)

1 Present

James Davis (Independent Chairperson) – remotely via Zoom
Luke Taberner (Independent Member) - remotely via Zoom
Cr Andrew Rockliff (Lockhart Shire Councillor) – in person

2 In Attendance

Peter Veneris (General Manager) - in person
Craig Fletcher (Director Corporate and Community Services) - in person

3 Apologies

Nil.

4 Confirmation of Minutes

It was RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 28 July 2021, 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 Information Technology Audit

The report of the Information Technology (IT) Audit conducted by Gary F. Mottau was tabled and the Chairperson invited the Council officers to make any comments in relation to the Audit.

The General Manager outlined the context of the audit noting that it focused on three IT related issues that had been raised by the Audit Office of NSW in Audit Management Letters.

With respect to the first issue regarding “system change management” the Director Corporate and Community Services advised that a documented procedure has been introduced which incorporates an arrangement with Narrandera Shire Council, which is also a Practical Plus user, to undertake user application testing (UAT) on its behalf.

In relation to the second issue involving user access rights the Director Corporate and Community Services explained that a procedure for periodically reviewing authorised access to Council’s IT systems has been developed.

The procedure includes a requirement for the access logs of users with Administrator access to be reviewed (separately to their normal user access) by the Director Corporate and Community Services (DCCS) and the DCCS’s Administrator access logs to be reviewed by the General Manager.

It was RESOLVED that the process of establishing separate Administrator accounts and maintaining logs of Administrator access, separate to normal user accounts, be endorsed by the Committee.

The General Manager advised that the third issue relates to the Council's cyber security framework. He noted that whilst this was still a work in progress, cyber security procedures have been developed and are being progressively implemented. The procedures incorporate the system change management and review of user access rights referred to above as well as cyber security awareness training for staff, periodic vulnerability scanning by Cyber Security NSW and the implementation of multi-factor authentication.

It was RESOLVED that the report of the Information Technology Audit be received and noted.

7 Prior Internal Audit Recommendations – Status Report

A report on the status of prior internal audit recommendations was tabled.

The Chairperson acknowledged that several prior internal audit recommendations had been completed since the last meeting

8 2020/21 Annual Financial Statements

The Director Corporate and Community Services updated the Committee in relation to the preparation of the annual financial statements.

He noted that an extension to the due date for lodgement of the statements was sought due to issues in receiving a report on the revaluation of the Council's roads assets from external valuer Australis, and that an extension to 24 December 2021 had been granted by the Office of Local Government.

The Director further advised that a close out meeting with auditing firm Crowe had been held on 23 November 2021 and an audit clearance meeting with the Audit Office of NSW is scheduled for 7 December 2021.

The General Manager advised that, bearing in mind that council elections are being held on 4 December 2021 with the results to be declared on 22-24 December 2021, a Council meeting is being convened on 10 January 2022 to conduct a mayoral election and that it is proposed to present the audited financial statements and auditor's report to that meeting.

It was RESOLVED that the update provided in relation to the 2020/21 annual financial statements and the timeframe for completion of the audit be noted.

9 Notice of Reportable Incidents

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

10 General Business

Nil.

11 Date of Next Meeting

To be confirmed.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.50am.

James Davis
Chairperson

21/22 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Walker and Day that the Minutes of the Lockhart Shire Council Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee meeting held on 24 November 2021 be received.

DELEGATES' REPORTS

1. RIVERINA FIRE ZONE SERVICE LEVEL AGREEMENT LIAISON COMMITTEE HELD 30 NOVEMBER 2021 IN WAGGA WAGGA

(GM: 21/16009)

I report having attended the Rural Fire Service Riverina Fire Zone Service Level Agreement Liaison Committee held on 30 November 2021 as Council's delegate. Matters discussed at the meeting included the following:

- The 2020/21 Annual Report for the Riverina Fire Zone, comprising the local government areas of Coolamon, Junee, Lockhart and Wagga Wagga, was tabled. The following points were noted from the Annual Report:
 - Total volunteer membership is 2,447.
 - 973 members completed training courses.
 - 159 hazard reduction activities were undertaken treating 1,800ha of land and protecting 6,188 properties.
 - There were 630 brigade responses to 344 incidents including 38 incidents in Lockhart Shire
- Seed funding has been provided for the construction of a new 3 bay fire station at The Rock.
- The RFS has engaged Public Works Advisory to undertake preliminary planning in order to progress the project to development application stage.

Peter Veneris
General Manager

2. INLAND RAIL (ALBURY TO ILLABO) COMMUNITY CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE – 8 DECEMBER 2021

(GM: 21/16384)

I report having participated in a meeting of the Inland Rail (Albury to Illabo) Community Consultative Committee held at Wagga Wagga on 8 December 2021. A summary of the main points emanating from the meeting is provided below.

- The Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is anticipated to be on public exhibition in the first quarter of 2022.
- Community Information sessions will be held by Inland Rail along the alignment during the exhibition period.
- This will be followed by contract awareness focusing on workforce requirements, employment opportunities etc.
- A design and construct contractor is expected to be appointed in the third quarter of 2022.
- Construction is scheduled to commence in 2023 and continue into 2024.
- Works at level crossings will be carried out under traffic management. The level crossings will otherwise remain open to traffic whilst the work is undertaken.

Peter Veneris
General Manager

3. POLICE AND COMMUNITY CONSULTATION GROUP MEETING HELD AT THE LOCKHART SHIRE COUNCIL CHAMBERS ON TUESDAY, 8 FEBRUARY 2022

(GM: 22/1715)

I report having attended the Police and Community Consultation Group meeting held in Lockhart on 8 February 2022.

All Committee members provided updates in relation to their respective communities. The following issues were noted in particular:

- NSW Police reported that from a crime perspective, things have been relatively good with no major concerns to report. Some minor traffic issues had to be managed mainly relating to recent flood events.
- Due to a lack of evidence the Police have not been able to identify and charge the person(s) responsible for the incident which occurred last year involving a front-end loader belonging to Greater Hume Shire Council being stolen and used to damage roads around Yerong Creek.
- A new Police officer will be commencing duties in Lockhart in March at which time the local force will be back to a full complement.



CHAIRPERSON

- Members continue to advocate for the installation of CCTV in the main street of Lockhart.
- The Council has been requested to continue to publicise the Police telephone reporting numbers and community portal details in the Council Newsletter.
- There were reported incidents of theft occurring in the Bidgeemia area.
- A previous election promise to increase the capacity of the rural crime unit which hasn't happened was noted and it was suggested that Council may be in a position to make representations in relation to this matter.

Cr Greg Verdon
Delegate

3a. RIVERINA WATER

A verbal report was provided by delegate Cr Driscoll advising Cr Tim Koschel has been appointed as Chairperson and Cr Doug Meyer OAM has been appointed Deputy Chairperson.

22/22 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Walker and Marston that the Delegates' Reports be received.

STATUS REPORT/PRÉCIS OF CORRESPONDENCE ISSUED

Status Report: Council Resolutions and Tasks to be finalised

Minute No:	Officer to Action	Council Resolution	Action Taken
Ordinary Council Meeting held 10 January 2022			
13/22	DEES	Flood Mitigation <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. That Council undertakes a thorough review of the effectiveness of the Flood Mitigation Schemes with an interim report presented at the February Meeting and a Final Report to the April meeting so that any additional spending measures can be considered for the 2022/23 Budget.2. That the abovementioned review identifies possible short term solutions including cleaning of drains and culverts, diversion of more water into Streven's Street Drain and temporary pumps.3. That Council facilitates a meeting between TfNSW, ARTC and the Member for Wagga Wagga to discuss drainage along the Olympic Highway.4. That Council review drainage issues in Yerong Creek.5. That Council approach the relevant agencies to include additional properties at The Rock in the Voluntary Purchase Scheme.	Report presented at Ordinary Council Meeting held on 21 February 2022. (Refer Staff Report Item 9.) Complete.

Lockhart Shire Council
Ordinary Meeting – 21 February 2022

Minute No:	Officer to Action	Council Resolution	Action Taken
11/22	GM	Induction for Councillors That an in-house workshop be convened on 7 February 2022 at 4pm to provide an initial induction for Councillors and that Councillors avail themselves of other professional development opportunities offered through external organisations as they become available.	Workshop held on 7 February 2022. Complete.
10/22	GM	LG NSW Annual Conference Council appoints Cr Verdon as its voting delegate and Cr Walker as an attendee to the LGNSW Annual Conference to be held in Sydney on 28 February to 2 March 2022.	LG NSW advised 31/1/2022 and delegates registered. Complete.
8/22	GM	Local Government Countback Elections Pursuant to Section 291 A(1)(b) of the Local Government Act 1993, Lockhart Shire Council declares that casual vacancies occurring in the office of a councillor within 18 months after the date of the last ordinary election of councillors for the Council on 4 December 2021 are to be filled by a countback of votes cast at that election for the office in accordance with Section 291A of the Act and directs the general manager to notify the NSW Electoral Commission of the Council's decision within 7 days of the decision.	Office of Local Government and NSW Electoral Commission notified on 17/1/2022. Complete.
Ordinary Council Meeting held 15 November 2021			
226/21	GM	Offer to Purchase Industrial Land Authorise the General Manager to negotiate the sale of lots 21-24 in Stage 2 of the Lockhart Industrial Estate for a combined contract price of \$222,000 ex GST.	Contract of sale signed by Council. Awaiting contracts to be exchanged.
225/21	GM	Australia Day Awards 2022 Council endorses the recommendations of the Australia Day Awards Committee regarding the 2022 Australia Day Awards.	Australia Day Awards presented at Pleasant Hills on 26 January 2022. Completed.
222/21	GM	Work Health & Safety Policies The revised Policies listed below, as presented, be adopted. 1. Policy 3.5 Return to Work Program 2. Policy 3.6 Work Health and Safety 3. Policy 3.9 Training 4. Policy 3.10 Equal Employment Opportunity 5. Policy 3.17 Work Health and Safety Consultation	Policy Register updated. Completed.

Minute No:	Officer to Action	Council Resolution	Action Taken
221/21	GM	<p>Local Government Elections Update and Delegations</p> <p>Council delegates the mayoral functions in accordance with Section 226 (a) (b) (l) and (m) listed below, to Cr Greg Verdon whose term of office commences on 4 December 2021, with the delegation to remain in force until such time as a mayoral election is held by the newly elected council:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to be the leader of the council and a leader in the local community, • to advance community cohesion and promote civic awareness, • to be the spokesperson of the governing body, including representing the views of the council as to its local priorities, • to carry out the civic and ceremonial functions of the mayoral office, • to represent the council on regional organisations and at inter-governmental forums at regional, State and Commonwealth level. 	<p>Delegation noted in Delegations Register.</p> <p>Delegation expired on 10 January 2022 following the conduct of a mayoral election.</p> <p>Completed.</p>
220/21	GM	<p>Local Government Elections Update and Council Meeting Schedule</p> <p>Council gives public notice that an ordinary meeting of Council will be held on Monday, 10 January 2022 in order to comply with the Local Government Act which requires councils to hold a mayoral election within three weeks of local government election results being declared.</p>	<p>Public notice given on Council's website.</p> <p>Completed.</p>
219/21	GM	<p>2020/21 Annual Report</p> <p>The 2020/21 Annual Report and 2016-2021 End of Term Report, be endorsed and the General Manager be authorised to forward a copy of the Reports to the Minister for Local Government.</p>	<p>The 2020/21 Annual Report, 2016-2021 End of Term Report and the State of the Environment Report were forwarded to the Minister on 19/11/21.</p> <p>Complete.</p>
218/21	DEES	<p>Removal of Heavy Vehicle Route – Green Street & Urana Street, Lockhart</p> <p>Council supports an application to the National Heavy Vehicle Regulator to remove Green Street and Urana Street, Lockhart for all Class 2 and 3 heavy vehicles.</p>	<p>Application made to NHVR.</p> <p>Complete.</p>

Minute No:	Officer to Action	Council Resolution	Action Taken
217/21	DCCS	<p>Audited Financial Statements – 2020/2021</p> <p>Council:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Certify in its opinion the General Purpose Financial Statements and the Special Purpose Financial Statements as prepared, are in accordance with the attached certificates and that the certificates be completed by the Mayor, Deputy Mayor, General Manager and Responsible Accounting Officer. 2. Give public notice via its website that the Audited Financial Statements will be presented to the Council meeting to be held on 10 January 2022. 	<p>Public notice was given via Council's website.</p> <p>The Audited Financial Statements and Auditor's Report were presented to the Council meeting held on 10 January 2022.</p> <p>The Auditors addressed the Council.</p> <p>Complete.</p>
216/21	DCCS	<p>Quarterly Budget Review – Sept 2021</p> <p>...that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) The information be noted, and b) The adjustments in income, expenditure and reserves in the September 2021 Quarterly Budget Review be adopted, and c) The carried forward as reported to be funded from Reserves be adopted, and d) The Sewer Onsite Inspection Fee of \$120 be adopted and amended in Council's Fees & Charges 2021-22, and e) The statutory Companion Animal Fees for 2021-22 as reported be noted. 	<p>Sewer Inspection Fee and Companion Animal Fees updated in Fees and Charges document on website.</p> <p>Complete.</p>
211/21	DCCS	<p>Hire of Council Facilities</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) That Council approve a new fee of zero dollar value for the hire of facilities as listed in this report. b) That the new fee be endorsed and placed on exhibition for 28 days. 	<p>Draft fee placed on public exhibition.</p> <p>Refer Staff Reports Item 5 in agenda.</p> <p>Complete.</p>
210/21	GM	<p>Lockhart Recreation Ground Management Committee – Request for Financial Assistance</p> <p>Council to provide financial assistance in the amount of \$6,930 including GST to the Lockhart Recreation Ground Management Committee and that the contribution be funded from the 2021/22 budget allocation for Section 356 contributions.</p>	<p>Payment processed.</p> <p>Complete.</p>
209/21	DEES	<p>Labourer Position – Parks & Urban Maintenance, The Rock</p> <p>Council approves an additional Parks and Urban Maintenance labourer position.</p>	<p>Position advertised and filled.</p> <p>Complete.</p>

Minute No:	Officer to Action	Council Resolution	Action Taken
208/21	GM	<p>Yerong Creek Men's Bowling Club – Request for Financial Assistance</p> <p>Council to provide financial assistance in the amount of \$4,016 including GST to the Yerong Creek Men's Bowling Club and that the contribution be funded from the 2021/22 budget allocation for Section 356 contributions.</p>	Yerong Creek Bowling have purchased synthetic grass. Council will process payment when the invoice is received.
207/21	GM	<p>Riverina Regional Library</p> <p>Council expresses its support for the funding model endorsed by the Riverina Regional Library Advisory Committee at its meeting held on 4 November 2021 and confirm its continued membership of Riverina Regional Library beyond the expiration of the current Deed of Agreement on 1 July 2022.</p>	Written confirmation provided to the Riverina Regional Library. Complete.
206/21	GM	<p>Phase 3 – LRCI Grants Program</p> <p>a) as agreed at the Councillor Workshop held earlier in the day, Council prepare and submit Project Nominations forms and Work Schedules for the following projects for funding under Phase 3 of Local Roads and Community Infrastructure (LRCI) grants program:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Rock Avenue of Honour • Lockhart Caravan Park – additional cabin with disabled access • Pleasant Hills Esplanade – beautification • Henty Pleasant Hills Road – seal one kilometre • Galore Hill – upgrade internal access roads • Yerong Creek Water Tower – sealing surrounding streets • Shire and town entrance signs – additional locations • Lockhart, Osborne and The Rock Recreation Grounds – Sealing of internal roads • The Rock Recreation Ground – fencing of oval and Wilson Street boundary <p>b) the unallocated amount of LRCI Phase 3 funding of \$369,122 be referred to the incoming council for determination having regard to the outcome of Council's applications under Round 4 of the Stronger Country Communities Fund.</p> <p>c) the unexpended amount of \$75,000 from Phase 2 of the LRCI program be reallocated to improvements at the Pleasant Hills Recreation Ground.</p>	<p>a) Project nomination forms submitted to the Department and approval has been received.</p> <p>Completed.</p> <p>b) Report tabled at this Council meeting (refer Staff Reports Item 1).</p> <p>Completed.</p>

Lockhart Shire Council
Ordinary Meeting – 21 February 2022

Minute No:	Officer to Action	Council Resolution	Action Taken
Ordinary Council Meeting held 18 October 2021			
192/21	DCCS	Audited Financial Statements – 2020/2021 That Council certify in its opinion the General Purpose Financial Statements and the Special Purpose Financial Statements as prepared, are in accordance with the attached certificates and that the certificates be completed by the Mayor, Deputy Mayor, General Manager and Responsible Accounting Officer.	Report presented to November Meeting. Complete.
180/21	TEDO	Committee Minutes – TEDSC held 5 October 2021 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.	Information board at Caravan Park to be included in list of locations yet to be scoped.
Ordinary Council Meeting held 20 September 2021			
174/21	GM	Potential Property Acquisition for Community Development at The Rock 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.	Offer submitted. Follow-up request issued in January 2022.
168/21	GM	LG NSW Annual Conference 1. Appoint the Mayor as its voting delegate for the one-hour, online LGNSW Annual Conference to be held on 29 November 2021, and the LG NSW Board Election; and 2. Refer the nomination of voting delegate and other conference attendees for the in-person LGNSW Special Conference to be held at the Hyatt Regency Sydney from 28 February to 2 March 2022 to the newly elected Council.	1. Mayor registered as voting delegate 22/09/2021. Complete. 2. Report to be presented to January 2022 Council meeting. Complete
Ordinary Council Meeting held 16 August 2021			
148/21	GM	Proposed “Tim Fischer Way” Council to reinstate investigations into the erection of tourism signage indicating “Tim Fischer Way”.	Submission made to the Tourism Attractions Signs Assessment Committee. GM and TEDO currently in discussions with the Committee.

Lockhart Shire Council
Ordinary Meeting – 21 February 2022

Minute No:	Officer to Action	Council Resolution	Action Taken
Ordinary Council Meeting held 21 June 2021			
101/21	DEES	<p>Lockhart Main Street Maintenance</p> <p>1. Council adopts a revised cleaning program for Lockhart town centre as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. installation of netting and application of Bird-X-Peller or similar products, subject to first obtaining permission of building owners b. ongoing maintenance of the netting and application of bird expelling products c. cleaning of the pavers with a mini sweeper each quarter d. quarterly program of motorised sweeping of gutters e. annual program of pressure washing/hand cleaning of area between vehicle stops and kerb <p>2. The 2021-22 Budget be revised to include the cost of the revised cleaning program at the time of the first Quarterly Budget Review (as at 30 September 2021) by which time the outcome of the review of the street sweeping contract with Greater Hume Council will be known.</p>	<p>1. Correspondence forwarded to building owners in Green Street Lockhart, between Matthews and Urana Street for response by 19 July 2021.</p> <p>Twenty-nine letters were sent, 19 responses were received, 15 would like netting, six do not.</p> <p>Installation of netting complete.</p> <p>2. First Quarterly Budget Review to be tabled at the November 2021 Council meeting. No budget implications. Savings from street sweeper would be utilised for street sweeping and main street footpath cleaning. Complete.</p>
Ordinary Council Meeting held 19 April 2021			
63/21	GM	<p>Residential Development – Lockhart</p> <p>2) That Council proceed with the subdivision of Lots 62 and 90 Prichard Place Lockhart as outlined in the report.</p> <p>3) 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>Development application has been lodged.</p>
Ordinary Council Meeting held 15 March 2021			
26/21	TEDO	<p>8a The Esplanade, Pleasant Hills: TEDO add The Esplanade on the project list for a longer-term solution and that the TEDO approach Council's Manager Parks and Facilities for any short-term solutions and request a meeting on site.</p>	<p>Funds approved under LRCI Phase 3. Complete.</p>
Ordinary Council Meeting held 15 February 2021			
22/21	GM	<p>Offer to Purchase Industrial Land</p> <p>Council authorises the General Manager to negotiate the sale of Lots 22, 23 and 24 Harry Davies Drive as outlined in the Report.</p>	<p>Superseded by Council minute no. 226/21.</p> <p>Completed</p>

Minute No:	Officer to Action	Council Resolution	Action Taken
12/21	GM	<p>Preparation of Plans of Management – Crown Reserves etc</p> <p>1) Council endorse the <i>Draft Lockhart Shire Council Plan of Management for Crown Land managed by Council and Council-owned land classified as 'community'</i> for the purposes of community consultation.</p> <p>2) In the first instance, Council writes to the s.355 management committees and users groups drawing their attention to that part of the Plan of Management relevant to the reserve they manage/use and invite their feedback and input.</p> <p>3) Following consideration of any feedback received from the management committees and user groups and updating of the draft Plan of Management, the document be placed on public exhibition providing the broader community with the opportunity to comment.</p>	<p>1) Complete.</p> <p>2) Copies of the Draft Plan of Management have been forwarded to section 355 management committees and user bodies as well as to the Crown Lands Office. Complete.</p> <p>3) Pending. Crown Lands Office approval is required before Draft Plan of Management is placed on public exhibition.</p>
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>
8/21	DCCS	<p>Lockhart Railway Building</p> <p>Council:</p> <p>a) Agrees to a vary the lease of the Lockhart Railway Station building to a nil rental and authorise the General Manager to execute the necessary documentation.</p> <p>b) Develop a scope of works to repair the old Railway Station Building with a report to Council at a future meeting.</p>	<p>a) Deed of Variation to the current lease agreement received 4/11/2021, executed and returned. Complete.</p> <p>b) Scope of works being developed. Stronger Communities Program Round 6 grant funding of approx. \$18,000 received to assist with works.</p> <p>Refer Staff Report Item 14 – Quarterly Budget Review.</p>

Minute No:	Officer to Action	Council Resolution	Action Taken
6/21	DEES	<p>Recreational Vehicles (RV's) and Caravan Parking in Lockhart CBD</p> <p>Council to investigate and implement RV and Caravan Parking in locations in Green Street (Plan 3 and Plan 6 of the Lockhart Business Centre Master Plan) as well as Urana Street and Matthews Street, Lockhart, including an education program, as recommended by Council's Tourism and Economic Development Steering Committee.</p>	<p>Investigation completed. Dedicated RV parking locations in Green/Urana Street near museum completed.</p> <p>Dedicated RV parking near Shire Administration not supported (limited car parking, mobile library, NSW Government Mobile Services). Single parking space in Matthews Street supported. Implementation subject to funding.</p> <p>Referred to LRCI Phase 3 Workshop. No funding allocated.</p>
Ordinary Council Meeting held 16 November 2020			
211/20	GM	<p>Grant Funding Opportunities</p> <p>1. Submit the following projects for funding under the Local Road and Community Infrastructure Program Phase 2:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Rock Hall - Lockhart Caravan Park - The Rock 2nd Oval – Water and Fencing - Lockhart Rec Grd Amenities – Stage 2 - Pleasant Hills Rec Grd – Tennis Courts etc - The Rock Observatory <p>2. Progress the following projects, in priority order, to 'shovel ready' status using the funds allocated in the 2020/21 Budget for 'Grant Application Preparedness'.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - GrainCorp Building Development - Avenue of Honour - Government Dam, The Rock – Recycling Water - Brookong Creek Masterplan - Galore Hill Scenic Reserve Masterplan 	<p>1. Complete</p> <p>2. Development application for 109 Green Street Lockhart has been approved.</p> <p>Request for quotes to undertake the work currently being prepared.</p>
206/20	TEDO	<p>Shortage of Residential Property to Lease</p> <p>Investigate options to make housing more available for existing and potential new residents, including possible incentives to attract investor-builders, land availability, workshops, and planning considerations.</p>	<p>Four REROC/RIVJO workshops have been held - a regional housing strategy has been developed. The Strategy has formed the basis of RivJO's submission to the NSW Government's Regional Housing Task Force.</p> <p>Representations have been made to the Member for Wagga Wagga.</p> <p>A Land Monitor project is being established. To be considered as part of the forthcoming review of Council's LEP.</p>

Lockhart Shire Council
Ordinary Meeting – 21 February 2022

Minute No:	Officer to Action	Council Resolution	Action Taken
Ordinary Council Meeting held 21 September 2020			
174/20	TEDO	September Minutes of the TEDSC ii) Make further inquiries to remedy signage issue at Noskes Chinese Crossing, consistent with current signage practices.	TEDO has placed this on TEDSC project list to further scope – including parking at the site. Complete.
Ordinary Council Meeting held 20 July 2020			
133/20	DEES	Naming of Bridges – Brookong Creek and Urana Lockhart Road 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.	Written to TfNSW advising of the proposed bridge and culverts names. 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. Last correspondence on 3 February 2022. Awaiting response.
Ordinary Council Meeting held 20 April 2020			
70/20	GM	Review of Operational Land Council adopts the following actions in relation to the review of land classified as “operational land”: <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. 	Contact has been made with the adjoining landowner and information provided regarding the Council owned land in anticipation of further discussions. The landowner is liaising with their solicitor.
Ordinary Council Meeting held 16 September 2019			
256/19	GM	Lockhart Renewable Energy Project a) Having secured Commonwealth government funding totalling \$1 million for the Better Energy Technology Renewable Energy Project for Lockhart Township; and b) Having given 28 days public notice of its intention to do so: c) Hereby resolves pursuant to Section 356 Local Government Act 1993 to provide financial assistance totalling \$1 million to Better Energy Technology, in the same manner, i.e., progress payments, as Council receives the funding from the Commonwealth, and for the sole purpose of undertaking Stage 1 of the Lockhart Renewable Energy Project.	Final Report for Stage 1 received from Better Energy Technology in January 2022 and forwarded to the funding body with a Project Completion Report. BET currently arranging finance for Stage 2 of the project i.e. construction.


 CHAIRPERSON

Minute No:	Officer to Action	Council Resolution	Action Taken
Ordinary Council Meeting held 10 January 2022 – Councillor Questions & Statements			
	DEES	<p>Cr Verdon: Strevens Street Neighbourhood Disturbances</p> <p>Advised he has received a lot of complaints over the Christmas period and enquired if the Compliance Officer could interview residents of Strevens Street and The Rock Mangoplah Road to establish the extent of the disturbances. Asked if all the buildings and slabs on the property have been approved by Council and requested that a report be brought back to the February meeting.</p>	<p>The existing structures on the land are covered by Development Approval. The concrete pad does not require approval under the RU1 zoning. The owner of the property has been in contact with NSW EPA and is operating within the EPA guidelines. Owner contacts the Compliance Officer when he is holding an “event” and does a letter drop. A further report will be brought back to the February meeting.</p> <p>Report presented at Ordinary Council Meeting held on 21 February 2022. Refer Staff Reports Item 8. Complete.</p>
	DEES	<p>Cr Rockliff: Flood Mitigation, Lockhart</p> <p>Advised that he thinks the works are performing very well, particularly the work done behind Matthews’ property to divert water around town. Cr Rockliff expressed his hope that the rail bridge is still on the agenda. Also mentioned the footbridge appears to be holding back water and pushing it out to get around, which requires investigating. Added his support for the suggestion that Council prioritise the cleaning of table drains, especially after a rain event.</p>	<p>Cleaning of culverts and associated drains will commence once dried out.</p>
	DEES	<p>Cr Rockliff: Roads</p> <p>Advised the following roads are in very bad condition, especially after the recent harvest traffic: Bidgeemia Road after Western Road through to Barracluffs Road; Western Road through the creeks at Urangeline; most of the gravel on Soldier Settlement Road especially from McDonnell’s down towards Madden’s has eroded quite badly. Also mentioned trucks are using smaller lanes more often, not just local owners. Has received a request for Fargunyah Lane to be reclassified and upgraded from Gravel Class 2 to Gravel Class 1. Water is running down the middle of the road, it doesn’t get enough maintenance to support increased traffic movements.</p>	<p>Works on the gravel roads are included in flood restoration works and will be undertaken in the coming months</p>
	GM	<p>Cr Walker: Mobile Coverage</p> <p>Raised the issue of poor mobile phone coverage west of The Rock Hill, and in Yerong Creek and Pleasant Hills. People in these areas are struggling to have any service. Asked if Council could approach providers on behalf of residents?</p>	<p>The General Manager advised the issue is being looked at on a regional basis via REROC/RIVJO. Lockhart Shire’s blackspots have been nominated through this process. Some funding programs are available but require partnership with a telco and significant monetary input from Council.</p>

Minute No:	Officer to Action	Council Resolution	Action Taken
	DEES	Cr Sharp: Road Maintenance after Recent Rain Advised that the bridges on Grubben Road are in very poor condition after the rain of last week and need urgent attention. Cr Sharp also advised that the table drains on Eulensteins Road require cleaning out. During the recent rain they were so full of grass that the water was running down the road. He has received a suggestion from a local resident that the causeway on this road should be converted to a culvert.	Multiple roads have been identified for relief funding following the November event and any new roads from the latest event will be added. All evidence, including photographs are welcomed to support Council's application. Regarding the bridges, they can only be restored to original state, funding will not be given for "betterment" or upgrade. Cleaning of culverts and drains will commence once dried out.
	DCCS	Cr Driscoll: Technology 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.	Upgrade currently being investigated as the projectors, which were installed during construction of the building, are now 10 years old and outdated.
	DEES	Cr Driscoll: Urana Street Median 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.	Options will be investigated, an LEP review is soon to be undertaken which may assist in the process.
	DCCS	Cr Driscoll: Vacant Land, Scott Street Enquired about the vacant land in Scott Street at The Rock and whether or not it had been sold.	Land was sold in July 2020 in accordance with Council resolution 71/20 and the sale price was \$43,000. Complete.
	DEES	Cr Day: Gutter Cleaning Asked how often cleaning of gutters is undertaken.	No policy/program in place. Currently periodic cleaning is occurring in urban areas only. Some gutters in the urban areas require some structural maintenance. Installation of underground stormwater forms part of the Main Street Redevelopment in the township of Lockhart. Complete.
Ordinary Council Meeting held 15 November 2021 – Councillor Questions & Statements			
Questions & Statements	DEES	Cr Marston: School Speed Zone, Yerong Creek Advised that when entering the Olympic Highway from Yerong Creek's main street you enter into a 50km zone but, due to their positioning, are unable to see when the school speed zone lights are on until they are behind you. Asked if a solution to this could be investigated.	Signage located on both approach roads. TfNSW advised that they only provide lights on Olympic Highway. There is no requirement for additional lights. Complete.
	DEES	Cr Marston: Potholes, Yerong Creek Advised that many potholes are developing in the main street of Yerong Creek.	Potholes were repaired. Complete.

Minute No:	Officer to Action	Council Resolution	Action Taken
	DEES	<p>Cr Day: Control of Gazanias</p> <p>Drew attention to the gazania flowers in town and along the roadsides which appear to be becoming quite a problem, competing with native vegetation, asked if Council could promote control of this plant by residents, in the newsletter.</p>	Will include in February Newsletter.
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>	Control of poplars as well as other environmental weeds scheduled for late summer.
	DCCS	<p>Cr Rockliff: Magnolia Lodge</p> <p>Asked who has responsibility for maintenance at Magnolia Lodge as he has received enquiries from two residents regarding mowing, there are weeds and grass growing quite long.</p>	<p>Council owns units 7 to 9 and is responsible for the land on the eastern side of the access road. Respect now own and manage units 1 to 6.</p> <p>Council has provided Respect with cost estimates to mow the land Respect own.</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>	Relocation to be programmed.
Ordinary Council Meeting held 16 August 2021 – Councillor Questions & Statements			
Questions & Statements	DEES	<p>Cr Walker: Doctors Surgery, The Rock</p> <p>Drew attention to the gravelled area at the front of the property and the very steep approach to the footpath. Cr Walker asked if the area could be sealed and also improve access, particularly for elderly clients. Cr Walker also mentioned that the car park adjacent to the building is full of potholes and, with the recent rain, currently a large puddle.</p>	<p>Estimated cost to box the area out, gravel and seal it is \$10,560.</p> <p>To be funded from the Urban Roads budget.</p> <p>Complete.</p>
	GM/ DEES	<p>Cr Walker: Sheep Pavilion, The Rock Showground</p> <p>Stated that action needs to be taken on this issue as soon as possible so that the matter can progress. Cr Walker noted that a vote was taken at The Rock Show Society's recent AGM with the decision that two bays be retained.</p>	<p>Pavilion disassembled.</p> <p>Complete.</p>

Minute No:	Officer to Action	Council Resolution	Action Taken
Ordinary Council Meeting held 21 June 2021 – Councillor Questions & Statements			
Questions & Statements	DEES	Cr Driscoll: Community Reflection Space 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.	Park deemed appropriate for reflection space. Proponent to present proposal to Council for consideration. <i>Members of The Rock Progress have offered to attend a Council meeting to provide advice. – Mayor suggested next term of Council might be appropriate.</i>
Ordinary Council Meeting held 19 April 2021 – Councillor Questions & Statements			
Questions & Statements	GM/ DCCS	Cr Verdon – Opening of New Facilities Suggested that with all the newly completed projects perhaps Council should hold some official openings.	The Rock Observatory Opening scheduled for 18 February 2022.
Ordinary Council Meeting held 15 February 2021 – Councillor Questions & Statements			
Questions & Statements	DEES	Cr Driscoll – Natural Gas 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.	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. The issue has also been identified for inclusion in an MoU with a tenderer for the Inland Rail project (refer separate report to Council).
Ordinary Council Meeting held 20 July 2020 – Councillor Questions & Statements			
Questions & Statements	DCCS	Cr Driscoll – Childcare in the Shire Requested that Council investigate the childcare situation in the Shire and ascertain if there is a need that could be supported by any of The RockOOSH surplus.	Council will contact both schools in Lockhart as a starting point for feedback on demand for before & after school care. DAY/DRISCOLL – further investigation be undertaken.
Ordinary Council Meeting held 3 February 2020 – Councillor Questions & Statements			
Questions & Statements	DCCS	Cr Marston – CCTV With regard to the enquiry made by Cr Rockliff regarding the possible installation of CCTV at Lockhart and The Rock Swimming Pool Complexes, Cr Marston requested that Council also include Recreation Grounds in the Shire in this consideration.	Quotes received, minimum of \$6,000 per site. Not included in draft Budget for 2020/21. Consultation to be undertaken with S355 management committees. Feedback received indicates s355 committees are receptive if funding is available. Referred to LRCI Phase 3 Workshop for consideration. No funding allocated.

Minute No:	Officer to Action	Council Resolution	Action Taken
Ordinary Council Meeting held 20 November 2017 – Councillor Questions & Statements			
Questions & Statements	GM	<p>Cr Marston – Potential Purchase of Land for Development</p> <p>Following completion of Carson Rd Development, The Rock, enquired if Council could look into the purchase of more land for development (using borrowings) Shire-wide, but maybe concentrating on The Rock and lifestyle blocks in Yerong Creek, requesting this be put on the agenda for further discussion.</p>	<p>Discussions have been held with Council's agent and the availability of suitable developable land coming on to the market is being monitored.</p> <p>Land development at The Rock has also been submitted to the Riverina JO for inclusion in the Statement of Regional Priorities being developed by the JO.</p> <p>Council has resolved to support a rezoning proposal that will facilitate a private residential development at The Rock.</p> <p>Rezoning Proposal PP01/22 has been supported by Council and submitted to DPIE in accordance with minute no. 166/21.</p> <p>Proposal rejected by Dept Planning Industry and Environment. Report to be brought to March Council meeting.</p>

November 2021 - February 2022 – Correspondence Sent to Councillors

Date sent to Councillors	From	Subject
17/11/2021	LG NSW	Weekly News dated 17 November 2021.
23/01/2022	General Manager	“Hit the Ground Running” Webinar – OLG
28/01/2022	General Manager	Cyber Security Awareness Training for Councillors – Cybersecurity NSW
2/02/2022	General Manager	“Elected Life – Councillors Induction” – LG NSW
11/02/2022	General Manager	“No Time to Waste” and “Energy & Innovation” Conferences - REROC
11/02/2022	Mayor	Mayoral Update
14/02/2022	ALGA	Weekly News dated 11/2/2022
16/02/2022	LG NSW	Weekly News dated 15/2/2022

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

23/22	RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Day and Driscoll that further investigation of out-of-school-hours care requirements in Lockhart be undertaken.
24/22	RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Mathews and Rockliff that the Status Report and Correspondence Précis be received.

STAFF REPORTS

STRATEGIC DIRECTION A: A Connected and Resilient Community

1. PHASE 3 – LOCAL ROADS AND COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE GRANTS PROGRAM

(GM: 21/15649)

Executive Summary

In 2021 the Australian Government announced a third round of funding under the Local Roads and Community Infrastructure (LRCI) grants program. An amount of \$1.693 million has been allocated to the Lockhart Shire Council under Phase 3 of the grants program for projects that meet the program guidelines.

Council, at its meeting held on 15 November 2021, resolved that applications for nine projects, totalling \$1.324 million, be submitted for approval and that the unallocated amount of \$369,000 be referred to the incoming Council for determination having regard to the outcome of Council's applications under Round 4 of the Stronger Country Communities Fund.

Report

Council at its meeting held on 15 November 2021 resolved to nominate the following projects for funding under Phase 3 of the LRCI grants program, all of which have since been approved:

1. The Rock Avenue of Honour
2. Lockhart Caravan Park – additional cabin with disabled access
3. Pleasant Hills Esplanade – beautification
4. Henty Pleasant Hills Road – seal one kilometre
5. Galore Hill – upgrade internal access roads
6. Yerong Creek Water Tower – sealing surrounding streets
7. Shire and town entrance signs – additional locations
8. Lockhart, Osborne and The Rock Recreation Grounds - sealing of internal roads
9. The Rock Recreation Ground – fencing of oval and Wilson Street boundary

The amounts allocated to the above projects total \$1.324 million and Council further resolved on 15 November 2021 that the unallocated amount of \$369,000 be referred to the incoming Council for determination having regard to the outcome of Council's applications under Round 4 of the Stronger Country Communities Fund (SCCF R4).

SCCF R4 is an earlier grants program under which Council had submitted five projects for consideration. The outcome of Council's applications under SCCF R4 was not known at the time projects were being considered under the LRCI Phase 3 grants program. It was suggested at the time that if any of the projects submitted for funding under SCCF R4 were unsuccessful, they could be considered for funding under the unallocated balance of LRCI Phase 3 funding.

The successful SCCF R4 applications have since been announced by the Government. The outcome of Council's applications are as follows:

1. Redevelopment of 109 Green Street Lockhart (former GrainCorp property) - SUCCESSFUL
2. Osborne Recreation Ground – upgrade netball courts - SUCCESSFUL
3. Lockhart, Osborne and The Rock recreation grounds – lighting upgrades - UNSUCCESSFUL
4. Yerong Creek recreation ground – irrigation system - UNSUCCESSFUL
5. Lockhart and The Rock recreation grounds – netball changeroom and AFL umpires room upgrades - SUCCESSFUL

This matter was the subject of discussion at a Councillor Workshop held on 7 February 2022, and with respect to utilising the unallocated balance of LRCI Phase 3 funding it was agreed that priority be given to the project involving the installation of an irrigation system at the Yerong Creek recreation ground and the cleaning of table drains along the Olympic Highway at The Rock following recent flood events.

An amount of \$58,000 is required for the irrigation system at the Yerong Creek recreation ground.

With respect to the clearing of table drains at The Rock, and following conflicting advice received in the past, it has since been confirmed by Transport for NSW (TfNSW) that it is in fact responsible for the table drains and that it will be arranging for the table drains to be cleared. This will involve removal of the suckers, logs, and silt build-up (silt is mainly an issue in the first 50 metres south of Emily Street) in the table drain.

If Council wishes to maintain the drains to a higher standard, then this additional cost will have to be funded by Council (refer separate report at item 9). That report recommends that Council awaits the outcome of works to be undertaken by TfNSW to clear the table drains along the Olympic Highway before determining whether additional works are required to be funded by Council.

Council has until 30 June 2022 to nominate projects for the unallocated balance of the LRCI Phase 3 funding.

It was also noted at the Council workshop on 7 February that, as a result of updated quotes being received, the amount allocated for fencing at The Rock Recreation Ground (oval and Wilson Street boundary) is short \$6,000.

Furthermore, since the Council Workshop advice has been received from the Osborne Recreation Ground Management Committee that, whilst funds have been allocated under LRCI Phase 3 for the sealing of internal roads at the Reserve, a higher priority for the Committee is ancillary works involved with the new netball courts, and upgrade of lighting to the main oval.

The amount allocated for the sealing of internal roads at the Osborne Recreation Ground is \$116,000 and, whilst this is less than the cost of the ancillary works and lighting proposed by the management committee, the committee has undertaken to contribute its own funds to ensure the project is completed. This will require a variation to the scope of works previously submitted to the funding body.

A summary of the above developments and their impact on the unallocated balance of LRCI Phase 3 funds is set out below:

Unallocated balance of LRCI Phase 3 funding	\$369,000
Less Yerong Creek Recreation Ground – irrigation system	\$58,000
Less The Rock Recreation Ground - additional funding required for fencing	\$6,000
Balance of LRCI Phase 3 funds remaining	\$305,000

It will be noted that if the above changes are agreed to by Council an amount of \$305,000 will remain in LRCI Phase 3 funding for which Council can nominate other projects. It is suggested that this amount not be allocated to other projects until such time as TfNSW completes the clearing of table drains along the Olympic Highway at The Rock at which time Council can determine whether additional works will be required to be funded by Council.

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.
- D1: Our assets and infrastructure are well planned and managed to meet the needs of the community now and into the future
- D1: Ensure appropriate provision, planning and use of all open space and recreation facilities and cemeteries.

Legislative Policy and Planning Implications

Nil.

Budget and Financial Aspects

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

Attachments

Nil.

Recommendation: That:

1. Council prepare and submit Project Nominations forms and Work Schedules for the following projects for funding under Phase 3 of Local Roads and Community Infrastructure grants program:

Yerong Creek Recreation Ground – irrigation system	\$58,000
The Rock Recreation Ground – additional funding required for fencing	\$6,000

2. The remaining balance of LRCI Phase 3 funding totalling \$305,000 not be allocated to other projects until such time as TfNSW completes the clearing of table drains along the Olympic Highway at The Rock at which time Council can determine whether additional works will be required.
3. An amended project nomination form be submitted to the funding body requesting that the funds approved for the sealing of internal roads at the Osborne Recreation Ground be reallocated to ancillary works involved with the new netball courts, and upgrade of lighting to the main oval.

25/22 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Sharp and Hunter that:

1. Council prepare and submit Project Nominations forms and Work Schedules for the following projects for funding under Phase 3 of Local Roads and Community Infrastructure grants program:

Yerong Creek Recreation Ground – irrigation system	\$58,000
The Rock Recreation Ground – additional funding required for fencing	\$6,000

2. The remaining balance of LRCI Phase 3 funding totalling \$305,000 not be allocated to other projects until such time as TfNSW completes the clearing of table drains along the Olympic Highway at The Rock at which time Council can determine whether additional works will be required.
3. An amended project nomination form be submitted to the funding body requesting that the funds approved for the sealing of internal roads at the Osborne Recreation Ground be reallocated to ancillary works involved with the new netball courts, and upgrade of lighting to the main oval.

2. NSW PARTNERSHIPS: LOCAL COUNCILS PROGRAM – STAGE 2

(GM: 22/2)

Executive Summary

Council has received funding under the NSW Partnerships: Local Councils Program – Stage 2 to provide for Council-led initiatives to support communities to respond to the COVID 19 pandemic.

Report

In November 2021 Council received advice from the Minister for Local Government that it was one of 33 NSW Councils to received funding under the NSW Partnerships: Local Councils Program – Stage 2.

The program provides funding to small rural councils (classification 8 & 9 as defined by the Office of Local Government) and councils that border state and territory borders. The program aims to assist councils with the least capacity to respond to COVID-19 impacts and those impacted by border closures.

The grant made available to Council amounted to \$90,000.

The grant announcement was unexpected, no application was required and the funds were provided up front. Originally the grant guidelines required the funds to be expended by 31 December 2021. However, an extension was requested and granted to 28 February 2022.

According to the grant guidelines activities should assist with:

- Building community resilience to respond effectively to the impacts of the pandemic
- Building capacity to support and deliver effective communication initiatives across a broad range of groups
- Decreasing the transmission of COVID-19

- Increasing the number of individuals testing for COVID-19
- Increasing the vaccinations rates for COVID-19, especially for vulnerable groups

The unexpected announcement, the short turnaround time to spend the grant and the specific focus on COVID-related activities proved challenging. In view of the circumstances it was decided to consult the Lockhart MPS and the two medical practices operating in Lockhart Shire i.e. Lockhart Medical Practice and Glenrock Country Practice at The Rock. The following activities have been arranged utilising the grant funds:

Purchase of rapid antigen test kits for distribution to local businesses.

- Outreach vaccination and booster shot program (including vaccinations for 5–11-year-olds) at Lockhart, The Rock, Pleasant Hills and Yerong Creek in collaboration with Glenrock Country Practice, The Rock and Lockhart Medical Practice.
- Distribution of covid safety packs to local businesses, section 355 committees and event managers (face masks, hand sanitiser, Glen 20, anti-bacterial wipes, rapid antigen test kits, high-vis (COVID marshal) vests etc).
- COVID-19 event management training workshops
- Headspace youth workshop with speaker
- Riverina Bluebell evening forum with speaker
- Council 'care cards' for distribution to the community.

Integrated Planning and Reporting Reference

A1: Provide support and advice to community groups, clubs, and volunteers.

A2: Ensure that Lockhart Shire is well prepared to respond to adversity.

A2: Promote community safety initiatives within the community.

A2: Work with service providers and government to improve access to quality health, and medical life-stage facilities and services to meet the long-term needs of the community.

Legislative Policy and Planning Implications

Nil.

Budget and Financial Aspects

The activities outlined in this report were funded by the NSW Partnerships: Local Councils Program – Stage 2 and a contribution was not required from Council.

Attachments

Nil.

Recommendation: That the information be noted.

26/22 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Driscoll and Marston that the information be noted.

3. LOCKHART RSL SUB-BRANCH – REQUEST FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

(GM: 22/879)

Executive Summary

A request for financial assistance has been received from the Lockhart RSL Sub-branch and is tabled for Council's consideration.

Report

The Lockhart RSL Sub-branch has written to Council seeking financial support towards the following additions and improvements at the Lockhart Cenotaph. An extract from the Sub-branch's request reads as follows:

“Due to Remembrance Day 2021 commemoration at the Lockhart Cenotaph, Lockhart RSL Sub-branch have had indication from the public that there were some issues with the ability to hear and be part of the ceremony; this situation greatly concerns the Lockhart RSL Sub-branch and we wish to rectify the issue prior to ANZAC Day 2022.

Further to this, there are some additions to the Lockhart Cenotaph precinct that we feel will improve the usability and showcase the Lockhart Cenotaph to the general public, not only in Lockhart Shire but from afar through social media and memorial websites”

More specifically the Lockhart RSL Sub-branch is seeking financial assistance in the amount of \$8,162 ex GST towards the following:

- Install and maintain an all-weather speaker system
- Install and maintain underground lighting at each corner of the Cenotaph

Integrated Planning and Reporting Reference

A1: Build capacity, capability and partnerships to encourage sustainable community groups and clubs.

A1: Provide support and advice to community groups, clubs and volunteers.

Legislative Policy & Planning Implications

Pursuant to Section 356 of the Local Government Act Council may, in accordance with a resolution of the Council, contribute money or otherwise grant financial assistance to persons for the purpose of exercising its functions.

Budget & Financial Aspects

Council has allocated an amount of \$52,000 in the 2021/22 budget to accommodate requests for financial assistance. There is a sufficient amount remaining in the budget allocation to approve the request from the Lockhart RSL Sub-branch.

Attachments

Nil.

Recommendation: That Council provide financial assistance in the amount of \$8,162 ex GST to the Lockhart RSL Sub-branch and that the contribution be funded from the 2021/22 budget allocation for Section 356 contributions.

MOVED on the motion of Crs Rockliff and Marston that Council provide financial assistance in the amount of \$8,162 ex GST to the Lockhart RSL Sub-branch and that the contribution be funded from the 2021/22 budget allocation for Section 356 contributions.

27/22 Moved as an amendment by Crs Sharp and Cr Walker that:

- a) Council provides funding of \$3,670 ex GST to the Lockhart RSL Sub-branch to install and maintain underground lighting at each corner of the cenotaph and
- b) Further investigation be undertaken regarding the purchase of public address systems for the Lockhart, The Rock and Yerong Creek communities.

On being put to the vote the Amendment was carried, became the motion and was again carried.

At this point in the meeting, the time being 5.52pm, Cr Day declared a non-pecuniary conflict of interest and left the Chamber.

4. REQUEST TO REFUND DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION FEES PAID TO COUNCIL (GM: 22/1385)

Executive Summary

Requests to refund development application and associated fees paid to Council have been received from the Lockhart Showground Management Committee and the Lockhart Show Society in relation to separate development applications and are tabled for Council's consideration.

Report

1. *Lockhart Showground Management Committee*

Lockhart Showground Management Committee has written to Council requesting a refund of fees paid in relation to Development Application 64-21 and Construction Certificate for the new Stock Pavilion.

The Committee paid fees totalling \$1,817.90. However, of this amount, \$435.00 relates to fees that Council collected on behalf of other agencies e.g. the Long Service Leave Payments Corporation. The balance of \$1,382.90 is the amount retained by Council and which is being considered for the refund.

2. *Lockhart Show Society*

The Lockhart Show Society has written to Council requesting a refund of fees paid in relation to Development Application 02-22 and Construction Certificate for construction of a new shed.

The Committee paid fees totalling \$1,547.30. However, of this amount, \$231.00 relates to fees Council collected on behalf of other agencies e.g. the Long Service Leave Payments Corporation. The balance of \$1,316.30 is the amount retained by Council and which is being considered for the refund.

Policy 2.36 – Refund of fees to Community Organisations – allows certain organisations to apply for refund of development related fees. The types of organisations identified in the Policy include service clubs, Section 355 Committees and community-based pre-school kindergartens.

Lockhart Showground Management Committee is a section 355 Committee and Lockhart Show Society is a not-for-profit, community-based organisation, and accordingly it is recommended that Council agree to the requests.

Integrated Planning and Reporting Reference

- A1: Build capacity, capability and partnerships to encourage sustainable community groups and clubs.
- A1: Provide support and advice to community groups, clubs, and volunteers.
- A1: Within financial means, support and fund Section 355 Committees to manage and maintain Council facilities.

Legislative Policy & Planning Implications

Pursuant to Section 356 of the Local Government Act a council may, in accordance with a resolution of the council, contribute money or otherwise grant financial assistance to persons for the purpose of exercising its functions.

Budget & Financial Aspects

If Council agrees to the request the refund of the Development Application fee will be met from Council's Section 356 Contributions Budget. An amount of \$52,100 has been allocated in the 2021/22 Budget for this purpose.

Attachments

Nil.

Recommendation: That:

1. Council refund fees totalling \$1,382.90 paid by Lockhart Showground Management Committee in respect of DA 64-21; and
2. Council refund fees totalling \$1,316.30 paid by Lockhart Show Society in respect of DA 02-22; and
3. the cost of refunding the Development Application fees be met from Council's 2021/22 Section 356 Contributions Budget.

28/22	RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Walker and Rockliff that: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Council refund fees totalling \$1,382.90 paid by Lockhart Showground Management Committee in respect of DA 64-21; and2. Council refund fees totalling \$1,316.30 paid by Lockhart Show Society in respect of DA 02-22; and3. the cost of refunding the Development Application fees be met from Council's 2021/22 Section 356 Contributions Budget.
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Cr Day rejoined the meeting at 5.54pm.

5. HIRE FEE OF COUNCIL FACILITIES

(DCCS: 22/2114)

Executive Summary

At the November 2021 Council meeting a new fee was tabled for adoption by Council. After having been public exhibited for a period of not less than 28 days, this fee is being presented for adoption.

Report

Council from time to time receives requests to hire Council facilities and that the fee be waived.

The facilities would be limited to the Lockhart Memorial Hall, Lockhart Railway Station and meeting rooms in Council's administration building. The usage of these premises is currently very low.

It is proposed, with respect to requests from not-for-profit groups and/or service organisations to waive the adopted fees or charges to hire any of the facilities named above, that a new fee of zero dollars be adopted and included in Council's Fees and Charges for 2021-22.

The not-for-profit groups and/or service organisations' request would need to demonstrate that they are providing a community benefit and that there would be no cover charge to attendees. Any requests to waive the hire fee would also be limited to those bookings of half a day or less.

This does not preclude any requests still being reported to Council, if deemed appropriate.

At the time of writing this report no submissions had been received. Any submissions received prior to the Council meeting will be tabled at the February 2022 Council meeting.

Integrated Planning and Reporting Reference

A2: Our community services and facilities meet the needs of our communities.

E3: Council responds collectively and responsibly to community needs.

Legislative Policy & Planning Implications

Section 610F (1) states that a council must not determine the amount of a fee until it has given 28 days public notice of the proposed fee.

Budget & Financial Aspects

Budget impact would be minimal, as usage is already low, and any foregone income would be insignificant to the budget.

Attachments

Nil.

Recommendation: That:

1. The fee of zero-dollar value for the hire of facilities as listed in this report, as presented, be adopted.
2. The fee of zero-dollar value for the hire of facilities as listed in this report be added to Council's Fees & Charges for 2021/22.

29/22	RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Marston and Sharp that: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. The fee of zero-dollar value for the hire of facilities as listed in this report, as presented, be adopted.2. The fee of zero-dollar value for the hire of facilities as listed in this report be added to Council's Fees & Charges for 2021/22.
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STRATEGIC DIRECTION B: A Dynamic and Prosperous Economy

Nil.

STRATEGIC DIRECTION C: An Environment that is Respected and Protected

6. PROJECT ENERGYCONNECT UPDATE

(GM: 22/1008)

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. The Environmental Impact Statement for the Project was placed on public exhibition from 19 January to 15 February 2022.

Report

Project EnergyConnect involves the construction of a new 330/500 kilovolt above ground transmission line between Robertstown in South Australia and Wagga Wagga in NSW that will pass through numerous local government areas including Lockhart Shire.

The purpose of the project is to provide secure and reliable electricity in the near term, while facilitating the longer-term transition across the National Energy Market to low-emission energy sources.

The Project has been declared Critical State Significant Infrastructure and therefore the consent authority for this project is the Minister for Planning.

The Development Application, including the environmental impact statement (EIS), was placed on public exhibition from 19 January 2022 until 15 February 2022.

To support the exhibition, Transgrid hosted community drop-in information sessions along the Eastern-Section from 31 January to 11 February 2022. The session in Lockhart Shire was held on 1 February 2022, 2pm – 5pm at the Lockhart Memorial Hall.

In addition, Transgrid developed an interactive version of the EIS and a community guide which were made available on the project website, www.transgrid.com.au/energyconnect.

The EIS identifies the key impacts associated with the Project in relation to:

- Biodiversity
- Aboriginal heritage
- Historic heritage
- Land use and property
- Landscape, character and visual amenity
- Social
- Economic
- Hydrology, flooding and water quality
- Air quality
- Noise and vibration

- Traffic and access
- Hazards and risks
- Soil contamination and groundwater
- Waste management and resource use
- Cumulative impacts
- The EIS also identifies potential sites for construction compounds and accommodation camps.

A suite of mitigation measures has been identified and incorporated into the EIS to guide finalisation of the proposal design and to manage the construction and operational phases of the Project to mitigate and/or manage the identified environmental, social and economic impacts.

Many of the abovementioned impacts are issues for landholders situated on the proposed route of the transmission line with whom Transgrid has been negotiating over recent months.

A major consideration for Council is the impact of the project on local roads (construction haulage routes) as well as the impacts of the proposed construction compounds and accommodation camps.

Local Roads

The EIS includes a list of local roads in Lockhart Shire Local Government Area that will be affected and this list is attached.

Set out below is an extract from the EIS listing the mitigation measures that are proposed to be developed and implemented in relation to traffic and access issues. Particular attention is drawn to mitigation measure “TA7” below which deals with pre-construction and post construction road condition surveys and the reinstatement of roads to equivalent or better conditions.

- *“TA1 A traffic and transport management sub-plan would be developed and implemented. The sub-plan would detail how potential proposal-related traffic and access impacts during construction would be minimised and managed. This plan would be prepared in consultation with the local councils and Transport for NSW.*
- *TA2 The traffic and transport management sub-plan would outline the process for obtaining road occupancy licences and preparing and implementing traffic management plans and traffic controls plans, as required by the relevant roads authority, for road works.*
- *TA3 Any permits required under the National Heavy Vehicle Law for oversized and over mass vehicle movements associated with the proposal would be obtained from the National Heavy Vehicle Regulator. Permit applications would be supported by a Vehicle Movement Plan prepared to identify the proposed heavy vehicle route(s). The plan would consider activities of adjoining land uses and safety of the public, particularly when entering urban areas from rural highways.*
- *TA4 Measures that are required to address potential road safety issues associated with proposal-related use of access routes would be identified in consultation with the relevant roads authority.*
- *TA5 A Driver Code of Conduct would be developed and implemented.*
- *TA6 Consultation with rail authorities (operators) would occur for all proposal activities required in active rail corridors.*
- *TA7 Road condition surveys would be carried out for all local roads that would be used as construction haulage routes, in consultation with the relevant roads authority. The surveys would be carried out prior to the road being used by heavy vehicles to support construction of the proposal. A road condition monitoring and maintenance program would be developed in consultation with the relevant roads authority for all local roads used as construction haulage routes and implemented for the duration of construction. Post-construction road condition surveys would be carried out for local roads used as a construction haulage route when use by construction vehicles ceases. Damage to the roads that is attributed to the proposal would be addressed in consultation with the relevant roads authority. Roads would be reinstated to equivalent or better condition. For all sealed local roads (within the vicinity or 200m of the proposal) and/or all unsealed roads on haulage routes.*
- *TA8 A community communications strategy would be developed and implemented to manage communications in order to engage and notify local communities of major works that could disrupt the road network.*

- *TA9 Road Occupancy Licence(s) would be sought for all temporary lane closures (as required) with the relevant roads authority prior to construction. Any road closures with significant impact, such as short term full road closure and long-term temporary lane/road closures would be assessed on a case-by-case basis, and approval sought from the relevant road authority.*
- *TA10 Heavy Vehicle Movement Plans would be prepared as part of the traffic and transport management sub-plan and implemented for all proposal heavy vehicle routes*
- *TA11 Significant traffic generating developments in the vicinity of the proposal would be identified. Consultation would occur with those developments and the relevant roads authority regarding proposal-related vehicle movements and road works.*
- *TA12 The appointed Construction Contractor would coordinate and appropriately manage movements on the alternative route options and communicate the changes to the affected residents and the council as part of the communication process of the traffic and transport management sub-plan.*
- *A13 A Fatigue Management Plan would be developed and implemented for the proposal that addresses driver fatigue and associated regulatory requirements.*
- *TA14 Road and surface conditions and the traffic controls implemented at each proposal site access/egress point from the sealed road network would be monitored during construction.*
- *TA15 Construction access tracks would be retained for operational access, where required and practicable in consultation with the relevant landholder.”*

Construction compounds and accommodation camps

According to the EIS and supporting documents six main construction compound and accommodation camp sites would be established for the proposal in Balranald, Boorooban, Dinawan, Lockhart and Wagga Wagga.

Two options for construction compounds and accommodation camps have been identified in Lockhart Shire. One is on the Lockhart Urana Road south-west of Lockhart. The other is on the County Boundary Road north-east of Lockhart. Transgrid would be negotiating directly with the owners of the proposed sites regarding any necessary agreements. A map showing the proposed locations is attached.

The construction compounds and accommodation camp sites have been selected to be located near a sealed main road to facilitate journeys to worksites and airports and local services and amenities.

The sites would typically be located adjacent to each other. Suitably sized and located temporary access points off the adjacent roadways would be required for each of these main construction compound and accommodation camp sites.

A review of the intersection types, sight distances, traffic volumes and crash data has been assessed for each location. Based on this information, sight distance requirements and consultation with TfNSW, all construction compound and accommodation camps will require a minimum Type BAL (Basic Left) and Type BAR (Basic Right) intersection where no intersection currently exists

The presence of the accommodation camps will provide economic activity for local businesses. According to the EIS total annual employment generated by the Project during year 1 of construction for people that live permanently in the region is estimated at 698 i.e. 100 direct jobs, 17 jobs from wage expenditures and 571 jobs from non-labour expenditure.

Bearing in mind that the closing date for submissions i.e. 15 February 2022 was prior to the Council meeting a submission was lodged noting the undertaking contained in the EIS that all sealed local roads (within the vicinity or 200m of the proposal) and/or all unsealed roads on haulage routes would be reinstated to equivalent or better condition, and stating that this should be done within a reasonable timeframe following completion of construction in view of the district's prominence as a grain growing area.

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

1. List of Roads in Lockhart Local Government Area
2. Map showing location of potential construction compounds and accommodation camps

Recommendation: That the action taken to make a submission in response to the public exhibition of the EIS relating to Project EnergyConnect be endorsed.

30/22 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Mathews and Sharp that the action taken to make a submission in response to the public exhibition of the EIS relating to Project EnergyConnect be endorsed.

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

At this point in the meeting, the time being 5.56pm, Cr Rockliff declared a pecuniary conflict of interest and left the Chamber.

7. ENGINEERING AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES REPORT

(DEES: 22/1942)

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. Damage Control Project Management (DCPM) was appointed to manage the flood reconstruction works. Their project management fees are to be fully reimbursed. Council's contribution to each of the flood events is \$18,113.

Wattles Road/Tinamba Lane: Minor drainage works at the Lockhart Kywong Road intersection to be completed.

Prichard Place: Extension of existing sealed section by 400 metres. The design is complete and approved by Transport for NSW. Construction has commenced.

Lockhart Kywong Road (MR370) North: The section starts at 1.25km north of Slocums Lane and ends short of Seberrys Lane. The design is complete and approved by Transport for NSW.

Lockhart Kywong Road (MR370) North: The section starts at 170m north of Spanish Avenue and ends 520m South of Boree Creek Road. Council successfully secured funding through the Regional Roads Repair Program to upgrade this section of road. The design is complete and approved by Transport for NSW.

Mittagong Yerong Creek Road: Council successfully secured funding through the Fixing Local Roads program to increase the capacity of two culverts and add additional width on Mittagong Yerong Creek Road. Construction of this project is scheduled to commence in August 2022.

Grading and minor gravelling of unsealed roads: Grading program has been temporarily interrupted while crews are completing emergency works resulting from the recent floods.

An updated 12-month programme will be presented at the meeting.

b) **Major Projects:**

Flood Mitigation Construction: Excel Gray Bruni has been appointed to undertake the flood mitigation works at The Rock, being the drainage works along Nicholas, Yerong and Urana Streets. Letters were posted to properties directly impacted. Construction activities were significantly impacted by a wetter

than normal construction season as well as three flood events. However, the works are progressing, and the contractor still aims to complete the works prior to the end of the 2021/22 financial year.

c) **Road Safety:**

A part-time Road Safety Officer (RSO) position is being advertised. Applications closed on Monday, 15 November 2021. There were no suitable candidates. It is unlikely that Council will be able to appoint an RSO for the remainder of the current contract (3 months).

d) **Lockhart Local Emergency Management Committee (LEMC):**

The last meeting of the Lockhart LEMC was held on Friday 11 February 2022. The next LEMC meeting is scheduled for Friday 17 June 2022.

e) **Fleet:**

Council officers are currently seeking quotes for fleet replacements in accordance with the 2021-22 program.

f) **Biosecurity and Environment:**

Property Inspections

Inspections were carried out on residential properties, which were selected due a change in ownership, or to assess the effectiveness of applied control methods.

The weeds most found were St John's wort (*Hypericum perforatum*), Prickly pear (*Opuntia sp.*), Lippia (*Phyla canescens*), and Athel pine (*Tamarix aphylla*).

No. 1 st Inspections	No. Re-inspections required	No.2 nd Inspections	No. Biosecurity Undertakings Accepted	No. Biosecurity Directions Issued	No.3 rd Inspections	No.4 th Inspections
8	0	2	0	0	0	0

Control Program

Priority has been given to the control of Feathertop Rhodes grass (*Chloris virgata*), St John's wort (*Hypericum perforatum*), Bathurst burrs (*Xanthium spinosum*), St. Barnaby's thistle (*Centaurea solstitialis*), and Silverleaf nightshade (*Solanum elaeagnifolium*) on roadside reserves and council managed land.

drumMUSTER

March drumMUSTER collection events have been scheduled. The Lockhart drumMUSTER event is scheduled to occur on Tuesday 15 March and will be managed by St. Joseph's School. The Rock drumMUSTER event is scheduled for Thursday 17 March and will be managed by The Rock Men's Shed.

Common White Snail Baiting Program

Snail baiting application occurred on Fairview Lane on 4 January 2022.

Autumn Fox Baiting Program

In preparation for the autumn fox baiting program, advertisement in local newspapers will occur in February, to notify neighbouring properties of the intention to bait on Galore Hill Scenic Reserve and Kincaids Reserve. Fox baiting will commence on 16 March. Replacement of baits will continue for six weeks.

g) **Parks and Gardens:**

Parks and Gardens

Routine garden maintenance is being conducted including regular weeding, spraying, pruning, deadheading, and mulching. Irrigation systems are being maintained and times adjusted for the spring growth season.

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 is being trialled in several lawn situations to test its ability

to suppress the germination of khaki weed and Caltrop (bindi, cathead) seed. The active ingredient dimethenamid-P combined with pendimethalin in Freehand is for use in ornamental landscape situations for pre-emergent weed control of annual grasses, susceptible sedge species and many small-seeded broadleaf weeds. Controls over 60 common weeds. Can be used in pots, plant containers, garden soil and turf. For use on warm season turf: hybrid couch, Qld blue couch, carpet grass, kikuyu, buffalo and zoysia; with residual control of up to 6 months. If the trial is successful application will be extended to other known problem areas.

Mowing and Slashing

The summer mowing season has been well above average due to frequent rain events accelerating growth rates, most areas have received repeated maintenance. Access to some urban road reserves has been hindered by wet drainage areas. Mowing of irrigated lawns has returned to fortnightly scheduling.

Trees

Watering of any trees planted in the last two years has been conducted.

h) **Customer Requests**

Council received 63 customer service requests for the period 1 October 2021 to 31 December 2021. Most customer service requests related to road works required resulting from the November 2021 flood event.



i) **Development Applications:**

The following development applications were approved, with conditions, from 1 November 2021 to 31 January 2022.

DA No	Development	Applicant	Site of Development
DA11/22	Colorbond shed	Craig Lynch	35 Drummond St, Lockhart
DA19/22	Manufactured home (secondary dwelling for use as tourist and visitor accommodation)	Christopher Kendall	7 Bond St, Lockhart
DA23/22	Mobile concrete batching plant, concrete recycling plant and consolidation of lots.	Adam Jenkins	15-17 Harry Davies Dr, Lockhart
DA24/22	Secondary dwelling	Barry Menz	65 King St, The Rock

DA No	Development	Applicant	Site of Development
DA29/22	Colorbond shed	Emily James	90 Green St, Lockhart
DA30/22	Business identification sign	Simone Jones	131 Green St, Lockhart
DA31/22	Addition and alterations	Habitat Planning	109 Green St, Lockhart
CDC32/22	Inground swimming pool	Carmel Barrat	26 Green St, Lockhart
DA33/22	Garage and verandah	Andrew Moore	1 Cape St, Milbrulong
DA34/22	Farm machinery shed	Peter Hahn	3455 Osborne Yerong Creek Rd, Yerong Creek
DA35/22	Change of use	Navneet Choujar	100 Green St, Lockhart
CDC36/22	Patio	Lifestyle Patios	2 Galore St, Lockhart
DA38/22	Colorbond shed	Andrew Woods	18 Hill Street, The Rock
DA39/22	Shop	Sharon Lambert	114 Green Street, Lockhart
DA40/22	Staff room and facilities	A Rockliff	18 Urana Street, Lockhart
DA41/22	New single dwelling	Metricon Homes	6 Hebden Street, Lockhart
DA42/22	Single dwelling, manufactured home	Betterlook Homes	19 Rockliff Court Lockhart
DA43/22	Colorbond shed	David McIntyre	18 Milne Road, The Rock
DA46/22	Single dwelling, manufactured home	Betterlook Homes	3 Rockliff Court, Lockhart

It was requested at the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 21 June 2021 that Councillors be updated on the progress of the service station at The Rock on a regular basis. Transport for NSW has completed their assessment DA50/19-2 and notified Council of their required conditions. This allows Council to complete our assessment and issue a Notice of Determination.

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.

31/22 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Driscoll and Marston that Council notes the information provided in the Engineering and Environmental Services report.
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Cr Rockliff rejoined the meeting at 6.03pm.

8. NOISE AND AIR POLLUTION DISTURBANCES – THE ROCK

(DEES: 22/1944)

Executive Summary

Over time Lockhart Shire Council received complaints regarding the noise and fumes originating from 10 Strevens Street, The Rock because of burnout events. Council has sought advice on how to respond to the noise and fumes complaints. Local Government NSW advised that where noise is the result of a person doing burnouts, it may be too difficult to prove the noise is offensive for the purposes of issuing a penalty notice. Council's Compliance Officer has worked closely with the owner of 10 Strevens Street to ensure the disturbance is managed appropriately.

Background Information

At the Council Meeting held on 10 January 2022 Cr Verdon advised that he received several complaints over the Christmas period about the noise originating from 10 Strevens Street. He enquired if the Compliance Officer could interview residents of Strevens Street and The Rock Mangoplah Road to establish the extent of the disturbance. He also asked if all the buildings and slabs on the property have been approved by Council and requested that a report be brought back to the February meeting.

The noise originating from 10 Strevens Street, The Rock is because of vehicles doing 'burn-outs' on a concrete pad. This matter was brought to Council's attention previously and the General Manager sought advice from Local Government NSW regarding the noise and fumes aspect of these activities in March 2021. Local Government NSW advised that there are only a few options available to deal with the noise aspect while options available to deal with the fumes are even more limited. The options provided include the following:

- The affected residents could commence proceedings for a claim for private nuisance, but this can be an expensive option and one that would not provide immediate relief. To bring a claim, the interference with the use and enjoyment of that land must be at a level that would substantially interfere with the ordinary physical comfort of a person.
- Options under the *Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997* (POEO ACT) includes the following:
 - a) Noise abatement orders – under section 268 of the POEO act, the occupier of the premises affected by the noise may apply to the local court for a noise abatement order. Applications under this section allege that the person's occupation of the premises is affected by offensive noise. If the local court is satisfied that the alleged offensive noise exists, or that although abated it is likely to recur on the same premises, the local court may make either or both of the following orders:
 - an order directing the respondent to abate the offensive noise within the time specified in the order,
 - an order directing the respondent to prevent a recurrence of the offensive noise.
 - b) Noise abatement directions – under section 276 of the POEO Act, a police officer or other authorised person, which includes a member of staff of a council, can issue a warning or a written or verbal noise abatement direction requiring a person to cease making offensive noise. This direction cannot be appealed and remains in force for 28 days.
- Council could issue an abatement order under section 125 of the Local Government Act 1993 (LGA). To issue a section 125 order, the noise and smoke from the burnout, needs to materially affect the "*reasonable comfort and convenience of a sufficient class of people to constitute the public or a section of the public*".
- Clause 6 of the Environment Operations (Noise Control) Regulation 2017 may also apply. This clause requires that for there to be an offence, the noise is 'offensive'. An authorised officer of the council can issue a penalty notice for a clause 6 offence.

However, gathering the evidence to prove that the noise that occurs is 'offensive' may be difficult. It will be necessary to consider a range of factors to determine whether the noise is 'offensive', including the following:

- the loudness of the noise, especially compared with other noise in the area

- the character of the noise
- the time and duration of the noise
- whether the noise is typical for the area
- how often the noise occurs
- the number of people affected by the noise.

The existing structures on the land are covered by Development Approval 15/93. The concrete pad does not require approval under the RU1 zoning.

The owner of the property has been in contact with NSW EPA and is operating within the EPA guidelines.

Council's Compliance Officer has investigated all complaints regarding this matter and liaised with several residents along Strevens Street and Mangoplah Road regarding the noise and fumes. The Compliance Officer further advised that he has not received any complaint regarding the noise for the past 12 months. Prior to any burnout event the owner contacts the Compliance Officer and NSW Police Force and does a letter box drop to residents advising of the event. The owner also considers wind direction to minimise the disturbance.

Legislative Policy and Planning Implications

- Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997 (POEO ACT)
- Local Government Act 1993 (LGA)
- Environment Operations (Noise Control) Regulation 2017

Integrated Planning and Reporting Reference

E3: Council responds collectively and responsibly to community needs.

Budget and Financial Aspects

Nil.

Attachments

Nil

Recommendation: That Council notes the information provided in this report.

32/22 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Driscoll and Walker that Council notes the information provided in this report.

9. FLOOD MITIGATION REVIEW – THE ROCK AND YERONG CREEK

(DEES: 22/1964)

Executive Summary

Lockhart Shire Council recently experienced significant flood events in November 2021, January 2022, and February 2022.

Background Information

At the Council Meeting held on 10 January 2022 it was resolved (Minute No. 13/22) on the motion of Crs Driscoll and Marsden:

1. That Council undertakes a thorough review of the effectiveness of the Flood Mitigation Schemes with an interim report presented at the February Meeting and a Final Report to the April meeting so that any additional spending measures can be considered for the 2022/23 Budget.
2. That the abovementioned review identifies possible short term solutions including cleaning of drains and culverts, diversion of more water into Strevens Street Drain and temporary pumps.
3. That Council facilitates a meeting between TfNSW, ARTC and the Member for Wagga Wagga to discuss drainage along the Olympic Highway.
4. That Council review drainage issues in Yerong Creek.

5. That Council approach the relevant agencies to include additional properties at The Rock in the Voluntary Purchase Scheme.

Review of the effectiveness of the flood mitigation schemes and identification of short-term solutions

The flooding impacts at The Rock in October 2010 and March 2012 were mostly caused by runoff from the local catchments on the south side of The Rock. Burkes Creek requires at least a 50-year ARI flood event to overtop its banks. It is not the cause of most of the flooding at The Rock. There are three main local catchments on the south side of The Rock as shown in Figure 1.

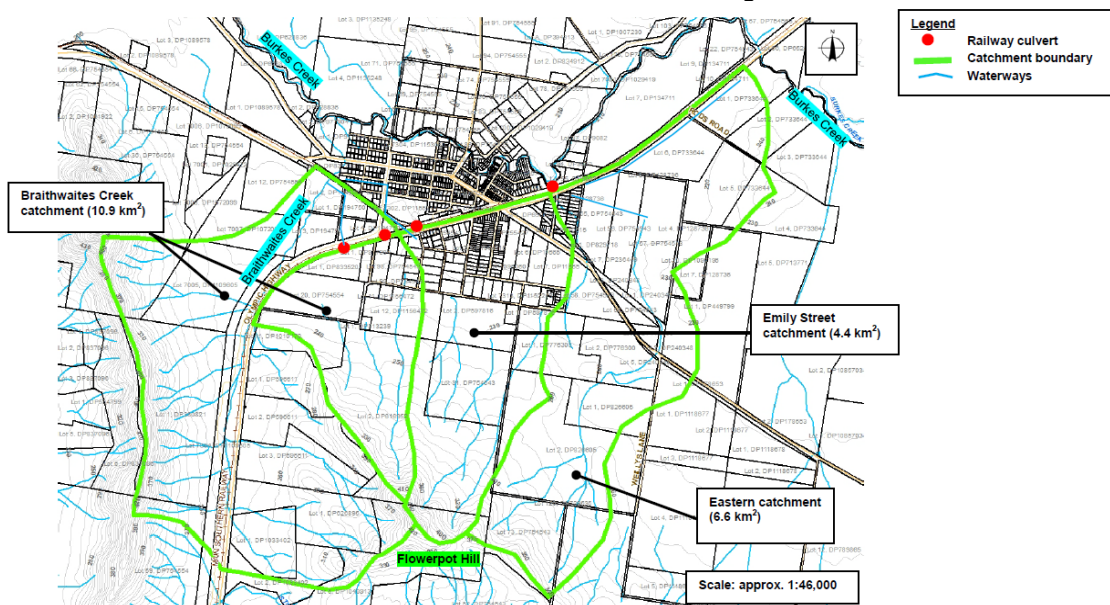


Figure 1 Local Catchment Plan

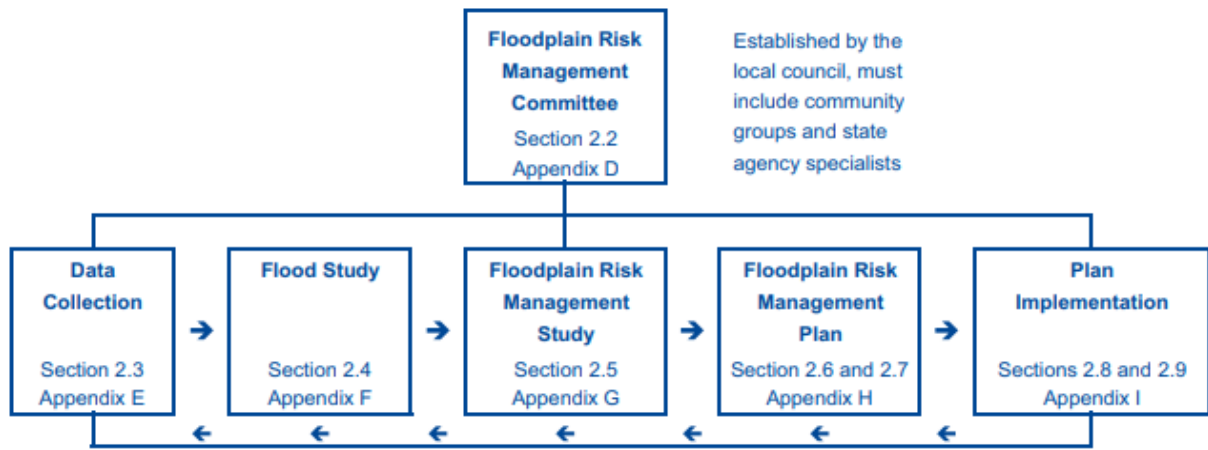
Source: The Rock Flood Mitigation Options Report, 30 October 2015 (GHD)

The Braithwaites Creek catchment (catchment area 10.9km² at Urana Street) includes the southwestern corner of The Rock. Runoff from the Braithwaites Creek catchment does not cause any serious flooding issues within the town. The Watson Street area discharges to culvert structures under the Olympic Highway and the Great Southern Railway 350 metres west of the Yerong Street intersection. Downstream of the Great Southern Railway, runoff discharges northwest and into Braithwaites Creek on the upstream side of The Rock-Lockhart Railway (GHD, 2015).

The Emily Street catchment (4.4km²) is shown on Figure 1. Runoff draining from Flowerpot Hill drains directly northwards into the town. Runoff drains as shallow sheet flow northwards to the Olympic Highway. Culvert crossings under the Olympic Highway are located at Emily Street and between Park Street and Hill Street. The culvert crossing under the Great Southern Railway is north of Hill Street. Downstream of the Railway, runoff drains via roadside drains in Yerong Street and Urana Street to Braithwaites Creek. Runoff from the Emily Street catchment and the adjoining Eastern catchment is the cause of most of the local overland flooding problems at The Rock. Most of these problems occur on the north side of the Railway (GHD, 2015).

The Eastern catchment (6.6km²) is shown in Figure 1. Runoff draining from Flowerpot Hill drains north eastwards to the Olympic Highway on the east side of town. Flows can discharge under the highway and railway at a culvert crossing located 600 metres east of The Rock Mangoplah Road intersection. In large flood events such as 2010 and 2012, runoff from the eastern catchment drains to the intersection of the Olympic Highway and The Rock Mangoplah Road and into the town's drainage system. These flows discharge westwards on the south side of the Railway to the culvert structure located opposite Hill Street. These flows combined with the flows from the Emily Street catchment are the main cause of the flooding problems at The Rock. The railway line effectively acts as a de-facto retarding basin. In a 1% AEP flood, the Railway line low point is overtopped by 0.15 metres over approximately 200 metres opposite Emily Street (GHD, 2015).

Following the 2010 and 2012 floods, Council initiated a process (see below) leading to the preparation of a Floodplain Risk Management Plan (FRMP), as per the NSW Floodplain Development Manual, April 2005. The process finished in July 2014 with the formal adoption of the Floodplain Risk Management Plan.



In response to modelling undertaken by WMAwater in relation to flood mitigation at The Rock, GHD Pty Ltd wrote to Council on 20 November 2015 advising of the outcomes of their assessment of the modelling and recommended the following:

1. Proceed with Strevens Street channel design.
2. Complete detailed design for culverts under the Olympic Highway, rail line and private property.
3. Do not implement Emily Street project as there is little benefit.
4. Upgrade to railway culvert (opposite Hill Street) not required.
5. Redesign the Nicholas Street basin arrangement as a channel and drain with no retardation.
6. Complete the design of the open channel and road crossing structures along Yerong/Urana Streets.

GHD prepared detailed designs for the adopted FRMP structural flood mitigation works. The detail designs were prepared consistent with the WMAwater concept design proposals and designed at 100Y Average Recurrence Interval (ARI) (1 % Annual Exceedance Probability (AEP)) flood level.

The mitigation works for the eastern catchment is completed which included the Strevens Street cut-off drain and capacity upgrades of existing culvert structures at the Olympic Highway, Great Southern Railway, and a private access road (GHD recommendations 1) and 2) above).

The mitigation works for the Emily Street catchment are currently under way and includes a cut-off drain and berm along Nicholas Street, new culverts along Yerong Street and increasing the capacity of the Urana Street channel and construction of new bridges (GHD recommendations 5) and 6) above).

In accordance with GHD recommendations 3) and 4) above, the Emily Street project and the upgrade of the railway culvert opposite Hill Street has not formed part of the NSW Government funded flood mitigation works. The proposed Emily Street project involved funnelling flow to a new high capacity drain down Emily Street. It comprises:

- Berms parallel to Semmens Road to divert shallow sheet flow to the south end of Emily Street.
- Large drain constructed within the Emily Street road reserve.
- Large drain constructed on the south side of the Olympic Highway between Emily Street and Hill Street.
- Major culvert upgrades under the Olympic Highway and the Great Southern Railway (doubling of the existing culvert capacity).

The flood events in November 2021, January 2022, and February 2022 significantly impacted properties along the Olympic Highway and Emily Street. Properties in the proximity of the Olympic Highway were inundated.

Key observations include the following:

- During the recent flood events it was evident that the Stevens Street drainage system operated below capacity. The Stevens Street drainage system starts at the boundary fence next to The Rock Mangoplah Road with flows from The Rock Mangoplah Road southwards bypassing the system.

- There are currently culverts located on both sides of The Rock Mangoplah Road and at Emily Street to allow for water flow to the table drain on the Southern side of the Olympic Highway. The highway culverts have a capacity for around the 20Y ARI. It was evident from the recent flood events that once flood waters passed through the culverts under the Olympic Highway the table drains on the Southern side of the Olympic Highway are not effectively directing the water towards the rail culverts opposite Hill Street. The table drain has inadequate capacity causing inundation of properties and temporary road closures during flood events.

Several discussions were held with residents and drainage engineers since the November 2021 flood event. Options for consideration include:

- a) Construction of a drain at the back of Semmens Road.
- b) Increase culverts (number/size) under the Olympic Highway.
- c) Increase capacity of the table drain on the western side of the Olympic Highway between The Rock Mangoplah Road and the rail culverts opposite Hill Street.
- d) Regular maintenance of the table drains along the Olympic Highway.
- e) Opening the table drains to the Strevens Street drain.

In response to the options raised during the recent flood events:

- a) The construction of a drain at the back of Semmens Street was considered in The Rock Flood Mitigation Options Report, GHD (2015) – ED3. Option ED3 as described within the 2014 FRMP includes the following measures:
 - Cutoff drain and berm parallel to Semmens Road to divert shallow sheet overland flow to the southern end of Emily Street.
 - Large drain constructed within the Emily Street road reserve (design capacity 16 m³/s)
 - Large drain constructed on the south side of the Olympic Highway between Emily Street and Hill Street (design capacity 16 m³/s)
 - Major culvert upgrades under the Olympic Highway and the Great Southern Railway (doubling of the existing culvert capacity).
- b) The increase in the number of culverts under the Olympic Highway was considered in The Rock Flood Mitigation Options Report, GHD (2015) – Option S4 but only to support the Strevens Street drainage system.
- c) An increase in the capacity of the table drains between the Olympic Highway and the Railway (between The Rock Mangoplah Road and the rail culverts opposite Hill Street) is deemed a priority as it is deemed the most likely option to reduce the build-up of floodwaters at the Olympic Highway. There are two options to improving the capacity of the table drains feeding this culvert from the north – concrete lining or upsizing. Concrete lining of the table drains would increase the capacity to ~5.5 and ~7.5 m³/sec north and south of Emily Street respectively, with an initial estimate of the cost of lining the entire 900 metres of \$1.5-2M. Widening of the table drain south of Emily Street to a 12 metre base width (into railway property) would increase capacity to ~7.4 m³/sec This option needs to be further explored as the drain will extend into railway property and increasing the capacity of the table drains could possibly impact on the drainage system along Nicolas Street, Yerong Street and Urana Street (currently being constructed). This should be assessed in the review of the Floodplain Risk Management Studies and Plan.
- d) Regular maintenance of the table drains along the Olympic Highway will only assist marginally with reducing the build-up of floodwaters at the Olympic Highway as the current capacity of the table drain is deemed inadequate to deal with volume of water during flood events. Council contacted Transport for NSW (TfNSW) and Greater Hume Shire Council (contracted for maintenance of the Olympic Highway) to ascertain responsibility for maintenance. Council received varied advice regarding this matter since the November 2021 flood event. Recently Council was provided with a copy of the TfNSW QA Specification 1 – General Maintenance Requirements. In accordance the specification (see Diagram A.12 below) TfNSW is responsible for vegetation control to the back of the table drain.

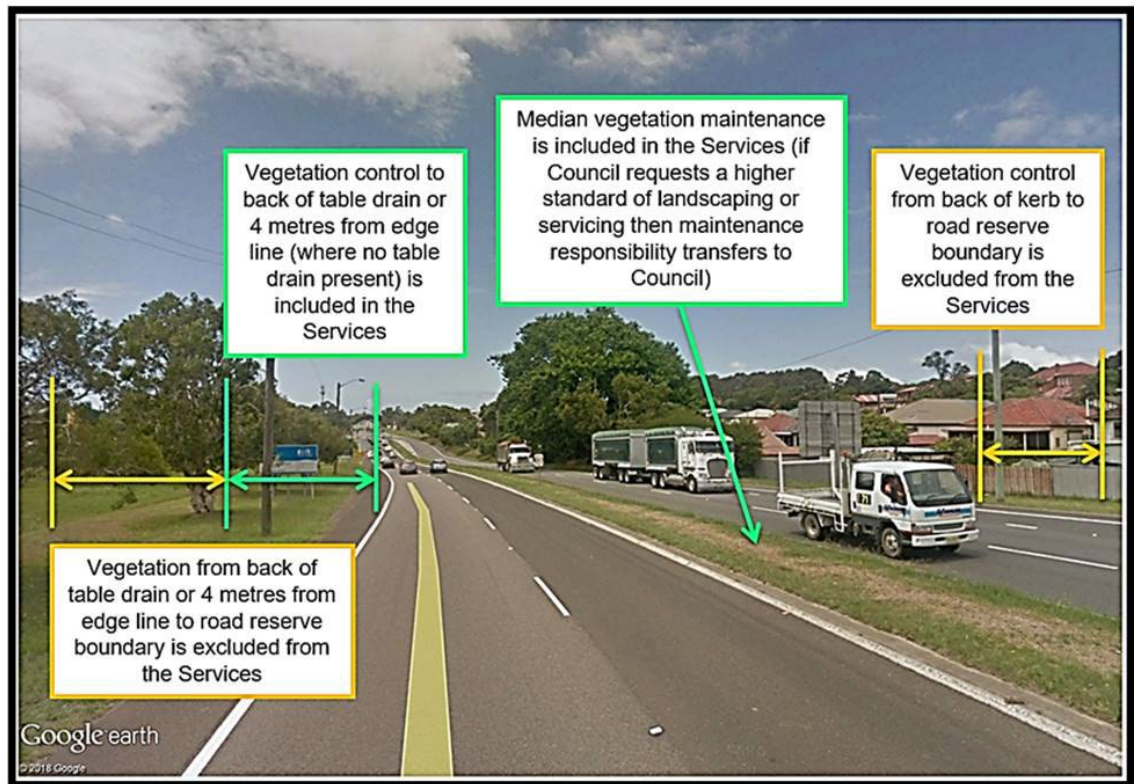
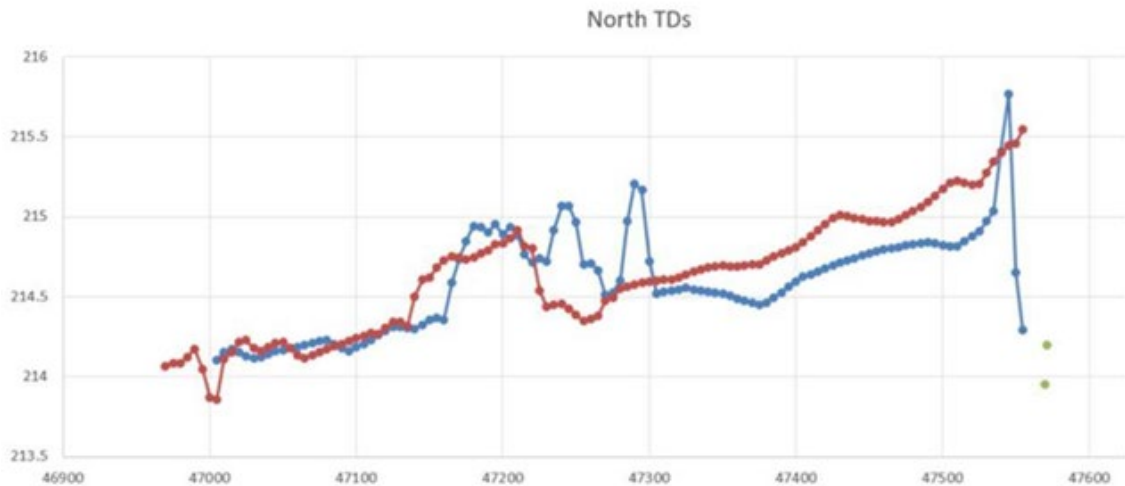


Diagram A.12 – Vegetation Control on Formation NWL Designated Roads

TfNSW will arrange for the table drains adjacent to the Olympic Highway to be cleared of vegetation. This will involve removal of the suckers, logs, and silt build-up (silt is mainly an issue in the first 50 metres south of Emily Street) in the table drain. This will improve flow in the table drain, but only to a minor extent, and not to a degree that will resolve the flooding issues. Timeframes for the clearing is to be confirmed. If Council wish to maintain to higher standard, then this additional cost is not funded by TfNSW.

It is noted that the LRCI Phase 3 grant program was identified as a potential funding source at a recent Council workshop should Council wish to financially contribute to the maintenance of the tables drains to a higher standard than proposed by TfNSW. It is best to wait until the works undertaken by TfNSW is completed and then determine whether a higher standard is required. This will allow for a more accurate estimate of the additional funding required.

- e) The option of sending some of the water at the Urana Street/Mangoplah Road intersections north to the Strevens Street system is not supported. The table drains rise towards Strevens Street by up to 1.5 metres over 600 metres (see below). The inlet to the culvert under Urana Street is 17mm higher than the inlet to the upsized culvert under the railway line installed as part of the Strevens Street system. Any water currently ponding north of Urana Street would not have fall to the railway culvert. Opening this flow path up could risk allowing backwater flow from the Strevens Street drainage system to Urana Street, likely adding to the flooding issue.



Note: Transport has a project to reconstruct the Olympic Highway pavement through The Rock and to the south, and as part of this project has been investigating the flooding issues. The above graph represents these investigations. The information also correlates with levels recently taken by Council.

A more feasible short-term solution is to acquire a trailer mounted water pump capable of sucking and discharging 600 litres of water per minute for flood emergencies. Other uses for such a pump include drain cleaning, removing water for construction sites, etc. The pump will require a 630-metre pipe from its discharge port to reach the Strevens Street drainage system. It is proposed that Council acquire a trailer mounted pump which can be made available to the State Emergency Services in case of an emergency.

It is suggested that the short-term solution including the purchase of pumps and hoses be funded from the current 2021/22 budget rather than wait to make provision in the 2022/23 budget. Given the urgency of the situation and the one-off nature of the purchase it is considered appropriate that the purchase be funded from Council's Reserves.

In terms of any longer-term solutions, these will have to be identified following a review of the flood risk management studies which is undertaken in accordance with the process depicted in the diagram on page 43. This process will be more time-consuming and it will not be possible to report the outcomes to the April meeting as proposed in Council's resolution of 10 January 2022.

Meeting between TfNSW, ARTC and the Member for Wagga Wagga

An on-site meeting was held on Friday 4 February 2022 at the intersection of The Rock Mangoplah Road and the Olympic Highway with TfNSW, ARTC and the local member. The following matters were raised at the meeting:

- There were concerns regarding the proposed road widening works that are currently under way on the Olympic Highway in the proximity of The Rock Mangoplah Road. The work will include widening of culverts. This may impact water flow into the table drain south of the Olympic Highway (between the Olympic Highway and the rail).
- There were concerns about the state of the table drains on the southern side of the Olympic Highway (between the Olympic Highway and the rail). Parts of the existing drain is filled with vegetation. It was noted that once the water gets through the culverts under the Olympic Highway it cannot get away. TfNSW have advised that they will arrange for the table drains to be cleared. This table drain may need to be enlarged to cope with the flows during floods.
- It was noted that the Strevens Street drain does not pick up much of the overland flow from Flowerpot Hill and that consideration be given to a drain at the back of Semmens Street to direct water to the Strevens Street drain. This could possibly alleviate the flows down Emily Street, Scott Street and Mangoplah Road. It is uncertain at this stage whether the topography would allow this drainage connection. This should be further explored as part of the review of the Floodplain Risk Management Studies and Plan.
- Concerns were raised about the 100Y ARI estimates given that the area has now experienced significant flooding in 2010, 2012, 2021 and twice in 2022. A review of The Rock Floodplain Risk Management Studies and Plan will initially review and revise the existing flood study by using more recent events data to calibrate the flood model.

Review of drainage issues at Yerong Creek

During the recent floods Plunkett Street water banked up in Plunkett Street and Moonba drain off Moonba Street as the drain off Moonba Street was unable to release waters. It is proposed to clean the drain.

It has also been identified that water banks up on Plunkett Street due to water not releasing via a private culvert at the Delta Agribusiness property. Council's Manager of Works liaised with Delta Agribusiness to construct a more suitable culvert.



It is proposed to undertake Flood Risk Management Studies and a Flood Risk Management Plan for Yerong Creek. The next round of Flood Management grants (2022/23) should open for applications sometime in February 2022. It should be noted that there is currently no LiDAR data covering Yerong Creek hence the collection of LiDAR would be a preliminary activity in the flood study phase.

Voluntary Purchase Scheme

One of the options suggested to deal with inundation of properties near the Olympic Highway was to voluntarily acquire these properties. Council has been successful in obtaining funding from the NSW Government's Floodplain Management Program to implement voluntary purchase schemes.

In accordance the Floodplain Management Program – Guidelines for voluntary purchase schemes, assessing the viability of a Voluntary Purchase Scheme or an individual property for Voluntary Purchase is part of a collective assessment of floodplain risk management options for the community when a Flood Risk Management Plan is developed.

The Department of Planning, Industry and Environment recommended that Council should undertake a review of the Lockhart and The Rock Floodplain Risk Management Studies and Plans which will include an initial review of the current flood modelling. This will also enable Council to do a review of the Voluntary Purchase Scheme for The Rock as well as incorporating the flood mitigation works already constructed and soon to be completed. As it stands now Council cannot access Floodplain Management Program grant funding for the Voluntary Purchase of additional properties that were not identified as part of the original Voluntary Purchase Scheme.

Given the current Floodplain Risk Management Studies and Plans were completed in 2014 this is not unreasonable, particularly since major changes have occurred to the ARR guidelines and major flood events have occurred in the interim. It should be noted that Voluntary Purchase is only a valid solution in areas of high hazard floodway. This zone was defined in the previous flood study, so any remaining

houses are likely to be outside this zone and hence not eligible for Voluntary Purchase funding. A revised flood study may revise this high hazard floodway zone and therefore may include more properties.

It is proposed to revise the Floodplain Risk Management Studies and Plan for The Rock. The next round of floodplain management grants (2022/23) should open for applications sometime in late February/early March 2022. Subject to funding being secured, the process of reviewing the Flood Risk Management Studies and Plan would include securing funding, then prepare a brief and then appoint a suitable consultant to review the current floodplain risk management studies (data collection, review of studies, exhibition). A Floodplain Risk Management Committee should be established as part of this process. Once the review is completed, Council can apply for funding under the Voluntary Purchase Scheme to acquire any additional houses identified in the updated floodplain risk management study.

Legislative Policy and Planning Implications

Nil

Integrated Planning and Reporting Reference

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

Budget and Financial Aspects

The cost of a mobile water pump is \$47,940 (excluding GST) while the cost of hoses is \$16,990 (6x100m hoses with camlocks, 1x50m hose with camlock, 2x10m hose fitted with camlocks and 1x10m hose fitted with camlocks, foot valve and strainer).

Attachments

Nil

Recommendation: That Council:

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.

33/22 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Marston and Rockliff that Council:

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.

STRATEGIC DIRECTION E: Strong Leadership and Governance

10. INVESTMENT AND BANK BALANCES REPORT – 31 DECEMBER 2021

(DCCS: 22/1853)

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			2,468,311.04
Add: Total Receipts			
	Rates	209,668.61	
	Debtors	30,590.88	
	Miscellaneous	72,403.37	
	Interest	571.56	
	Return of Investment	100,000.00	
	2021/22 Safety & Wellbeing Incentive	14,729.92	
	Flood Mitigation Works	146,571.00	
	COVID 19 - Support Grant	90,000.00	
	Museum Advisor Program	10,779.30	
	CPTIGS Grant	4,400.00	
			679,714.64
Less: Total Payments			1,282,477.84
	New Investments	0	
Closing Combined Cashbook Balance			<u>1,865,547.84</u>
Closing Bank Statement Balance	Bendigo Bank	860,585.18	
	Macquarie Bank	969,725.38	
	Bendigo Bank-Prichard Trust	31,658.47	
			1,861,969.03
Add: Outstanding Deposits			3,738.81
			1,865,707.84
Less: Outstanding Cheques			160.00
Closing Combined Cashbook Balance			<u>1,865,547.84</u>
Investments:	Interest Rate per Annum	Amount Invested	% of Total
Bendigo	0.30	500,000.00	8.70
Bendigo	0.30	500,000.00	8.70
Bendigo	0.30	400,000.00	6.96
Bendigo	at call	100,000.00	1.74
Commonwealth	0.20	500,000.00	8.70
Commonwealth	0.26	500,000.00	8.70
Commonwealth	0.29	250,000.00	4.35
Commonwealth	0.29	500,000.00	8.70
NAB	0.28	500,000.00	8.70
NAB	0.33	500,000.00	8.70
NAB	0.25	500,000.00	8.70
T Corp	at call	1,000,000.00	17.39
		<u>5,750,000.00</u>	
			AMOUNT
General (PTD)	1490-3000-0000		-540,742.68
Combined Sewerage	8490-3000-0000		2,374,632.05
Trust Fund	9991-3000-0000		31,658.47
		<u>1,865,547.84</u>	<u>1,865,547.84</u>
	TOTAL FUNDS HELD ARE:		<u>7,615,547.84</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.
- E1: Meet all governance and regulatory requirements in the conduct of Council operations.


CHAIRPERSON

Legislative Policy and Planning Implications

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

Budget and Financial Aspects

Council's 2021/22 Operational Budget has forecast a total of \$33,750 income from interest on investments for General Fund & Sewer Fund combined. For the period of July to Dec 2021, the average end of month balance of funds invested has been \$6.09 million and the average return on invested funds has been 0.25%. On these year to date figures, Council's budgeted income on investments will be under budget for the General Fund and Sewer Fund.

The interest on investments has been adjusted for the 1st Quarterly Budget Review to reflect reduction in income from this source.

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 December 2021 Investment and Bank Balances Report be received and noted.
- b) That the Responsible Accounting Officer Statement be noted, and the report be adopted.

11. INVESTMENT AND BANK BALANCES REPORT – 31 JANUARY 2022

(DCCS: 22/1869)

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.

Lockhart Shire Council
Ordinary Meeting – 21 February 2022

Cash at Bank

Opening Combined Cashbook Balance		1,865,547.84
Add: Total Receipts		
	Rates	59,288.68
	Debtors	77,165.76
	Miscellaneous	25,972.44
	Interest	2,033.08
	Return of Investment	500,000.00
	Transport for NSW Block Grant	499,317.00
		1,162,426.67
Less: Total Payments		719,967.45
	New Investments	0.00
Closing Combined Cashbook Balance		2,308,007.06
Closing Bank Statement Balance		
	Bendigo Bank	1,256,336.63
	Macquarie Bank	1,018,078.00
	Bendigo Bank-Prichard Trust	31,659.82
		2,306,074.45
Add: Outstanding Deposits		2,264.56
		2,308,339.01
Less: Outstanding Cheques		331.95
Closing Combined Cashbook Balance		2,308,007.06

	Interest Rate per Annum		Amount Invested	% of Total
Investments:				
Bendigo	0.30		500,000.00	9.52
Bendigo	0.30		400,000.00	7.62
Bendigo	at call		100,000.00	1.90
Commonwealth	0.33		500,000.00	9.52
Commonwealth	0.29		250,000.00	4.76
Commonwealth	0.29		500,000.00	9.52
Commonwealth	0.29		500,000.00	9.52
NAB	0.28		500,000.00	9.52
NAB	0.33		500,000.00	9.52
NAB	0.48		500,000.00	9.52
T Corp	at call		1,000,000.00	19.05
			5,250,000.00	
				AMOUNT
General (PTD)		1490-3000-0000		-85,664.32
Combined Sewerage		8490-3000-0000		2,362,011.56
Trust Fund		9991-3000-0000		31,659.82
			2,308,007.06	2,308,007.06
		TOTAL FUNDS HELD ARE:	7,558,007.06	

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.
- 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 2021/22 Operational Budget has forecast a total of \$33,750 income from interest on investments for General Fund & Sewer Fund combined. For the period of July 2021 to January 2022, the average end of month balance of funds invested has been \$5.97 million and the average return on invested funds has been 0.26%. On these year to date figures, Council's budgeted income on investments will be under budget for the General Fund and Sewer Fund.

The interest on investments has been adjusted for the first Quarterly Budget Reviews to reflect reduction in income from this source.

Responsible Accounting Officer Statements

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.


 CHAIRPERSON

Recommendation:

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

34/22	RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Mathews and Sharp that: <ol style="list-style-type: none">a) the December 2021 and January 2022 Investment and Bank Balances Reports be received and noted.b) the Responsible Accounting Officer Statements be noted, and the reports be adopted.
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12. REVIEW OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT MISCONDUCT FRAMEWORK

(GM: 21/15696)

Executive Summary

The Minister for Local Government has initiated an independent review of the framework for dealing with councillor misconduct in New South Wales.

A consultation paper has been issued to facilitate an understanding of the current framework and to invite submissions identifying areas for improvement, together with suggestions for the practical application of those improvements. Anyone, including councils, individual councillors and council staff, can make written submissions in response to the consultation paper.

Submissions should be made before 28 March 2022.

Report

The review is examining the current administrative framework under which complaints about councillor misconduct are managed, with the aim of identifying possible areas for improvement. The review will include an examination of similar frameworks used in other jurisdictions for any lessons they may offer for improving the New South Wales framework.

Under the current framework the standards of conduct that all council officials are required to observe are established through the Model Code of Conduct prescribed under the Local Government Act and the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021.

The review's terms of reference are set out below.

1. *“Review the effectiveness of the framework for dealing with councillor misconduct with particular reference to:*
 - a) *The standards of conduct set out in the Model Code of Conduct and the way these are applied.*
 - b) *The process for making complaints under the Procedures for the Administration of the Model Code of Conduct for Local Councils in NSW.*
 - c) *The tools and process for conducting an investigation into alleged misconduct.*
 - d) *The efficacy of the disciplinary actions and penalties available to councils, the departmental chief executive and the NSW Civil and Administrative Tribunal as a deterrent to councillor misconduct.*
 - e) *The timeliness of disciplinary action in response to councillor misconduct.*
2. *Make recommendations about policy, legislative and operational changes to improve the system for dealing with councillor misconduct.”*

Councils are required to submit statistical information regarding Code of Conduct complaints to the Office of Local Government on an annual basis. Lockhart Shire Council has not had any Code of Conduct Complaints in the last five years. However the following statistical information has been made available at an industry level:

- NSW councils received 400 code of conduct complaints about councillors or general managers in the year to August 31 last year – an average of 2.9 complaints per council.

- Out of 128 general purpose and nine county councils, 59 councils received no code of conduct complaints during that period and 25 received only one complaint.
- Of the total number of complaints finalised in 2019-20, 57 per cent were declined or resolved following preliminary assessment by a general manager or conduct reviewer and 43 per cent were subject to a formal investigation.
- Of the complaints formally investigated, 26 per cent resulted in a determination that the councillor had breached the code of conduct and resulted in disciplinary action by the council such as censure.
- In 2019-20 the average cost incurred by councils in dealing with a single code of conduct complaint about a councillor was \$7,127.

As Lockhart Shire Council has not experienced any Code of Conduct complaints in recent years no specific feedback is proposed to be submitted.

Integrated Planning and Reporting Reference

E1: Promote the increased participation of local people in local government and the community.

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

Legislative Policy and Planning Implications

Standards of conduct that all council officials (including councillors and staff) are required to observe are established through the *Model Code of Conduct for Local Councils in NSW* prescribed under the Local Government Act and the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021. All councils are required to adopt a code of conduct based on the Model Code of Conduct.

Budget and Financial Aspects

Nil

Attachments

The Consultation Paper released by the Office of Local Government can be viewed at <https://www.olg.nsw.gov.au/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/Consultation-Paper.pdf>

Recommendation: That the information be noted.

35/22 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Driscoll and Marston that the information be noted.

13. INTEGRATED PLANNING AND REPORTING FRAMEWORK

(GM: 21/15906)

Executive Summary

Following an ordinary election of councillors, the Council must review the Community Strategic Plan before 30 June the following year. The Council may endorse the existing plan, endorse amendments to the existing plan, or develop and endorse a new Community Strategic Plan as appropriate to ensure that the area has a Community Strategic Plan covering at least the next 10 years.

Report

All councils in NSW are required to implement the Integrated Planning and Reporting framework (IP&R) outlined in Chapter 13 Part 2 of the Local Government Act to guide their planning and reporting activities. The main components of the IP&R framework are summarised below:

- **Community Strategic Plan (CSP)** – the CSP is the highest level of strategic planning undertaken by a council, with a ten-year plus timeframe. All other plans must support achievement of the CSP objectives. Council's existing CSP relates to the 10-year period from 2017 to 2027.
- **Resourcing Strategy** – shows how a council will resource its strategic priorities, identified through IP&R. The Resourcing Strategy includes the following three inter-related elements:
 - Long-Term Financial Planning
 - Workforce Management Planning

- Asset Management Planning.
- **Delivery Program (DP)** – reflects the council's commitment to the community about what it will deliver during its term in office to achieve the Community Strategic Plan objectives. Whilst the DP is normally based on a four-year timeframe to align with a council's term of office, due to the 2020 elections being postponed the new council term and DP will have a 2 ³/₄ years horizon to September 2024.
- **Operational Plan (OP)** – shows the individual projects and activities a council will undertake in a specific year. It includes the council's annual budget and Statement of Revenue Policy.
- **Annual Report** – reports back to the community on the work undertaken by a council in a given year to deliver on the commitments of the Delivery Program via that year's Operational Plan.

Following an ordinary election of councillors, the Council must review the Community Strategic Plan before 30 June the following year.

In reviewing the CSP the Council may endorse the existing plan, endorse amendments to the existing plan, or develop and endorse a new CSP as appropriate to ensure that the area has a CSP covering at least the next 10 years.

Council must place the draft CSP on public exhibition for a period of at least 28 days and comments from the community must be accepted and considered prior to the endorsement of the final CSP. In order to comply with legislative requirements the final CSP will need to be endorsed by Council by 30 June 2022.

A draft revised 2022-2032 CSP is attached with statistical data updated where necessary. The overall objectives of the previous Plan based on five key themes have been retained as they remain relevant to the community's aspirations. This approach was also taken bearing in mind that the current term of office will be shorter i.e. two years and nine months instead of the normal four-year term because of the postponement of the last elections. A more comprehensive review of the Community Strategic Plan is foreshadowed for the beginning of the next full four-year term in 2024.

Furthermore, the IP&R Guidelines issued by the Office of Local Government (OLG) state that the review of the CSP must include the following:

- A report on the progress of implementation and the effectiveness of the CSP (formerly referred to as the End of Term Report) which must be presented to and endorsed at the second meeting of a newly elected council. A copy of the End of Term Report for the Council term ending on 4 December 2021 has been separately distributed to Councillors.
- A review of the information that informed the previously endorsed CSP (refer pages 23 & 24 of the attached draft CSP).
- A review of the Council's Community Engagement Strategy. A copy of the Community Engagement Strategy adopted by Council on 19 August 2019 has also been separately distributed to Councillors.

Integrated Planning and Reporting Reference

E1: Advocate and prepare for the long-term sustainability of our Shire.

E1: Promote the increased participation of local people in local government and the community.

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

Chapter 13 Part 2 of the Local Government Act outlines the IP&R framework required to be implemented by Council including the preparation of a CSP and Delivery Program, Resourcing Strategy and Operational Plan.

It is a requirement of the Act that following an ordinary election of councillors, the Council must review the CSP before 30 June the following year. The Council may endorse the existing plan, endorse amendments to the existing plan, or develop and endorse a new CSP.

Budget & Financial Aspects

Council's Operational Plan and Budget for the 2022/23 financial year will be informed by the final version of the CSP adopted by Council.

Attachment

1. 2016-2021 End of Term Report
2. Community Engagement Strategy
3. Draft Community Strategic Plan 2022-2032

Recommendation: That Council:

1. Endorse the 2016-2021 End of Term Report
2. Endorse the Community Engagement Strategy
3. Place the Draft Community Strategic Plan 2022-2032 on public exhibition for a period of 28 days and give public notice of the opportunity to make submissions in respect of the draft document in the Council newsletter, Council website and Lockhart Shire Community Facebook Page.

36/22 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Day and Walker that Council:

- a) Endorse the 2016-2021 End of Term Report
- b) Endorse the Community Engagement Strategy
- c) Place the Draft Community Strategic Plan 2022-2032 on public exhibition for a period of 28 days and give public notice of the opportunity to make submissions in respect of the draft document in the Council newsletter, Council website and Lockhart Shire Community Facebook Page.

14. QUARTERLY BUDGET REVIEW – DECEMBER 2021

(DCCS: 22/2165)

Executive Summary

In accordance with the Local Government Act, 1993, a review of Council's Budget position as at 31 December 2021 has been undertaken and the following is submitted for Councillors consideration.

Report

General Fund

When Council adopted the 2021-2022 Operational Plan Budget in June 2021 Council budgeted for a surplus of **\$8,420.00**. The Budget Review at 31 December 2021 indicated an estimated **SURPLUS of \$80,059.00** as at 30 June 2022 after taking into account movements in revenue and expenditure for the second quarter.

Consultants

The engagement of a GIS Mapping consultant to assist Council with setting up AssetFinda Asset Management system and training Council's GIS Mapping Officer has been extended.

Council is in the process of sourcing requests for quotations (RFQs) for the revaluation of Council's Operational Land and Buildings asset classes for the audit of Council's 2021-2022 financial statements. The various classes of council assets are required to be revalued periodically for auditing purposes. While Operational land was scheduled for this financial year, the revaluation of buildings has been brought forward a year. As a majority of Council's buildings are on operational land, there are cost benefits in combining and having both asset classes revalued in the same year.

Training

Council has been able to enrol many staff into training programs and TAFE courses where Council receives some subsidies for those staff's wages.

As the past few years have been dominated by Covid, this has severely limited the amount of training Council has been able to provide staff, so it is planned to increase training opportunities for staff, and this will be funded from the salary subsidies received.

Storm & Flood Events

As a result of the November 2021 storm event and the January 2022 flood event, Council is eligible for disaster funding. However, Council is required to contribute \$18,113 per event.

While this is the Quarterly Budget Review to December 2021, and the flood event in January 2022 is post this review, it has been included as Council knows it is committed to this unbudgeted cost and also it is being proposed the contributions for both events be funded from Quarterly Budget Review surpluses.

Railway Station Building – Lockhart

It was reported to Council at the February 2021 meeting that John Holland Rail and Transport for NSW had agreed to vary the lease by reducing the rental to nil for the Lockhart Railway Station building.

It was also reported that “As the building now requires significant repairs and maintenance to bring it back to an acceptable standard, Council is developing a scope of works and costings to restore the old Railway Station building.”

Council was invited by Mr Michael McCormack MP office to submit an expression of interest list of potential projects for the Stronger Communities Programme Round 6. One of the nominated projects was to upgrade the Railway Station Building. These invitations usually come with a short reply timeframe, and if any project(s) are accepted Council is requested to then submit an application, again usually a short turnaround time. Council initially estimated the total cost would be \$40,000 (incl GST) and if successful would receive half the cost from the grant.

Council submitted an application with the following as scope of works:

- *The project includes refurbishment of the exterior of the Lockhart Railway Station, including re-sheeting of exterior walls, plant removal, re-planting low-line hedge, irrigation, timber weatherboard replacement, re-painting of balustrade and re-painting of doors, windows, fascia, eaves and air-conditioner ducts.*

Council was successful with its Stronger Communities Programme application. As the grant is a 50/50 grant, amount is \$18,020.00 (ex GST).

Further inspection of the outside decking determined that it needed replacement. The total cost to the upgrade is now estimated to be \$58,000 (ex GST) less the grant funding of \$18,020 will leave the balance of approximately \$40,000 to be funded from the internal restriction fund for Buildings. The Buildings internal restriction has a current balance of \$146,000.

The railway station building has had little work or expenditure on it and is in desperate need for these upgrades. The materials being used are high quality composite products that will remain in good condition for many more years than the timber materials being replaced. This will minimise future repairs and maintenance and maintain the building in the good condition Council is required to under the lease agreement.

Sewer Fund

When Council adopted the 2021-2022 Operational Plan Budget in June 2021 Council budgeted for a surplus of \$10,206.00 for the Sewer fund operations. For the Budget Review at 31 December 2021 there were some minor budget adjustments resulting in an estimated **SURPLUS of \$8,761.00** as at 30 June 2022 after taking into account movements in revenue and expenditure for the first quarter.

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.

Legislative Policy & Planning Implications

Clause 203 (1) of the Local Government (General) Regulation states that “not later than 2 months after the end of each quarter (except the June quarter), the responsible accounting officer of a council must prepare and submit to the council a budget review statement that shows, by reference to the estimate of income and expenditure set out in the statement of the council's revenue policy included in the operational plan for the relevant year, a revised estimate of the income and expenditure for that year.

Budget & Financial Aspects

Fund	Adopted Budget @ 1 July 2021	Amendments @ 30 Sept 2021	Amendments @ 31 Dec 2021	Revised Estimates @ 30 June 2022
General Fund-Net of Inc & Exp and Capital Budget	\$ 8,420.00	\$ 80,503.00	(\$8,864.00)	\$ 80,059.00
Sewerage Fund	\$ 10,206.00	(\$6,015.00)	\$ 4,570.00	\$ 8,761.00
Net Consolidated Budget Surplus/(Deficit)	\$ 18,626.00	\$ 74,488.00	(\$4,294.00)	\$ 88,820.00

Attachments

- 22/2164 – Quarterly Budget Review Statement for the period 01/10/21 to 31/12/21 will be provided under separate cover.

Recommendation: That:

- The information be noted, and
- The adjustments in income and expenditure in the December 2021 Quarterly Budget Review be adopted, and
- The adjustments in internal and external reserves in the December 2021 Quarterly Budget Review be adopted.
- Council's share of the cost to the upgrade works to the Lockhart Railway Station Building be funded from internal restriction fund for Buildings.

37/22 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Walker and Driscoll that Council:

- The information be noted, and
- The adjustments in income and expenditure in the December 2021 Quarterly Budget Review be adopted, and
- The adjustments in internal and external reserves in the December 2021 Quarterly Budget Review be adopted.
- Council's share of the cost to the upgrade works to the Lockhart Railway Station Building be funded from internal restriction fund for Buildings.

QUESTIONS AND STATEMENTS

Cr Marston

- The Rock to Boree Creek Rail Line:** Cr Marston noted that there looks to be sleepers blocking the railway line opposite the entrance to The Rock Hill Reserve and enquired whether the line was closed.

Response – Mayor

The Mayor advised that it can be an indication of services being suspended which could perhaps be because of flood damage to the line and suggested Transport for NSW might be able to provide an answer.

- The Rock Recreation Ground Mgt Committee AGM:** Cr Marston referred to the recently held meeting and asked on behalf of the Pony Club if water supply was included in the current project, and who is managing the installation of the concrete slab. Cr Marston also asked if it was possible to install some sort of cross-over at the new fencing to allow retrieval of wayward balls and, if the Committee can spray, what can be used to spray out weeds such as fleabane which is safe for the public.

Response – Director of Corporate and Community Services

The Director advised that a meeting will be held with Pony Club representatives to decide the exact location for the shed and water will be connected at that point. Council is project-managing the construction of the slab for the shed. A cross-over at the new fence will be investigated.

Response – Director of Engineering and Environmental Services

The Director advised that Committee members are able to undertake spraying as long as appropriate warning signage is in place when spraying occurs.

Cr Day

- i) **Gymnasium in Lockhart:** Cr Day advised she has been approached by a DVA veteran who travels to Wagga for exercise assistance asking if an accessible gymnasium could be provided in Lockhart, perhaps at Lockhart Recreation Ground, possibly funded by grants.

Response – Director of Corporate and Community Services

The Director advised that funding sources could be investigated.

- ii) **Cemetery Records:** Cr Day expressed her thanks for the work done by John and Dawn Smith providing information for the Australian Cemeteries Index. Cr Day noted that the information had not been updated since 2008 and suggested that there could be ways for outside organisations to provide updates.

Response – Director of Engineering and Environmental Services

The Director advised Council's register is kept up to date, electronically and in hard copy. However, currently the register is not available publicly in electronic form, i.e. on Council's website.

The Executive Assistant also advised that, as the Australian Cemeteries Index (austcemindex.com) is an external repository of marked graves with information populated primarily by volunteers. It is not possible for Council staff to commit time to updating this external database. Council staff currently photograph each plaque as it is installed in the lawn cemeteries and also request that monumental masons provide photographs of newly installed headstones, for Council's records.

Cr Driscoll

- i) **Avenue of Honour:** Cr Driscoll advised she has been approached regarding the replacement of trees in the Avenue and is aware there is a lot of misinformation being shared, leading to heated debate within The Rock community. Cr Driscoll asked if it was possible to take a tree replacement plan to the community for consultation it would go some way to alleviating the issues.
- ii) **Concept Plans – Government Dam, The Rock:** Cr Driscoll asked if, on an upcoming Shire bus tour, a trip to the lake and caravan park at Urana could be included with a view to developing the government dam area at The Rock.

Cr Mathews

- i) **The Rock Observatory:** Cr Mathews congratulated Cr Driscoll and others involved in the observatory project.
- ii) **Telephone Blackspots:** Cr Mathews advised he has a contact in Towong Shire who might be able to provide some guidance on options and funding streams to eliminate some of the mobile telephone blackspots around the Shire.

Response – Mayor

The Mayor advised that any information would be welcomed. He further advised it is a region-wide issue and advocacy is ongoing.

- iii) **Sporting Club Amalgamations:** Cr Mathews referred to previously available funding for the amalgamation of sporting clubs and enquired whether this funding stream might still be available.

Response – Mayor

The Mayor advised that, if such funding was available, it was likely to be offered by NSW Office of Sport.

Cr Sharp

- i) **Concrete Crossing, Forcks Lane:** Cr Sharp advised gravel has been washed away either side of a concrete crossing in Forcks Lane, causing issues for motorists. Cr Sharp also advised that in Clontarf Lane where there is a crossing with no concrete, this also has washed out and Cr Sharp has received a request for gravel to be placed to assist a resident with accessing his property.
- ii) **Weed Encroachment from Railway Line near Henty:** Cr Sharp has been contacted by a landowner regarding swan weed, which is declared noxious in Western Australia, that has travelled from railway land, across a Council laneway and has now entered his property. The landowner has been unable to get in touch with Council's Environmental Officer and is requesting assistance. The landowner has also been in contact with Australian Rail Track Corporation with very little response.

Response – Director of Engineering & Environmental Services

The Director advised he would liaise with Cr Sharp and the Environmental Services Officer to arrange a meeting with the landowner.

- iii) **Compliance – Yerong Creek Sewer System:** Cr Hunter asked if all households at Yerong Creek should be connected to the sewer system by now. Cr Hunter has been approached by a local resident advising of a potential issue.

Response – Director of Engineering and Environmental Services

The Director advised that Council does not check all connections. Connections generally occur at the time of development approval. The Director further advised any possible compliance issue could be investigated.

Cr Walker

- i) **Bulloc Hill Road:** Cr Walker asked for an update on progress of negotiations with Wagga City Council for the works done inadvertently in WWCC area.

Response – Director of Engineering and Environmental Services

The Director advised that discussion had stalled over the new year period and that he will follow up with Wagga City Council.

- ii) **Plums Lane:** Cr Walker enquired about Plums Lane which has been closed by the landowner who owns the surrounding land. Cr Walker asked if it is Council land or Crown land and does Council have any control over use of the easement?

Response – Director of Engineering and Environmental Services

The Director advised the road has been constructed on private land instead of in the dedicated road reserve. If the road was to be officially closed there would be opportunities for adjoining landholders and users to object as part of that process. The Director advised he would provide further information to Cr Walker in order to clarify the situation.

Cr Rockliff

- i) **Road Classification:** Cr Rockliff has received a letter requesting the earth-formed section of Maffra Lane, used regularly when Hollies Road is closed due to water, be upgraded to better serve the amount of traffic using the road during periods of wet weather.

Response – Director of Engineering and Environmental Services

The Director advised that a working group is required to undertake a review of the Shire's road classification network. Traffic counts are required as well as other information for the process to happen in accordance with the Ausroads system.

- ii) **Lockhart Golf Club:** Cr Rockliff advised that both tractors used for mowing the golf course have broken down meaning volunteers can no longer facilitate this activity. Councillor Rockliff asked if Council could assist in any way, possibly with ex-Council equipment?

Response – Director of Corporate and Community Services

The Director advised he has previously had discussions with the Club, which also discussed the possibility of shared resources. The Director will liaise with the Director of Engineering and Environmental Services to investigate the possibility of utilising outgoing Council machinery, with a report to be brought back to a future Council meeting.

Cr Verdon

- i) **The Rock Observatory:** Cr Verdon endorsed Cr Mathews' comments regarding the Observatory project and added his thanks to the Committee, General Manager and Tourism and Economic Development Officer for their efforts.

- ii) **Bretton Street – Flood Mitigation Works:** Cr Verdon referred to the works being undertaken on Bretton Street and remarked they look to be almost complete. Councillor Verdon asked if guard rails were to be installed on the very large culvert, and also asked when the road might be reopened.

Response – Director of Engineering and Environmental Services

The Director advised that guard rails were required to be installed at that location and also on other smaller culverts as well. The road will be reopened in early May weather-permitting.

General Manager

The General Manager thanked the Councillors for advising him of training they have registered to participate in.

The General Manager advised that face-to-face Code of Conduct training will be held with an external provider on Monday, 2 May 2022 commencing at 4pm.

The General Manager also advised that, in addition to standard training available, Council's professional development program provides for one councillor per annum to undertake the Executive Certificate in Local Government course and Cr Day has expressed an interest in that course. The General Manager requested that if any other Councillors are interested to let him know.

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.

38/22 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Marston and Sharp 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 7.01pm.

39/22 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Driscoll and Marston that Council move into Open Session.

The meeting moved into Open Session at 7.05 pm.

OPEN COUNCIL

The resolutions of Council, relating to Item 15, passed while the meeting was closed to the public were read to the meeting by the General Manager.

15. VALUATION OF LAND FOR SALE PURPOSES

40/22 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Driscoll and Sharp that Council authorise the General Manager to negotiate the sale of Lot 5 DP758621 Reid Street, Lockhart, for an amount that is no less than the independent valuation obtained for the property and subject to appropriate security of purpose conditions.
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The meeting concluded at 7.05 pm.

The minutes of the meeting held on Monday, 21 February 2022, were confirmed as a true and accurate record at the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 21 March 2022, at which time the signature was hereunto subscribed.



CHAIRPERSON



CHAIRPERSON