



MINUTES

**of the
Ordinary Meeting
Held
18 December 2017**

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

**Minutes of the Ordinary Monthly Meeting of Lockhart Shire Council held in the Council Chambers,
Green Street, Lockhart on Monday, 18 December 2017 at 5.00pm.**

PRESENT

Cr R. Schirmer (Mayor), Cr G. Verdon (Deputy Mayor), Cr M. Day, Cr G. Driscoll, Cr I. Marston, Cr P. Sharp and Cr J. Walker.

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

The meeting opened with a prayer.

APOLOGIES

Cr D. Douglas and Cr A. Rockliff.

310/17 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Driscoll and Walker that apologies from Crs Douglas and Rockliff be accepted and Leave of Absence for the December 2017 meeting be granted.
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LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Cr G. Verdon sought Leave of Absence for the February 2018 meeting.

311/17 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Sharp and Day that Cr Verdon be granted Leave of Absence for the February 2018 meeting.
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CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES ORDINARY MEETING 20 NOVEMBER 2017

312/17 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Verdon and Walker that the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on Monday, 20 November 2017 as printed and circulated be taken as read and confirmed.
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DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY AND NON-PECUNIARY INTERESTS

Cr G. Driscoll - Non-Pecuniary Interest – Closed Committee – Item 11, Australia Day Awards 2018.

MAYORAL MINUTE

Nil.

MAYORAL REPORT

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

Tues, 21 Nov	Attended two Lockhart Renewable Energy Project Public Meetings in the Council Chambers.
Fri, 24 Nov	Attended a REROC Executive Meeting in Wagga Wagga.
Fri, 1 Dec	Attended the Lockhart Central School Year 12 Formal.
Tues, 5 Dec	Attended The Rock Central School Presentation Night.
Thurs, 7 Dec	Attended the Lockhart Central School Presentation Night.
Fri, 8 Dec	Welcomed attendees of the Institute of Public Works Engineering Australasia (IPWEA) AGM hosted by Lockhart Shire Council in the Council Chambers.
Sat, 9 Dec	Hosted the Mayoral Christmas Party in Pleasant Hills.
Mon, 11 Dec	Along with General Manager, Peter Veneris, attended a REROC Board Meeting in Wagga Wagga. Along with Cr Greg Verdon and General Manager, Peter Veneris attended the retirement dinner held for Graeme Haley, General Manager, Riverina Water County Council held in Wagga Wagga.
Fri, 15 Dec	Attended indoor staff lunch and presented two Ten Years of Service awards.
Mon, 18 Dec	Attended outdoor staff 'Toolbox Talk' lunch.

313/17 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Walker and Day that the Mayoral Report be received.
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URGENT MATTERS

Nil.

NOTICE OF MOTION

Nil.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Nil.

Delegates' Reports

DELEGATES REPORT FOR THE LGNSW ANNUAL CONFERENCE – 4-6 DECEMBER 2017

I attended the Local Government NSW Annual Conference in Sydney from 4-6 December 2017 together with the General Manager, Peter Veneris.

The Minister for Local Government, The Hon Gabrielle Upton MP, addressed the Conference noting that:

- The Local Government reform of past few years is over. There will not be any forced mergers.
- A new Draft Code of Meeting Practice is to be released for consultation. Councils will have until March 2018 to comment on the Draft Code.
- Draft Councillor Induction and Professional Development Guidelines are to be released for consultation. Councils will have until March 2018 to comment on the Draft Guidelines.
- Reference was made to the recently released legislation regarding Joint Organisations (JOs) of Councils and Councils were invited to consider the formation of JO's.

The Shadow Minister for Local Government, The Hon Peter Primrose MLC, also addressed the Conference noting that:

- No forced mergers is now binding Labor Party policy.
- He has sought the release of the KPMG report used by the Government to justify Council mergers and is expecting a decision on his GIPA application soon. He maintains that the Government is fighting the release of the report because it contains information of councils still targeted for merger in the future.
- Labour Party policy is to support a full, open and transparent review of local government finances including a review of rate pegging legislation and local government revenue sources.

The Conference was also addressed by The Acting Premier, The Hon Barilaro MP, and the Minister for Roads Maritime and Freight, The Hon Melinda Pavey MP.

89 motions were debated and voted on. Some motions were of greater relevance to Lockhart Shire than others. Motions debated included advocating for:

- A review of how Financial Assistance Grants are distributed including a reduction in the minimum 30% of the funding pool being distributed on a per capita basis (motion carried).
- Making it mandatory that councils make superannuation payments to mayors and councillors (motion carried).
- A reduction in the pre-poll voting period to one week, Saturday to Friday excluding Sunday of the week before Election Day (motion carried).
- A binding referendum being required before local government areas can be amalgamated (motion carried).
- RFS and SES assets to be removed from Council asset registers and responsibility be taken back by the RFS and SES (motion carried).
- A minimum increase in the rate peg amount of 3% per annum (motion lost).
- That capped IPART rate increases never fall below wage increase rates and Consumer Price Index (CPI) again (motion carried).
- Providing effective powers for councils to take action against unhealthy levels of wood smoke pollution (motion withdrawn).

Cr Ian Marston

Recommendation: That the delegates reports be received.

314/17	RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Verdon and Driscoll that the delegates report be received.
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Status Report/Précis of Correspondence Issued

Status Report: Council Resolutions and Tasks to be finalised

Res. No:	Officer to Action	Info	Action Taken
Ordinary Council Meeting held 20 November 2017			
307/17	DCCS	Closed Agenda – Council Houses a) 6 Drummond St – proceed to rent property after it becomes vacant. If not rented by 31 July 2018, proceed to review options for property. b) 13 Rockliff Crt – Proceed to rent property.	Completed - presented at Nov-17 Council Meeting.
306/17	DEES	Closed Agenda – Tender – Flood Mitigation Construction Works – Lockhart a) Award Contract for 'Lockhart Flood Mitigation Works: Government Dam Upgrade/Levee Construction to Scott Newbery Earthmoving Pty Ltd for \$469,095.00 (incl. GST), subject to confirmation of approval and revised funding from OEH; and b) Authorise GM and DEES to sign Contract & PO.	Currently waiting for final OEH approval.
304/17	GM	Council Meeting – February 2018 Council meeting scheduled to be held on 19 Feb be brought forward to 5 Feb 2018.	Notice of revised date of the February 2018 Council meeting to be given in the Council Newsletter and the Eastern Riverina Chronicle in January 2018.
303/17	GM	Office Closure – Christmas/New Year Period Council's office to close from 4.00pm, Fri, 22 Dec to Mon, 1 January 2018 and reopen for business on Tues, 2 Jan 2018 in accordance with industrial arrangements	Notice of office closure placed on Council's website and at entrance to the Council office. Complete.
302/17	GM	Request to Waive Fees – Use of the Old Railway Station Building by Lockhart Central School Council to waive the hire fee of \$390.00 for the use of the old Railway Station building Lockhart for the 2017 HSC exams.	Lockhart central School advised of council's decision to waive fees. Complete.
301/17	GM	Code of Conduct Statistics – Annual Report a) Council note that for the reporting period 1 Oct 2016 to 30 Sept 2017 there were no complaints made under Council's Code of Conduct; and b) The information be forwarded to the Office of Local Government.	Code of Conduct statistics forwarded to Office of Local Government as required. Complete.
300/17	GM	Draft Model Code of Conduct – Consultation Draft Council make a submission on the basis that Councillors not be held to a higher standard than our elected representatives.	Submission forwarded to Office of Local Government. Complete.
299/17	GM	2016-17 Annual Report GM authorised to forward a copy of the endorsed 2016-17 Annual Report to the Minister for Local Government.	Annual Report uploaded onto Council's website and forwarded to the office of local Government. Complete.
298/17	DCCS DEES	Quarterly Budget Review – September 2017 a) Adopt adjustments in income, expenditure and reserves in the Sept 2017 Quarterly Budget Review b) Bring report to February 2018 Council Meeting on borrowing requirements c) Develop a town beautification masterplan, including costings, for the Shire.	a) Completed. b) Ongoing.

297/17	DCCS	Presentation of Council's Audited Statements – 2016/17 Endorse the Audited Financial Statements and Auditor's Report for the year ended 30 June 2017 as presented, which will be included in Council's 2017 Annual Report.	Audited Financial Statements incorporated into Annual Report. Completed.
295/17	MES	Fees for Microchipping Council to adopt the proposed new fee of \$35.00 for microchipping of companion animals.	Microchipping implemented. Complete.
294/17	MES	On-Site Sewerage Management Inspection Program a) Endorse proposed new fee for inspection on on-site sewerage management systems for public exhibition, and consider any submissions received before formal adoption of the fee, and b) Endorse on-site sewerage management inspection program for the Lockhart Shire.	Currently on public exhibition.
293/17	MES	Low Pressure Sewer System Policy Place the "Draft Low Pressure Sewer System Policy" on public exhibition for a period of not less than 28 days, and consider any submissions prior to formal adoption.	Currently on public exhibition.
291/17	DEES	Voluntary Purchase Scheme – Lease of Land a) Lease land at 34 and 38 Day St, The Rock for purpose of grazing of animals, and b) Advertise for EOI in Council's newsletter.	Currently advised in Council newsletter. Further report to February 2018 meeting.
290/17	GM	Request for Authorisation to Execute Documentation under Council's Seal – Sale of 6 Bond St, Lockhart Authority granted for Transfer relating to sale of 6 Bond St, Lockhart being Lot 7 DP1143991 to be executed under Council's seal.	Transfer executed under seal and returned to Council's solicitor. Sale completed on 12/12/17. Complete
286/17	DEES	Container Deposit Scheme (CDS) a) Endorsed not to participate in CDS as currently proposed by TOMRA-Cleanaway, and b) Another report be brought to Council as further information comes to hand.	No further action at this stage. Complete.
283/17	GM	Lockhart Shire 2017 Business Survey a) Make survey results available on-line b) Use survey outcomes to assist future strategic decision making in Delivery Programs and budget priorities.	Information noted. Complete.
282/17	MES	Request to Refund/Waive Fees Payable to Council a) Council agreed to refund the DA fee paid by the Osborne Recreation Ground Committee, and b) Cost of the financial assistance to be met from Council's 2017/18 Section 356 Contributions budget.	Fees refunded. Complete.
281/17	GM	Australia Day Awards 2018 a) Osborne Recreation Ground Management Committee endorsed to host the 2018 Australia Day celebrations; b) Composition of the Australia Day Awards Committee for 2018 Awards again to be Crs Driscoll, Schirmer and Sharp.	Australia Day Awards Committee meeting held. Committee recommendations referred to December 2017 Council meeting. Complete.

Ordinary Council Meeting held 16 October 2017			
267/17	GM/ DEES	<p>Closed Agenda – Tender – Spray Sealing</p> <p>a) Downer EDI Works Pty Ltd to be awarded spray sealing contract for 2017/18; and</p> <p>b) General Manager and Director Engineering & Environmental Services authorised to execute Purchase Order and Contract.</p>	<p>GHSC advised of Council's decision.</p> <p>Awaiting formal conformation from GHSC.</p> <p>Letter of award issued to Contractor. Sealing schedule being compiled. Purchase orders to be raised as required.</p> <p>Complete.</p>
266/17	DEES	<p>Closed Agenda – Tender – Waste Contract</p> <p>a) Contract for 'Domestic Garbage, Recyclables & Organics Collection & Transport Service' to be awarded to Cleanaway, adjusted for two bin collection service for an interim 6-month period as required; Contract to be 7 years – 2 April 2018 to 2 April 2025, renewable annually thereafter by mutual consent for up to three by one-year agreements; and</p> <p>b) General Manager and Director of Engineering & Environmental Services authorised to sign Contract and Purchase Orders; and</p> <p>c) Council to make application for grant funding to supply FOGO bins and kitchen caddy's; and</p> <p>d) Undertake resident education program on 3-bin system and FOGO collection; and</p> <p>e) Staff authorised to enter into negotiations with Kurrajong Waratah to continue with Recyclables processing on behalf of Lockhart Shire Council.</p>	<p>(a) & (b) Letter issued to Cleanaway. Contracts prepared.</p> <p>(c) & (d) Council engaging consultant to assist with grant application</p> <p>(e) Council met with Kurrajong Waratah. Negotiations progressing well, waiting on CDS information before can finalise agreement.</p>
246/17	DEES	<p>Renewable Energy Project Lockhart</p> <p>Council:</p> <p>a) Supports the project in principal; and</p> <p>b) Enters into 'Memorandum of Understanding' with Better Energy Technology to further investigate the proposal; and</p> <p>c) Assist with grant funding applications with ARENA as well as Federal & NSW Government agencies applicable to the project; and</p> <p>d) Undertakes community consultation in a form and time that is applicable; and</p> <p>e) Further report be brought to Council as new information becomes available.</p>	<p>Public information sessions held on 21/11/2017 as scheduled.</p> <p>In principle agreement currently being drafted between Council and Better Energy Technology regarding lease of Council land for project infrastructure.</p> <p>Public meetings very successful. Working with BET on submissions.</p>

Ordinary Council Meeting held 18 September 2017			
222/17	DEES	<p>Regional Growth Fund Council to:</p> <p>a) Make application under “Stronger Country Communities” fund of up to \$2M for swimming pool upgrades at Lockhart and The Rock; and</p> <p>b) Make application under “Growing Local Economies” fund of up to \$1M for repairs/upgrades to bridges and culverts to allow HML access.</p>	<p>(a) “Stronger Country Communities” application for pools submitted prior to closing date of 18 October 2017. Hopefully will hear some news in March 2018. Consideration of going to tender for Lockhart pool in the mean-time.</p> <p>(b) “Growing Local Economies” application to be submitted after pool application submitted.</p> <p>As Council has received funding for the bridges under FCR, no longer require to submit application.</p>
221/17	DEES	<p>Request for Road Name Change</p> <p>a) Council does not support the road name change</p> <p>b) Add ‘Bourke’ to list of potential new road and parks names; and</p> <p>c) DEES to write back to applicant informing them of Council’s decision</p> <p>DEES will contact LLS regarding reinstatement of signage at Bourkes Reserve.</p>	<p>Letter written to applicant as well as LLS, with no response as yet.</p> <p>LLS has provided new sign for the Reserve. Council to install.</p>
209/17	TEDO	<p>Minutes of the Tourism/Economic Development Steering Committee Meeting – Internet Coverage Subject to SWWC proposal for provision of reliable fast speed internet to Lockhart Shire being relevant to the assessment criteria for “Connecting Country Communities: grants program, Council to submit grant application under that program.</p>	<p>Funding round opens late 2017, date to be advised.</p>
Ordinary Council Meeting held 21 August 2017			
195/17	MES	<p>Development Application – Consolidation of Lots 33-39 Urana St, Lockhart Council to:</p> <p>a) Grant consent for Council staff to approve the Development Application under delegation; and</p> <p>b) Refund the development application fees paid by the applicant, as prescribed by Policy 2.36 – Refund of Fees to Community Organisations; and</p> <p>c) Agree to cover costs of the consolidation, including payment of solicitor’s fees and costs for registration of deposited plans.</p>	<p>Staff have commenced with consolidation works. Letter issued to Historical Society.</p> <p>DA approved and plans gone to solicitor for registration with LPI.</p>
181/17	TEDO	<p>Minutes of the Tourism/Economic Development Steering Committee Meeting – Lockhart Railway Station Addition time to be given to source an alternative use/tenant for the Lockhart Railway Station building.</p>	<p>In progress.</p>
Ordinary Council Meeting held 17 July 2017			
159/17	DCCS	<p>Public Toilet Facilities</p> <p>a) Install paper towel and soap dispensers, and bins where required in Council’s public toilets,</p> <p>b) Conduct a review in 12 months’ time.</p>	<p>Quotes being sourced from suppliers. Order placed. Installation completed.</p>

Ordinary Council Meeting held 19 June 2017			
129/17	TEDO	Minutes of the Tourism/Economic Development Steering Committee Meeting – Wall of Fame Walk of Fame project to be undertaken.	In progress.
Ordinary Council Meeting held 15 May 2017			
115/17	GM	Councillor Professional Development Councillors to nominate any professional development they would like to undertake to assist in the development of a Professional Development Program for Councillors for 2017/18.	Training and Development opportunities distributed to Councillors as they arise. Draft Councillor Professional Development Guidelines recently released for consultation to be tabled at February 2018 council meeting.
108/17	GM	Council's Application for a Special Rate Variation – IPART Determination Council to make personal and written representations regarding its experience with the FFTF and SRV process and also redouble its efforts to secure grant funding for the nominated projects and in particular the Lockhart and The Rock swimming pools.	Representations being made with the focus on securing funding for the swimming pool refurbishments. Application for funding has been lodged under the Stronger Country Communities Fund.
101/17	DEES	Bridge Assessment Reports a) Council to apply for grand funding in next rounds of Fixing Country Roads (State), and/or Bridges Renewal programme (Federal) and/or Heavy Vehicle Safety and Productivity Programme (Federal); and b) A programme of repair works to upgrade the structures to HML to be put in place, subject to funding applications.	Fixing Country Roads grant applications closed 1/9/2017. Also see report to October meeting on Green Street culvert system. Council has received funding through FCR. Works to be organised to commence in the New Year. Complete.
Ordinary Council Meeting held 18 April 2017			
73/17	GM	Acknowledgement of Saggers Family Contribution Council to install a new seat, with an appropriately worded plaque, on the corner of Green & Matthews St's, in recognition of the contribution that the Saggers Family has made to the community.	Contact has been made with Mr Gordon Saggers, both verbally and in writing. Mr Saggers supports and appreciates Council's initiative. The following wording for the plaque has been agreed with Mr Saggers: - <i>"In recognition of the significant contribution made by the Saggers family to the Lockhart District in providing 70 years of continuous dental services to its residents."</i> Seat and plaque ordered. Waiting on seat still as special order to match existing style in the main street.

72/17	DEES	Caravan Parks a) Information noted pending a furthermore detailed report b) Council has determined as a matter of policy that caravan parks be short term (holiday park) stays; and c) Expressions of Interest (EOI) be invited for Management of the Lockhart Caravan Park for 1 July 2017 to 30 June 2018 with option of 2 x 12 month extensions on mutual agreement.	More detailed report to be presented at a future Council meeting. Items (b) & (c) are complete. Staff currently compiling information to put together further report.
Ordinary Council Meeting held 20 March 2017			
33/17	TEDO	Minutes of the Tourism/Economic Steering Committee Meeting – Shire Signs Designs for the Shire signs to be investigated.	Dependent on budget. Nil progress
Ordinary Council Meeting held 6 February 2017			
5/17	GM	Coffee Shop Proposal Council to invite Mandy Strong, Liz Lane and Susan Gooden to meet with Mayor and GM to discuss the proposal of a coffee shop in the former Billabong Motors building adjacent to the Green Gunyah Museum.	Meeting held on 1 March 2017. Discussions continuing with Council's Manager Environmental Services regarding regulatory requirements.
Ordinary Council Meeting held 21 November 2016			
315/16	GM/ TEDO	Australian Kelpie Hall of Fame a) Greens Gunyah Museum be requested to develop and provide a long-term business plan to Council, outlining future developments and how they will be funded, and b) The item be brought back to Council for further discussion in the 2017/18 FY.	Lockhart & District Historical Society have developed a strategic plan and are working on extending this into a business plan.
Ordinary Council Meeting held 19 September 2016			
241/16	TEDO	Minutes of Tourism/Economic Development Steering Committee - Town Visitor Information Boards New town visitor information boards to be designed and installed in The Rock and Lockhart.	In progress
Ordinary Council Meeting held 16 May 2016			
109/16	DCCS	Old Lockhart Railway Station Building Council to: a) Seek to find a suitable use/tenant for the building b) Begin negotiations with JHR to hand building back, if suitable use/tenant not found within next 6 months.	Ongoing. No potential tenants have enquired. Promoting venue as a regional meeting site. Very little activity to date.
Ordinary Council Meeting held 17 November 2014			
328/14	DCCS	Request for Financial Assistance – The Rock Men's Shed a) Suitable lease conditions be negotiated between Council and The Rock Men's Shed.	Lease has been finalised. Complete. Completed.
Ordinary Council Meeting held 14 October 2014			
294/14	DCCS	Report of Section 355 Committees - Finances Council to endeavour to meet with all 355 Committees & Pleasant Hills Community Hotel to work with them to understand their costs and future projects	Plan being developed with correspondence to be sent. Revised policy adopted by Council. Procedure Manual has been developed. Meetings currently being arranged with Section 355 Committees to present revised Policy and Procedure Manual.

Ordinary Council Meeting held 20 November 2017 – Councillor Questions & Statements			
Councillor's Questions	DEES	Cr Sharp – Thank You re. Shippard's Ln, Yerong Creek – Thanked Council staff for quick resolution re. gravel pit on Shippard's Ln, Yerong Creek.	DEES will pass thanks on to staff. Complete.
	DEES	Cr Douglas – Media Release dated 7 Nov 2017 by Kim Schultz, LSC Road Safety Officer – sought some clarification of captured data.	DEES explained the statistics and that staff just presented the information obtained by the traffic counters. The message is about road safety and not necessarily the actual speeds recorded. Further monitoring will occur in due course. Complete.
	GM	Cr Marston – Potential Purchase of Land for Development – 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.	A report is being prepared for consideration at a forthcoming Council meeting.
	GM	Cr Driscoll – Land Sales in Lockhart – Enquired re. land sales in Lockhart and suggested combining lots in Green Street West to create larger blocks.	A report is being prepared for consideration at a forthcoming Council meeting.
	GM	Cr Verdon – Police Presence in the Shire – Advised that at recent Police & Community Consultation meeting local police advised they have been required to spend more time in Wagga Wagga and Cr Verdon requested that this be taken up with the local Superintendent.	Written representations have been made to the Superintendent of Police. Complete.
	DEES	Cr Verdon – New Compliance Officer – Enquired as to the activities of the new Compliance Officer?	DEES advised new Compliance Officer is going well, with a current focus on companion animals and unkept properties. An update will be reported to the February 2018 meeting on progress of the Compliance Officer.
	DEES	Cr Verdon – Back Lane behind IGA and Hall, The Rock – Advised this lane requires some maintenance.	DEES advised he will investigate and take appropriate action. DEES has inspected the laneway and has arranged remedial works to be undertaken shortly.
	Ordinary Council Meeting held 16 October 2017 – Councillor Questions & Statements		
Councillor's Questions	DEES	Cr Sharp – Mowing of Nature Strips in Pleasant Hills – Thanked Council staff for mowing of village at short notice last week.	DEES will pass thanks on to staff. Complete.
	DEES	Cr Sharp – Residents Mowing Nature Strips – Enquired if residents could mow nature strips in the Pleasant Hills village area in between Council mows?	DEES advised that this is permissible and would be greatly appreciated. Complete.

Councillor's Questions	DEES	Cr Douglas – Lockhart Industrial Park – Enquired if trees could be planted on southern side of the Lockhart Industrial Park as a screen?	DEES will investigate and advise.
	DEES	Cr Rockliff – Overhanging Sidewalk Trees – Advised he had received complaints regarding overhanging trees along footpath on northern side of Green St, between O'Connell & Day Sts.	DEES advised he had also received complaints & had inspected the area with one tree needing trimming, and that this will be attended to in due course. Offending tree has been trimmed. Complete.
Ordinary Council Meeting held 18 September 2017 – Councillor Questions & Statements			
Councillor's Questions	DEES	Cr Marston – Drainage Wash Outs, Emily St to Semmlers Ln, The Rock – Cr Marston advised of complaints received.	DEES advised he will investigate and take appropriate action. Nil progress to-date.
	DEES	Cr Marston – Follow Up – Condition of Back Lanes in The Rock – Enquired as to progress on work to tidy up some back lanes in The Rock due to recent Riverina Water works.	DEES advised RWCC has issued works order to Council and staff were still waiting for lanes to dry sufficiently for works to be undertaken. Contractor on standby for when conditions suit. Was scheduled for week 9 th October 2017. Works have commenced. Lanes have been left in very poor state and trenches not backfilled correctly. Works have commenced with most lanes now been tidied up. Complete.
Ordinary Council Meeting held 21 August 2017 – Councillor Questions & Statements			
Councillor's Questions	DCCS	Cr Douglas – Long Day Care in Lockhart – Enquired about the current status of the provision of long day care facilities in Lockhart?	DCCS to provide a preliminary report at a future meeting of Council. Arranging meetings with both Lockhart primary schools to gather information. Refer item xx, report to Council Completed.
Ordinary Council Meeting held 17 July 2017 – Councillor Questions & Statements			
Councillor's Questions	MAYOR	Cr Driscoll – Fit For the Future Process – Enquired as to where Council was up to regarding the FFTF process and ensuring we comply with our Action Plan.	The Mayor advised we are working on external contracting and other options regarding expanding the Shire's scale and capacity.
	COUNCILLORS	Cr Schirmer – Councillor Relaxed Visits throughout Shire – Thanked Councillors who attended recent Friday night at the Pleasant Hills Pub and advised the visit was well received by the locals with positive feedback being given.	The next Councillor visit will be at Osborne Football Club training on a Thurs night, followed by a Friday fish & chips night at Yerong Creek.
Ordinary Council Meeting held 19 June 2017 – Councillor Questions & Statements			
Councillor's Questions	DEES	Cr Sharp – Culvert Cleaning – Enquired if there is a schedule for culvert cleaning throughout the Shire?	DEES advised he is aware of the issue and action is taken when resourcing permits. Staff currently preparing a drainage maintenance schedule.

Ordinary Council Meeting held 15 May 2017 – Councillor Questions & Statements			
Council for's Questio ns	DEES	Free Camping Site at The Rock – Advised The Rock free camping site currently has a long-term occupier and enquired as to whether signage could be installed to advise that the site is short-term only?	DEES advised he will install appropriate signage following the current review of all caravan park/camping sites in the Shire.
Ordinary Council Meeting held 18 April 2017 – Councillor Questions & Statements			
Councillors' Questions	DEES	Cr Verdon – Song Written by Former Grader Operator Mr Keith Ball – Enquired as to whether Council had a copy of the song about working on Council and if not, could a copy be obtained for historical purposes?	DEES advised he is not aware of the song and will contact the Funeral Director. Staff have spoken with family, a copy to be forwarded to Council in due course.
Ordinary Council Meeting Held 16 November 2015 – Councillor Questions & Statements			
Councillors' Questions	DEES	Cr Morgan – Funding Application for Brookdale Hill Blackspot Enquired if Council has received any news on this funding application?	<p>DEES advised that no news has been received to date.</p> <p>Application has been unsuccessful at Federal level, currently being assessed at State level.</p> <p>Council currently undertaking design works for the intersections.</p> <p>Design work complete. Currently investigating services relocations required.</p> <p>Project surveyed and working with Telstra regarding relocation of service. Order given to Telstra.</p> <p>Telstra cables have been relocated. Works to commence shortly on site.</p> <p>Council still waiting on funding under RRRP for 2017/18 to be confirmed from RMS.</p>

18 December 2017 Council Meeting - Correspondence Sent to Councillors

Date to Councillors	From	Subject	File Ref
17/11/17 (e-mailed)	ALGA News Editor	ALGA News 17 November 2017	A75-005
20/11/17 (e-mailed)	Cr Keith Rhoades, LGNSW	LGNSW Weekly #45 – 17 November 2017	S20-007
20/11/17 (e-mailed)	Cr Keith Rhoades, LGNSW	President of LGNSW Weekly Update	S20-007
27/11/17 (e-mailed)	ALGA News Editor	ALGA News 24 November 2017	A75-005
27/11/17 (e-mailed)	Cr Keith Rhoades, LGNSW	LGNSW Weekly #46 – 24 November 2017	S20-007
27/11/17 (e-mailed)	Cr Keith Rhoades, LGNSW	President of LGNSW Weekly Update	S20-007
01/12/2017 (e-mailed)	David Webb, Director Engineering & Environmental Services	Companion Animal Compliance Check (doorknock) in the Lockhart Shire	D25-005
01/12/17 (e-mailed)	David Webb, Director Engineering & Environmental Services	Fixing Country Roads Funding Announcement – Council’s application under Fixing Country Roads Program towards upgrade of bridges in the Shire was successful	G10-005
04/12/17 (e-mailed)	Cr Keith Rhoades, LGNSW	LGNSW Weekly #47 – 1 December 2017	S20-007
04/12/17 (e-mailed)	ALGA News Editor	ALGA News 1 December 2017	A75-005
04/12/17 (e-mailed)	Cr Keith Rhoades, LGNSW	President of LGNSW Weekly Update	S20-007
12/12/17 (e-mailed)	ALGA News Editor	ALGA News 8 December 2017	A75-005
12/12/17 (e-mailed)	LGNSW	LGNSW Weekly #48 - 8 December 2017	S20-007
12/12/17 (e-mailed)	LGNSW	Message from LGNSW	S20-007
12/12/17 (e-mailed)	Donna Rygate, LGNSW	LGNSW Board Election Results	S20-005

Recommendation: That the information be noted.

315/17 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Sharp and Walker that the information be noted.
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Staff Reports

STRATEGIC DIRECTION A: A Connected and Resilient Community

Nil.

STRATEGIC DIRECTION B: A Dynamic and Prosperous Economy

1. THE ROCK TO BOREE CREEK RAIL LINE

(GM/R05-005)

Executive Summary

Council's application for the upgrade of the Boree Creek to The Rock rail line under the Fixing Country Rail Program has been unsuccessful.

Report

At the Council meeting held on 6 February 2017 it was resolved that Council:

- a) *"Fully supports the upgrading of The Rock to Boree Creek rail line to heavy rail to enable the more efficient and cost effective use of rail infrastructure.*
- b) *At the appropriate time submit a submission to Transport NSW outlining the benefits of the upgrade."*

At a subsequent Council meeting held on 19 June 2017 it was further resolved that Council submit a proposal for the upgrade of The Rock to Boree Creek Rail Line to Transport for NSW under the Fixing Country Rail Program.

Advice has now been received that Council's application has been unsuccessful. It is understood that Round 1 of the Program attracted 48 applications for projects valued at \$550 million. An amount of \$150 million was available under this Round. It is understood that Council will have the opportunity to resubmit the project proposal when Round 2 of the program is announced sometime next year.

Anyone can submit a Fixing Country Rail project proposal but funding can only be awarded to rail infrastructure owners and managers.

Integrated Planning and Reporting Reference

- B1 – Improve services and infrastructure that supports our rural businesses.
- B1 – Lobby to increase the use of rail for agricultural transportation.

Legislative Policy & Planning Implications

Not applicable.

Budget & Financial Aspects

Not applicable. Funding under the Fixing Country Rail Program can only be awarded to rail infrastructure owners and managers.

Attachments

Nil.

Recommendation: That the outcome of Council's application under the Fixing Country Rail Program for the upgrade of the Boree Creek to The Rock rail line be noted.

316/17	RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Verdon and Marston that the outcome of Council's application under the Fixing Country Rail Program for the upgrade of the Boree Creek to The Rock rail line be noted, and Council continue to make applications when further rounds of funding are released.
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STRATEGIC DIRECTION C: An Environment that is Respected and Protected

2. BIOSECURITY AND ENVIRONMENTAL REPORT

(DEES/N10-025)

Executive Summary

Monthly report on priority weeds and environmental matters.

Report

Weeds

Property Inspections

The majority of inspections were carried out on residential properties, targeted for the analysis and effectiveness of the implementation of control methods or lack thereof.

The weed most commonly found was Bridal Creeper (*Asparagus asparagoides*).

Other weeds found in lower frequency were St John's Wort (*Hypericum perforatum*), Blackberry (*Rubus fruticosus* species aggregate), Privet (*Ligustrum* sp.), and Asparagus weed (*Asparagus* sp.).

No. 1 st Inspections	No. Re- inspections required	No.2 nd Inspections	No. Biosecurity Undertakings Accepted	No. Biosecurity Directions Issued	No. 3 rd Inspections
0	0	10	0	0	0

Spray Program

Priority for spraying has been given to the control of all weeds on the shoulders of roads with high traffic volume in preparation for the oncoming fire hazard season, particularly in those areas containing resistant annual ryegrass. Spot spraying of Horehound (*Marrumbium vulgare*) and St John's Wort (*Hypericum perforatum*) also occurred.

Biosecurity Act 2015 Legal Training

Council's Environmental Officer attended Legal Training Stage 3 in Canberra. This training provided essential detail in the creation and delivery of a biosecurity direction; preparation and conduct of an interview of an alleged suspect; preparation and completion of an investigation; development of a statement and collection of evidence; and preparation and response to cross-examination in court.

Travelling Stock Routes and Reserves

Correspondence between Council's Environmental Officer and Local Land Services' staff has occurred through November in relation to travelling stock migrating through the shire, including details such as the direction and shires that the stock have travelled from, the presence of priority weeds on roads designated for stock movement, the areas that have been recently spraying on the roadsides, and the chemicals that were used. This correspondence is essential to prevent the accidental translocation of priority weed seeds, protection of sensitive native vegetation, animal health and avoidance of contaminated meat, and consideration for the property owners and road users.

Pests

Common White Snail

Inspection of Fairview Lane occurred on 20 November 2017. Only five live common white snails were found and destroyed. Baiting also occurred on this date. Vegetation in the laneway was less than that present on the fence line of the adjacent private property to the east, and the GrainCorp site to the west.

Environmental Matters

Eastern Riverina Landcare Network Meeting

Committee members of the Eastern Riverina Landcare Network met at Yerong Creek for their bimonthly meeting and annual general meeting. Items of relevance to Lockhart Shire Council include:

- Maddy Gorham has resigned from her position as Local Landcare Coordinator. Until this position is filled, Paula Sheehan from Holbrook Landcare will act in the interim.
- Funding for the proposed project to link the Galore Hill Scenic Reserve and The Rock Nature Reserve through the establishment of vegetation has dissolved.
- Guest speaker, Kylie Durant from Holbrook Landcare, initiated an informative discussion regarding the importance of paddock trees, providing benefits of these trees supported by scientific evidence, to meeting attendees.
- And the Eastern Riverina Landcare Network will be holding its next Meeting on 18 January 2018, at Galore Hill Scenic Reserve.

Biosecurity Offset Scheme

Council's Environmental Officer attended the Biodiversity Offset Scheme Training during November.

Introduced in 2016, the Biodiversity Conservation Act was created to deliver ecologically sustainable development in New South Wales and address the loss of biodiversity via a biodiversity offsets scheme and private land conservation agreements.

The Biodiversity Offsets Scheme allows for biodiversity offsets to be measured in terms of credit, through the assessment of biodiversity, and calculation of the losses and gains at development and stewardship sites.

Council staff that are involved in the development approval process are required to ensure that appropriate biodiversity offset obligations have been met before any development approval is approved.

Integrated Planning and Reporting Reference

C2.1 – Increase the amount of native flora, fauna and protect threatened species.

C2.2 – Decreased occurrence, spread and impact of weeds and pests throughout the Shire.

Legislative Policy and Planning Implications

Weed inspections and associated activities are carried out in accordance with the Biosecurity Act 2015 and associated regulations.

Budget and Financial Aspects

Will be conducted within Council's allocated budget.

Attachments

Nil.

Recommendation: That the information in this report be noted.

317/17 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Marston and Sharp that the information in this report be noted.
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STRATEGIC DIRECTION D: Infrastructure for the Long Term Needs of the Community

3. ENGINEERING REPORT

(DEES/T10-005)

Executive Summary

Monthly report on engineering matters.

Background Information

- (a) *Works Report:* One grader crew is completing Stage 2 of Council's subdivision in The Rock. Second crew is undertaking shoulder widening on The Rock Mangoplah Road, with third undertaking maintenance grading and gravel re-sheeting as weather permits.

Grader crews will continue with construction and maintenance programmes, with Brookdale Hill works now scheduled to commence after the New Year, subject to RMS Regional Repair Program funding, which has not been confirmed as yet.

We remind residents that the summer period is Council's main construction period and although we will try to avoid impact on harvest it is not always possible. Your patience with construction crews is appreciated.

Updated 12-month programme will be presented at the meeting.

Concrete crew is undertaking drainage extension works for construction projects. The crew is also continuing with maintenance of footpaths, drainage structures, kerb & gutter as well as signs maintenance throughout the Shire as required.

Council has also been successful in securing a grant to install a new bus shelter at Lockhart Post Office and relate existing shelter donated by Rotary to Walter Day Park, with the existing information shelter at Walter Day Park to be relocated to Milbrulong as part of its heritage upgrade project.

Council has also been successful in Round 3 of Fixing Country Roads program to repair and upgrade 9 bridge structures throughout the Shire. This will allow opening up Shire road network to HML, as well as Livestock Loading and Grain Harvest Management Schemes. Works are not anticipated to commence till end of first quarter in 2018, and delays can be expected during these works. Further information of program of works will be provided in future council reports.

- (b) *Flood Mitigation:* Refer to Major Projects update.
- (c) *Road Safety Officer:* Nil to report.
- (d) *Traffic Committee:* Traffic Committee has approved safety signage and works on Old Trunk Road, The Rock, as well as Woodend Fiveways Road. New signage to be installed shortly.
- (e) *Lockhart Local Emergency Management Committee:* LEMC was placed on standby during recent rain events. Nil action to report.
- (f) *Fleet:* Staff have now obtained all quotes for plant replacement for 2017/18 year, with all orders placed and the second lot of the small vehicles now being delivered. The heavy trucks are due to commence arrival early December 2017.

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

Will be conducted within Council's allocated budget.

Attachment

Updated 12 Months Works Programme (to be handed out separately at meeting).

Recommendation: That the information be noted.

318/17 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Driscoll and Walker that the information be noted.

4. MAJOR PROJECTS UPDATE

(DEES/T10-005)

Executive Summary

Update on Council's current major projects.

Report

Council is currently undertaking a number of major projects and the status of each of these is as follows:

- a) *Swimming Pools Upgrade:* Development Approval (DA) has been granted for the amenities upgrade at Lockhart pool as well as The Rock pool new amenities building. Council recently submitted grant application under the NSW Government's Regional Growth Fund – Stronger Country Communities. It is expected that Council will hear on the outcome of this application in the new year.
- b) *The Rock Sewer Extension:* Construction work has been progressing well with the main pipeline nearly completed. Installation of on property works has commenced. There have been 49 confirmed properties agreeing to connect to the scheme.
- c) *Demolition of Voluntary Purchase Properties:* Current grant funding allows for one more property to be purchased at each of Lockhart and The Rock in 2017/18. Settlement has occurred with the property at 38 Day Street, The Rock. A contractor has been engaged to begin demolition work in January 2018, and be completed by the end of February 2018.

Negotiations with third property owner in Lockhart did not reach an agreement. Council has approached the fourth property owners and obtaining a valuation. Due to delays associated with negotiations with Lockhart property owners, Council is at risk of losing its funding for this year.

Council has resolved to apply for further funding for VPS, with grant applications expected to be open early 2018.

- d) *Flood Mitigation Construction-Lockhart:* Scott Newbery Earthmoving P/L is due to commence construction work on the Lockhart Government Dam Levee the second week of January 2018, subject to OEH approval.
- e) *Flood Mitigation Construction-The Rock:* The Rock Stevens Street drainage works funding from OEH has been received. Tenders for the works will be advertised early February 2018 now the REF and easement has been finalised.

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.

Legislative Policy & Planning Implications

Nil.

Budget & Financial Aspects

- (i) Pools – total refurbishment costs estimated to be \$4.2M for both pools
- (ii) The Rock Sewer Extension – budget for stage 1 construction is \$1.25M
- (iii) VP Demolition – Round 3 – purchase and demolition costs for both properties is anticipated to be \$420,000, with OEH to provide grant funding of approximately \$360,000
- (iv) Flood Mitigation Construction – funding received for Lockhart Government dams is \$327,000, with an additional \$80,000 requested from OEH. Funding requested for Streven Street is \$652,941. Construction budget for both projects is \$1.306M, with \$693,000 planned for 2017/18.

Attachment

Nil.

Recommendation: That the information be noted.

319/17 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Walker and Marston that the information be noted.
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5. PARKS AND GARDENS REPORT

(DEES/P10-005)

Executive Summary

Monthly report on parks and gardens.

Report

Sculpture Trail

This year's Spirit of the Land winner, 'Maggie Song' by Stuart Taylor has been installed at the front of Lockhart Caravan Park and 2015 winner Rusty Cockatoo by Sean Meaney has taken up permanent residence at CWA Park.

Pools

Both pools have had a busy start to the season with well over a thousand patrons each since opening Monday 13 November including: school groups, swimming squad and lessons, and a successful Hawaiian night. The pool inflatable has been organized for both pools in the lead up to Christmas and again in January.

Caravan Park

Due to feedback regarding television reception a TV has been installed in the camp kitchen to encourage patrons to lengthen their stay in Lockhart. Wi-Fi is now also available via password access from the Caravan Park Manager.

Round-a-bout Street Lamp

Elegance Stained Glass was consulted about replacing a broken glass panel in the lamp. The glass in the panel has been identified as a texture called Pyramid which is old and rare. Council was advised to try building recyclers in the hope that they may have a fanlight containing this glass that could be cut to size. If a suitable piece cannot be sourced suitable replacement glass will need to be chosen.

Trees

A cherry-picker was hired to assist with the removal of a number of large dead/dying trees in both The Rock and Lockhart. Watering of newly planted trees will be scheduled regularly throughout the warmer months.

Parks and Gardens

The Shire's roses are in full bloom, dead heading is being conducted regularly to keep them at their best. Routine garden maintenance is being conducted including regular weeding, spraying, pruning, replacement planting and mulching.

Irrigation systems have been turned on and will be checked regularly during the irrigation season.

Mowing and Slashing

Although scheduled slashing has been recently undertaken, regular rain and humidity are creating ideal growing conditions and most areas will need to be done again over the summer months. Urban streets and entrances of The Rock, Yerong Creek and Lockhart will be the focus leading up to Christmas however heavy rainfall may make accessing some areas difficult in the short term. Fortnightly mowing and edging will be scheduled for most irrigated areas during the growth season.

Weed Control

Regular weed control is being conducted on Council property including hand spraying and weeding of gardens. The regular rain is creating ideal growing conditions especially for problem weeds such as khaki, catheads, fleabane and hairy panic; known trouble spots will be controlled and reviewed over the summer. Spraying lawns for broadleaf weeds is continuing.

General Maintenance

Regular duties include inspections of parks and public facilities to remove litter, clean BBQ's, check for damage or vandalism, clear footpaths and empty public and roadside bins. Most areas undergo inspections twice per week, including Galore Hill, where crews also clean and check the toilet facilities. Contract cleaners attend to the public toilet facilities in Lockhart, The Rock and Yerong Creek. Playgrounds in the shire are being inspected regularly as per Australian Standards, with any maintenance being noted and completed as necessary.

Integrated Planning and Reporting Reference

D1 – Infrastructure that facilitates an active community.

Legislative Policy and Planning Implications

Nil.

Budget and Financial Aspects

Will be conducted within Council's allocated budget.

Attachment

Nil.

Recommendation: That the information be noted.

320/17 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Verdon and Driscoll that the information be noted.

6. SOUTHERN LIGHTS PROJECT

(DEES/E20-005)

Executive Summary

Report on Southern Lights Project.

Report

Southern Lights aims to replace approximately 70,000 street lights with state-of-the-art LED lighting and smart controls technologies across 38 Local Government Areas covering almost all of southern NSW. Project partners include REROC, RAMROC, CENTROC and CBJRO.

It is well established that using LEDs for street lighting reduces the cost of energy used by the lights, substantially reduces the operational cost of the lights and, by delivering high quality white light, increases the efficiency and effectiveness of public lighting which improves safety and reduces crime. Notably, unlike metropolitan areas, many regional NSW residential streets are currently lit with lower quality, yellow-coloured lighting, so a switch to LED lighting will make significant and noticeable improvements to public lighting.

An LED roll out when accompanied by smart controls technology can dramatically improve service levels by notifying the operator of outages and other faults. Smart controls technology also allows a wide range of operating regimes not currently possible including dimming during the off-peak, raising lighting levels during peak times, optimising lighting levels to exactly meet compliance levels, facilitating automated population of asset registers and improving the accuracy of billing.

The Southern Lights project therefore has the potential to become the backbone upon which towns and cities across southern NSW can be transformed into Smart Communities. Refer to the attached Southern Lights Project information flyer.

REROC is meeting with Essential Energy next week to talk further about the Southern Lights project. At this stage it is important that Member Councils have given in principle support for the project. This does not commit the councils to anything just merely that they are happy for REROC to continue to negotiate with regards to the development of the project.

Integrated Planning and Reporting Reference

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

Legislative Policy and Planning Implications

Nil.

Budget and Financial Aspects

Unknown at this stage however it is anticipated the project will provide significant lower street lighting costs for Council.

Attachments

1. Southern Lights Project information flyer.

Recommendation: That Council provides in-principle support for the Southern Lights Project.

321/17	RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Verdon and Day that Council provides in-principle support for the Southern Lights Project.
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7. DEVELOPMENT APPLICATIONS

(MES/P25-010)

Executive Summary

Monthly report on development applications approved by the Council.

Report

The following development applications were approved, with conditions, from 1 November 2017 to 30 November 2017.

DA No	Development	Applicant/Owner	Site of Development
21/18	Conduct Charity Rodeo	Thommos Express Charity Rodeo Committee	4760 Olympic Hwy, The Rock
29/18	New dwelling & shed	David & Shirley Nimmo	13 Emily St, The Rock
30/18	Patio	Rob Edwards Building	25 Ferrier St, Lockhart
31/18	Demolition of dwelling	Lockhart Shire Council	38 Day St, The Rock
CDC 32/18	Inground swimming pool	Adam Price/Conquest Pools	48-50 Scott St, The Rock
34/18	Shipping container	David & Shirley Nimmo	13 Emily St, The Rock

Integrated Planning & Reporting Reference

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

Legislative Policy and Planning Implications

Applications processed in accordance with the Environmental Planning & Assessment Act 1979.

Budget and Financial Aspects

Nil.

Attachment

Nil.

Recommendation: That the information be noted.

322/17 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Walker and Marston that the information be noted.
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STRATEGIC DIRECTION E: Strong Leadership and Governance

8. INVESTMENT AND BANK BALANCES REPORT - NOVEMBER 2017

(DCCS/F10-010)

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) Regulations 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.

Investments:	Interest Rate per Annum	Amount Invested	% of Total
Bankwest	2.35	500,000.00	7.30%
Bankwest	2.40	250,000.00	3.65%
BENDIGO	2.20	250,000.00	3.65%
BENDIGO	2.25	250,000.00	3.65%
BENDIGO	2.20	250,000.00	3.65%
BENDIGO	2.40	500,000.00	7.30%
Curve Securitys/AMP	2.40	250,000.00	3.65%
IMB Limited	2.40	300,000.00	4.38%
IMB Limited	2.40	500,000.00	7.30%
IMB Limited	2.50	250,000.00	3.65%
NAB	2.53	300,000.00	4.38%
NAB	2.53	300,000.00	4.38%
NAB	2.54	500,000.00	7.30%
RIM AMP	2.55	300,000.00	4.38%
RIM AMP	2.55	400,000.00	5.84%
RIM AMP	2.40	250,000.00	3.65%
RIM AMP	2.60	500,000.00	7.30%
T Corp-At Call		1,000,000.00	14.60%
		6,850,000.00	100.00%

Bank Account(s):

Bank Statement Balance as at:	30 November 2017	Bendigo	802,491.86
		Macquarie	288,486.53
		Prichard Trust	31,575.83
			1,122,554.22
Plus:	Outstanding Deposits		74,931.19
			1,197,485.41
Less:	Outstanding Cheques		14,618.24
			1,182,867.17

General Ledger:

General Ledger Balances as at:	30 November 2017		
		<u>FUND</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
		General Fund	1490-3000-0000
			254,177.93
		Combined Sewerage	8490-3000-0000
			897,113.41
		Trust Fund	9991-3000-0000
			31,575.83
			1,182,867.17
		TOTAL FUNDS HELD ARE:	8,032,867.17

Integrated Planning and Reporting Reference

- E1 - Council is strong, sustainable and able to stand alone.
 - Plan for the long-term sustainability of the Shire.
 - Meet all governance and regulatory requirements in the conduct of Council operations.

Legislative Policy and Planning Implications

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

Budget and Financial Aspects

Council's 2017/18 Operational Budget has forecast a total of \$134,000 income from interest on investments, being split between General Fund of \$110,000 and Sewer Fund of \$24,000. For the period July to November 2017, the average end of month balance of funds invested has been \$6.84 million and the average return on invested funds has been 2.39%. On these year to date figures, Council's budgeted income on investments will be achieved.

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 the Local Government (General) Regulations 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 annual audit of Council's Financial Statements and each Quarterly Budget Review.

Recommendation: That:

- a) the November 2017 Investment and Bank Balances Report be received and noted.
- b) the Responsible Accounting Officer Statement be noted, and the report be adopted.

323/17 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Sharp and Day that:

- a) the November 2017 Investment and Bank Balances Report be received and noted.
- b) the Responsible Accounting Officer Statement be noted, and the report be adopted.

9. JOINT ORGANISATIONS OF COUNCILS

(GM/R30-015)

Executive Summary

Legislation has passed the NSW Parliament providing for the formation of Joint Organisations (JOs) and Councils are being invited by the Office of Local Government (OLG) to nominate to form a JO.

Report

The formation of JOs was a component of the NSW Government's "Fit For The Future" reform process of recent years. The concept of JOs has been under review by the NSW Government for some time. The Government has now announced its long awaited position on JO's with the passing of the Local Government Amendment (Regional Joint Organisations) Bill 2017.

The legislation is more flexible and less prescriptive to what was originally proposed. Most notably the legislation allows for councils to voluntarily join a new JO. A brief summary of the legislation is outlined below:

- JOs are established and dissolved by Proclamation.
- JOs are a body corporate and a statutory corporation under the Interpretation Act.
- Council must resolve to join the JO. The resolution must be in a specific format that mentions the other councils in the JO.
- Principal Functions of JOs are;
 - Establish strategic regional priorities and strategies and plans for their delivery.
 - Regional Leadership to advocate for strategic regional priorities.
 - Identify and take up opportunities for intergovernmental co-operation.
 - Other functions: as directed by the members (including regulatory functions), as directed by legislation or as delegated by the CEO of the OLG.
- The Board of a JO is to comprise Mayors only. One delegate per council unless the JO decides it wants two. Then it must be two from each council. The second delegate must be a councillor.

- A council cannot be required by a decision of the JO to delegate any of its functions to the JO.
- The Local Government Act applies to a JO the same way as it applies to a council except for the stated exemptions, i.e. JOs are exempted from activities such as IP&R, community consultations, elections, planning, strategic planning and annual reports.

Whilst the choice to join, and the composition of a JO is voluntary, the NSW Government will only support the creation of JOs within existing State planning regions. Lockhart Shire is situated in the Riverina-Murray planning region which comprises 20 local government areas.

JOs are proposed to come into force on 1 July 2018. In order to meet this deadline the following timeline has been proposed by OLG:

November 2017

Review existing arrangements for regional collaboration and consult with councils in your preferred regional grouping.

December 2017

Once membership has been agreed between councils the necessary resolutions will need to be developed and agreed between the councils.

January 2018

Ongoing work between councils and OLG to ensure resolutions for a JO region align and are ready to go to Council.

February 2018

Resolutions go to councils. All resolutions passed and nomination form to establish a JO submitted to Minister by 28 February 2018*.

March/April 2018

The JO network is finalised, funding allocations are announced and JOs are proclaimed.

May/June 2018

Funding provided, governance arrangements established and other preparations undertaken for 1 July start.

July 2018

JO operational.

**Following representations from REROC, the NSW Government has agreed to extend this deadline to 31 March 2018.*

The new JO legislation has been considered by the REROC Executive and more recently by the REROC Board. The Board discussed four potential options as follows:

Option 1 – Status Quo

REROC stays an incorporated association and member Councils decline the opportunity to join a JO.

Option 2 – Riverina/Murray JO

REROC and RAMROC join together to form a single JO. The JO handles the strategic activities and ROCs continue to provide operational activities.

Option 3 – REROC JO

Existing REROC Member Councils form a JO. REROC continues as an incorporated organisation. The JO undertakes strategic activities and the ROC provides operational support and delivers operational activities

Option 4 – Expanded REROC JO

Existing REROC Member Councils form a JO with the addition of Albury and Federation Councils. The JO undertakes strategic activities and the ROC provides operational support and delivers operational activities. This option is close to what was proposed under the OLG's original JO boundaries.

A copy of a REROC Discussion Paper identifying the pros and cons of each Option is attached.

At the recent REROC Board Meeting Member Councils ranked the above options in order of preference as follows:

1. Option 4
2. Option 3
3. Option 2.

Option 1 was disregarded by the REROC Board.

The Option mostly favoured by the REROC Board, i.e. Option 4, is dependent on Albury City and Federation Councils wishing to form a JO with existing REROC Members and based on discussions to date this is considered unlikely in which case Option 3, i.e. a REROC JO would become the most favoured Option.

Further consultation will take place between REROC and other councils in the coming weeks when the position of other councils will become clearer.

In order to meet the timeline outlined above any resolution to participate in a JO will need to be passed at the 5 February 2018 Council meeting.

An information session is being convened by REROC at 2.00pm on Monday 18 December 2017 for the benefit of interested Councillors and to enable individual councils to give consideration to this matter.

Integrated Planning and Reporting Reference

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

E1 - Implement "Fit For The Future" improvement action plans, i.e. continue involvement with REROC/JO.

Legislative Policy & Planning Implications

A legislative framework for the formation of JOs has been provided with the passing of the Local Government Amendment (Regional Joint Organisations) Bill 2017.

Budget & Financial Aspects

Council is currently a member of REROC and pays an annual membership fee of \$17,164. The NSW Government will provide \$3.3 million in seed funding to support the establishment of JOs.

Attachments

1. Joint Organisations – Model Options.

Recommendation: That:

- a) The information regarding the passing of the Local Government Amendment (Regional Joint Organisations) Bill 2017, be noted.
- b) Council endorse the preferred models as ranked by REROC for the formation of a Joint Organisation or alternatively determine its own ranking; and
- c) A further report regarding the formation of JOs in the Riverina-Murray region be presented to the 5 February 2018 meeting of Council.

- 324/17** **RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs Verdon and Day that:
- a) The information regarding the passing of the Local Government Amendment (Regional Joint Organisations) Bill 2017, be noted.
 - b) A workshop be convened prior to the next Council Meeting and that a representative of the Office of Local Government be invited to attend; and
 - c) A further report regarding the formation of JOs in the Riverina-Murray region be presented to the 5 February 2018 meeting of Council.

10. POLICY 1.22 COMPLIANCE POLICY

(GM/C70-025)

Executive Summary

Council does not currently have a formal Compliance Policy or Compliance Register. The Auditor-General has recommended that Council develop a Compliance Policy and Compliance Register. A draft Compliance Policy and Compliance Register has been developed and is tabled for Council's consideration.

Report

A Compliance Policy and Compliance Register is an important component of a broader governance framework as it identifies the relevant legislation, codes and policies that apply to an organisation and an organisation's legal obligations. It helps prevent breaches of an organisation's legal obligations or can assist in detecting breaches when they have occurred so that corrective action can be taken.

In its Management Letter on the final phase of the Lockhart Shire Council's audit by the NSW Audit Office for the financial year ended 30 June 2017, the Audit Office recommended that a Compliance Policy and Compliance Register be developed.

It is a standard practice for auditors to issue a Management Letter following completion of an audit to raise matters that the auditor believes should be addressed, or to highlight improvements that can be made in relation to internal processes and procedures. The Management Letter usually raises issues that are not considered significant enough to include in the final Audit Report but are nevertheless considered important enough to draw to management's attention in the form of a letter.

In accordance with the Audit Office's recommendation a Compliance Policy and Compliance Register has been developed, a copy of which is attached.

The Policy outlines how Council will monitor its compliance obligations and stay abreast of changes to legislation that it is required to comply with. Schedule 1 of the Policy identifies the more significant pieces of legislation applicable to Council and allocates responsibility for ensuring compliance with that legislation. Schedule 2 identifies Council's reporting obligations to other agencies. Councillors will be aware that Council's own policies, which staff are also required to comply with are being progressively reviewed. A policy review timetable has been developed to monitor the progress of these reviews and this timetable is attached as Schedule to the Compliance Policy.

Integrated Planning and Reporting Reference

E1 - Meet all governance and regulatory requirements in the conduct of council's operation.

Legislative Policy & Planning Implications

There are numerous Acts of Parliament that impose legislative obligations on Council, the more significant of which have been identified in Schedule 1 of the Compliance Policy.

Budget & Financial Aspects

Not applicable.

Attachments

1. Policy 1.22 Compliance Policy.

Recommendation: That Policy 1.22 Compliance Policy, as presented, be adopted.

325/17 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Driscoll and Walker that Policy 1.22 Compliance Policy, as presented, be adopted.
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Questions and Statements

Cr Verdon

- (i) **Cardboard Recycling in The Rock** – Enquired as to what might be happening with cardboard recycling in The Rock, as another resident has indicated he might be able to continue with the service.

Response – General Manager and Director Engineering and Environmental Services

DEES advised that no community group had approached Council and felt the back of the supermarket was not the best location for this service.

GM advised he will make approach to the Men's Shed to see if they are interested in providing the service similar to the Lion's Club in Lockhart.

- (ii) **Drainage Issues in Mixner St, The Rock** – Advised that residents had noted some drainage issues at the end of Mixner St, The Rock.

Response – Director Engineering and Environmental Services

DEES advised he was aware of the complaint, had spoken with nearby residents, and inspected the site. Some minor clean out works will occur when resourcing permits.

Cr Day

Nil.

Cr Driscoll

- (i) **Statement – Merry Christmas to all and thank you to Councillors and staff for a wonderful year.**

Cr Marston

- (i) **Statement – Merry Christmas to all and thank you to Councillors and staff for a wonderful year.**

- (ii) **Installation of Lighting to RSL Memorabilia in The Avenue, The Rock** – Enquired as to whether Council could provide a quote to install lighting to the anchor, F1-11 tail fin and The Avenue of Honour sign in The Avenue, The Rock for the purposes of a grant application.

Response – Director Engineering and Environmental Services

DEES advised he will obtain a quote.

- (iii) **Insurance of RSL Memorabilia in The Avenue, The Rock** – Enquired as to whether insurance of the memorabilia is covered by Council and the memorabilia is on Council land?

Response – General Manager

GM advised that Council's insurance does cover these items and will prepare documentation to confirm this.

- (iv) **Council Elections** – Enquired if Council, for the 2020 Council Elections would consider advertising it's own election (not through AEC) to save money.

Response – General Manager

GM advised that this could be considered at the appropriate time, closer to the election year.

Cr Sharp

- (i) **Advised of 'Speed hump' (Tree Root), West of Spurrells Lane, Pleasant Hills Road.**

Response – Director Engineering and Environmental Services

DEES advised that he is aware of the lifted pavement and will re-inspect and take appropriate action.

- (ii) **Cleanaway's Composting** – Enquired as to whether opportunity may exist for Lockhart Shire to take on Cleanaway's composting if Howlong does not accept the proposal.

Response – Director Engineering and Environmental Services

DEES advised that he made enquiries to Cleanaway approximately 18 months ago, but was advised that under the Contract the facility must be located in one of the three Shires under the agreement.

Cr Walker

- (i) **Driveway/Access Culverts on Vincents Road** – Enquired as to who is responsible regarding driveway/access culverts that are high and holding back water on Vincents Road.

Response – Director Engineering and Environmental Services

DEES advised that it is the property owners responsibility.

- (ii) **Montague's Lane, The Rock**– Advised Montague's Lane requires gravelling after the last storm event.

Response – Director Engineering and Environmental Services

DEES advised that he is aware of the issue and the lane is due for a re-sheet in the New Year.

Cr Schirmer

Nil.

CLOSED SESSION

326/17	RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Verdon and Marston that Council close the meeting to the public as per section 10(A)(2)(a) of the Local Government Act 1993.
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The meeting moved into Closed Session at 6.08pm.

328/17	RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Verdon and Walker that Council move into Open Council.
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The meeting moved into Open Session at 6.11pm.

OPEN COUNCIL

The following resolutions of Council, while the meeting was closed to the public, were read to the meeting by the General Manager.

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.

Cr Driscoll declared a non-pecuniary interest in the following item and vacated the Chambers for its duration.

11. AUSTRALIA DAY AWARDS 2018

(GM/C15-005)

This item is classified CONFIDENTIAL under section 10A(2) of the *Local Government Act 1993*, which permits the meeting to be closed to the public for business relating to the following:

- (c) Information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the Council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business.

327/17	RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Verdon and Day that Council endorse the recommendations of the Australia Day Awards Committee regarding the 2018 Australia Day Awards.
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The meeting concluded at 6.13pm.

The minutes of the meeting held on Monday, 18 December 2017 were confirmed as a true and accurate record at the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 5 February 2018 at which time the signature was hereunto subscribed.

CHAIRMAN

CHAIRPERSON