



MINUTES
of the
Ordinary Meeting
Held
18 September 2023

**Minutes of the Ordinary Monthly Meeting of Lockhart Shire Council held in the Council Chambers,
Lockhart on Monday, 18 September 2023 commencing at 5.00pm.**

PRESENT

Cr G Verdon (Mayor), Cr F Day OAM, 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, and Executive Assistant.

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

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

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

APOLOGIES

155/23 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Mathews and Sharp that the apologies from Cr Rockliff and Cr Driscoll be accepted and leave of absence be granted.

REQUESTS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE OR ATTENDANCE BY AUDIO-VISUAL LINK

156/23 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Sharp and Walker that Cr Hunter be granted leave of absence for the meeting to be held on 16 October 2023.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES ORDINARY MEETING HELD 21 AUGUST 2023

157/23 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Day and Walker that the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on Monday, 21 August 2023 as printed and circulated be taken as read and confirmed.

DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY AND NON-PECUNIARY INTERESTS

The General Manager declared a pecuniary interest in relation to Item 10. The General Manager and Director of Corporate & Community Services advised they would be vacating the Chamber for the consideration of this item.

MAYORAL MINUTE

Nil.

REPORT ON MAYORAL & COUNCILLOR ACTIVITIES

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

- 22 August Along with Cr Marston attended the RSL Meeting to decide on seating for the Avenue of Honour.
- 23 August Media interview with Prime News regarding Emily Street, The Rock Drainage.
- 24 August Attended funeral service for Fr Terrence Mahedy.
- 25 August Along with the General Manager attended a meeting of REROC.
- 25 August Along with Cr Marston attended The Rock Debutante Ball.
- 31 August Along with General Manager; Director of Corporate & Community Services, Manager Planning & Environment, and the Tourism & Economic Development Officer, met with representatives of Secure Energy and Transgrid.
- 6 September Along with General Manager; Director of Corporate & Community Services and Manager Planning & Environment, met with Brett Whitworth Deputy Secretary OLG.
- 10 September Attend the Farrer Football League & Netball League Grand Finals.
- 14 September Along with General Manager attended a Mayoral reception for the Country Mayors Association in Wagga.
- 15 September Along with Crs Hunter and Day and the General Manager, attended Country Mayors Association Rural and Regional Health Forum

Cr Mathews provided the following report of his activities:

- 4 September Lockhart Progress Association Meeting
- 5 September Tourism & Economic Development Steering Committee meeting
- 11 September Lockhart Show Society meeting
- 12 September Spirit of the Land meeting
- 13-14 Sept REROC Energy and Innovation Conference

Cr Day provided the following verbal report on activities:

- 5 September Tourism & Economic Development Steering Committee meeting
- 7 September Gymnasium Committee Meeting

158/23 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Mathews and Marston that the Mayoral and Councillor Activities Report be received.

ELECTION OF MAYOR AND DEPUTY MAYOR

(GM: 23/9184)

Executive Summary

Councils that elect their mayors are required under section 290(1)(b) of the *Local Government Act 1993* (the Act) to hold mid-term mayoral elections in September 2023. Mayors elected in September 2023 will hold their office until council elections are held on 14 September 2024.

Report

The process for the election of a Mayor and Deputy Mayor is outlined in Clause 394 and Schedule 7 of the Local Government (General) Regulation which provide as follows:

- a) The General Manager (or a person appointed by the General Manager) is the returning officer.
- b) A councillor may be nominated without notice for election as mayor or deputy mayor.

- c) The nomination is to be made in writing by 2 or more councillors (one of whom may be the nominee). The nomination is not valid unless the nominee has indicated consent to the nomination in writing.
- d) The nomination is to be delivered or sent to the returning officer. *(This can occur prior to or at the Council meeting at which the election will be held. Forms for this purpose have been circulated to all Councillors.)*
- e) The returning officer is to announce the names of the nominees at the council meeting at which the election is to be held.
- f) If only one councillor is nominated, that councillor is elected.
- g) If more than one councillor is nominated, the council is to resolve whether the election is to proceed by preferential ballot, by ordinary ballot or by open voting.
- h) The election is to be held at the council meeting at which the council resolves on the method of voting. “Preferential ballot” and “ordinary ballot” referred to in g) above are secret ballots. “Open voting” means voting by a show of hands.

In the case of an “ordinary ballot” and “open voting”, if there are only two candidates, the candidate with the higher number of votes is elected. If there are three or more candidates, the candidate with the lowest number of votes is excluded and a further vote is taken of the remaining candidates.

In the case of a preferential ballot”, if a candidate has an absolute majority of first preference votes, that candidate is elected. If not, the candidate with the lowest number of first preference votes is excluded and the votes on the unexhausted ballot-papers counted to him or her are transferred to the candidates with second preferences on those ballot-papers. A candidate who then has an absolute majority of votes is elected.

As reported at the last Council meeting, councillors can participate by audio-visual link in mayoral elections held using the open voting method but not where one of the other two methods of election is used.

Ordinary and preferential ballots are secret ballots and councillors will need to attend the meeting in person to vote if the mayoral election is held using either of these methods.

Integrated Planning and Reporting Reference

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

Legislative Policy & Planning Implications

The election of Mayor and Deputy Mayor must be conducted in accordance with the Local Government Act and Schedule 7 of the Local Government (General) Regulation.

Budget & Financial Aspects

The allowance payable to the Mayor has previously been determined by Council and provided for in the 2023/24 Operational Plan Budget.

Attachments

Blank nomination forms have been provided to Councillors in their correspondence folder.

Recommendation: That the election of Mayor and Deputy Mayor be conducted.

ELECTION OF MAYOR

The General Manager, as Returning Officer, announced that he had received one nomination for the Office of Mayor, that being for Cr Greg Verdon, and asked if there were any further nominations. No other nominations were received.

As there was only one nomination for the Office of Mayor, the General Manager, as Returning Officer, declared Cr Greg Verdon elected Mayor of Lockhart Shire Council for the ensuing term.

ELECTION OF DEPUTY MAYOR

The General Manager, as Returning Officer announced, that he had received one nomination for the Office of Deputy Mayor, that being for Cr Peter Sharp, and asked if there were any further nominations. No other nominations were received.

As there was only one nomination for the Office of Deputy Mayor, the General Manager as Returning Officer, declared Cr Peter Sharp elected Deputy Mayor of Lockhart Shire Council for the ensuing term.

URGENT MATTERS

Nil.

NOTICE OF MOTION

Nil.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. MINUTES OF THE TOURISM & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 5 SEPTEMBER 2023 IN PLEASANT HILLS

Date & Time	Tuesday 5 th September 2023– 6.00pm
Location	Pleasant Hills Community Hall, Pleasant Hills
Attendees	Erica Jones (Chairperson), Navneet Choujar (Zoom), Cr Fran Day (Zoom), Cr Bob Mathews, Michelle Bailey (Deputy Chair), Heather Trevaskis (Timekeeper), Alirah Lub (Tourism Trainee - LSC) and Matt Holt (TEDO – Secretary).
Apologies	Cr Peter Sharp, Mandy Strong, Rachel Viski, Fiona Beckett and Cr Ian Marston
Guests	Joel Sim, Paul Creek, Anthony Male and David Wilkes
1 & 2.	The meeting opened with a Welcome from the Chair and an Acknowledgment of Country
3. Declarations of Interest	Nil
4. Confirmation of the minutes for the meeting Thursday 6th July 2023	
Resolution:	Recommended on the motion of Cr Bob Mathews and Heather Trevaskis that the minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 6 th July 2023 as circulated, be confirmed as a true and correct record of the proceedings.
5. Action from previous minutes – Deputy Chair	
Minutes:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Proposed New Event – Bob/Navneet to provide a proposal. Committee suggested to aim for November 2024. TEDO, Cr Mathews and Navneet to arrange a meeting, with letters going to organisations in Wagga and Albury for their support. Outstanding.LEP Review - Local Housing and Employment Strategy small presentation. TEDO to present to TEDSC in July. CompleteEV Chargers signage and promotions. Listed on website and brochures where applicable. Signage to be added soon – Outstanding.Pleasant Hills Hall - new disabled toilet sign to go out the front. Sign on orderWalk of Fame – Project progressing. Damage to original signsMemberships – Country Change – Report in Share Drive. Membership Decline Complete. CEO of RDA Riverina to be invited to present to TEDSC in February. Date TBCPastoral Shadows of Brookong updates. OutstandingBus Trip of Shire for local Business - OutstandingTrucks are using air brakes along East St in Lockhart and along the Olympic

	<p>Highway in The Rock, can signage be installed to encourage the limit compression breaking.</p> <p>Outstanding - Sign on order for East St, Lockhart. Director of Engineering to discuss with Transport for NSW regarding Olympic Highway</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Membership of TEDSC - invite members of the community and those that participated in the Business Excellence Awards along to the September meeting who may be interested in joining or to learn about what the TEDSC does. Complete with question from TEDO • Business Excellence Awards – set down for May 2025 – Complete. • Visit Riverina Membership Sign up - Complete. • Visit Wagga Wagga Membership Sign Up – Complete. • 97-109 Green Street – Need to set a date for a suggested walk through and extra meeting. • Brochures – see below. • The Rock Railway Station – Ongoing – moved to project list.
Actions:	<p>TEDO and members to continue to work on outstanding items and action the below.</p> <p>Members to advise TEDO of availability for Green Street Properties walk through as well as preferred times for meeting to discuss the draft Brookong Creek Masterplan.</p>
Resolution:	Recommended on the motion of Michelle Bailey and Cr Bob Mathews that the committee note the completed actions and the TEDO and other members action the outstanding items as noted.
6. Brochures/Guides/Parking at Greens Gonyah – Heather/TEDO	
Minutes:	<p>Heather requested that the Council develop a new brochure for the four large-scale murals throughout the Shire.</p> <p>Regarding parking outside the Greens Gonyah Museum, discussions have started with the Museum Executive, Austin Morris (Director Engineering and Environmental Services) and Cr Mathews and is seeking support from the TEDSC.</p>
Actions:	TEDO to action the new brochure and meet with Austin Morris to discuss parking options.
Resolution:	Recommended on the motion of Cr Bob Mathews and Michelle Bailey that Council support the design and printing of a new brochure for the large-scale murals and support the Greens Gonyah Museum with their request for the upgrade and design of a new parking area in and off Urana Street, including signage.
7. TEDO six months presentation to Council - TEDO	
Minutes:	TEDO tabled the presentation he gave to Council in August.
Actions:	NIL
Resolution:	Recommended on the motion by Cr Bob Mathews and Heather Trevaskis that Council note the above.
8. Project/Ideas guidelines for TEDSC Members - Michelle	
Minutes:	Michelle provided a draft document for the TEDSC to consider for guiding members who would like to take on/or start a project. Potential to be included in the Terms of Reference.

Actions:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Michelle to share with TEDO for review. • Members to provide feedback to Michelle by end of September. • Chair, Deputy Chair and TEDO to meet to finalise draft. • Draft to be reviewed by the General Manager. • Draft to be added to the November TEDSC Agenda for recommendation to Council. • Project Template to be updated by TEDO.
Resolution:	Recommended on the motion by Heather Trevaskis and Cr Fran Day that Council action the above.
9. Livability/Investment/New Residents Kit Promotion of Lockhart Shire - TEDO	
Minutes:	TEDO provided a report to the TEDSC for its consideration
Actions:	Members to provide feedback to TEDO by the end of September on the future promotion of livability of Lockhart Shire.
Resolution:	Recommended on the motion by Cr Bob Mathews and Heather Trevaskis that Council continue to scope the project and report back in November.
10. Visitor Information Boards - TEDO	
Minutes:	TEDO provided a report to the TEDSC for its consideration. Members agreed to further scope inclusive static boards instead of electric touch screens.
Actions:	TEDO to further scope inclusive static boards and report back in November.
Resolution:	Recommended on the motion by Heather Trevaskis and Michelle Bailey that Council investigate inclusive static visitor information boards to be installed across the Shire.
11. Water Tower Way/Tim Fischer Way - TEDO	
Minutes:	TEDO provided a report to the TEDSC for its consideration
Actions:	TEDO to continue scoping the project and report back either in November or February. Members to provide feedback on the possible alternate names.
Resolution:	Recommended on the motion by Heather Trevaskis and Cr Fran Day that Council continue the scoping of the project.
12. Museum Advisor Report July and August – TEDO/Heather	
Minutes:	Heather and TEDO presented the July and August reports from the Museum Advisor.
Actions:	Nil
Resolution:	Recommended on the motion by Michelle Bailey and Heather Trevaskis that Council note the report.
13. Project Update - TEDO	
Minutes:	Matt provided update of current projects
Actions:	Nil
Resolution:	Recommended on the motion by Heather Trevaskis and Michelle Bailey that Council note the above information.
14. Questions/Comments/Feedback/Updates	
Question – Cr Mathews	Establish a Sister City Sub Committee (or a section 355 committee) consisting of schools, Ag Bureau, tourism representative, business representative and this group - would only need 3 or 4 members and report back to TEDSC.

*Lockhart Shire Council
Ordinary Meeting – 18 September 2023*

Answer/Action	TEDO agreed that this is worth looking into, subject to hearing back from Lockhart Texas. TEDO to follow up.
Question – Cr Mathews	Galore Hill Masterplan. I believe we could do small bites to promote this area as the masterplan is not going to occur any time soon. An interested users group consisting of local farmers, bush walkers, conservationists, flora and fauna parties and history lovers (the museum) could report back to TEDSC.
Answer/Action	TEDO advised the Galore Hill Masterplan is on a shovel ready project list of five projects, in priority order determined by the Council. Galore Hill Masterplan is at the bottom of the priority order. TEDO also advised the idea of a masterplan is identifying the full potential of a location, with community input. Creating a strategic plan and implementing it over a period of time in lieu of an ad hoc approach. TEDO further advised that the Council did seek quotes for the Masterplan, which came in over budget.
Question – Cr Mathews	The LEP is approaching, and I would envisage an expo launch inviting landholders, builders, developers and potential house holders and residents to attend a Q and A evening at the Memorial Hall where Council could outline what their plans are to encourage and facilitate the development opportunities the LEP will inevitably create.
Answer/Action	TEDO agreed that this was a great opportunity and needs to be done at The Rock as well. However, the Draft LEP is a while off yet.
Question – Cr Mathews	I would like the concept of a "what's on" sign for Lockhart. The community wants it, as do all the organisations and committees that work tirelessly to bring amazing events and sporting activities to our town.
Answer/Actions:	TEDO responded that he is aware of discussion taken place with the General Manager, who has requested a concept plan for Council to consider.
Resolution:	Recommended on the motion by Cr Fran Day and Michelle Bailey that Cr Mathews provides more information to the TEDSC for its consideration on the above four projects at the November meeting.
15. Next meeting: Wednesday 8th November 2023 – Lockhart Council Chambers – 6pm	
Meeting Closed: 8.20pm	

Recommendation: That the minutes of the Tourism and Economic Development Steering Committee meeting held on 5 September 2023 be received and the recommendations therein be adopted.

159/23 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Day and Mathews that the minutes of the Tourism and Economic Development Steering Committee meeting held on 5 September 2023 be received and the recommendations therein be adopted.

DELEGATES' REPORTS

1. HERALD SUN BUSH SUMMIT - 17 AUGUST 2023

I report having attended, together with the General Manager, the Herald Sun Bush Summit held in Wodonga on 17 August 2023. This was the first in a series of Summits being held around the country focusing on rural and regional communities. The guest speakers and panel discussions included various ministers and shadow ministers as well as business, union and community representatives.

A Communique was released at the conclusion of the Summit which supported the following outcomes:

- Housing that supports economic growth
- Better access to essential services – particularly health care
- Supporting the resilience of regional economies and growth through policy settings that encourage business and industry investment
- Investing in roads and critical transport infrastructure
- Ensuring regional communities are treated fairly in the energy transition
- Social infrastructure, skills and labour.

Cr Greg Verdon
Delegate

2. INLAND RAIL (ALBURY TO ILLABO) COMMUNITY CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE - 23 AUGUST 2023 AT WAGGA WAGGA

I attended a meeting of the Inland Rail Community Consultative Committee (CCC) as Council's Delegate. This was the first meeting of the CCC since an independent review of the project was announced by the Government. The following points were noted:

- An Independent Review of the project has been undertaken and the Government released the Review's findings in April 2023.
- All 19 recommendations emanating from the Review have been accepted by the Government including confirmation of the route. The Wagga Wagga bypass, for which some stakeholders were advocating, is not in the scope of the project.
- The Review also recommended that works relating to the section south of Parkes be prioritised.
- In accordance with the Review's recommendations a new legal entity has been established to deliver the project i.e. Inland Rail Pty Ltd in lieu of the Inland Rail project team being within the Australian Rail Track Corporation (ARTC).
- The final environmental approvals are currently being sought for the Albury to Illabo section.
- The construction contract has been awarded to Martinus Rail, an Australian company, for the Albury to Illabo and the Stockinbingal to Parkes sections.
- Construction is expected to commence on the Albury to Illabo section in mid-2024 with project completion expected in mid-2027.
- A Preferred Infrastructure Report (PIR) is being prepared. The PIR is the proponent's response to the issues raised in submissions and may also outline any proposed changes to the State significant infrastructure to minimise its environmental impact or to deal with any other issue raised during the assessment of the development application. The PIR will focus on, amongst other things:
 - Clarification of train numbers across the network.
 - The likely timing of an uplift in train numbers.
 - Posted track speed (what the track infrastructure can accommodate).
 - Ruling train speed (what each wagon can do based on weight load or condition).
 - More detailed analysis of construction impacts on traffic and pedestrians.
 - Modelling of noise impacts and noise mitigation options.

- Public exhibition engagement for the PIR will include workshops with Council staff and government departments, briefings with councillors and MPs, Henty Machinery Field Days community stand, community drop-in sessions, online information presentation as well as a full copy of the PIR being made available on the Department of Planning and Environment's website.
- Inlands Rail's Sponsorship and Donations Program is continuing with four funding rounds per year.

Arrangements are being made for Inland Rail representatives to brief Councillors on the project and the PIR prior to the 16 October Council meeting.

Peter Veneris
General Manager

3. REROC BOARD MEETING – 25 AUGUST 2023

I participated in the REROC Board Meeting on 25 August 2023 together with the General Manager. Points of interest arising from the meeting include the following:

- The REROC Constitution is being reviewed so that it meets the requirements of the Incorporations Act and includes the change providing Associate Members with a vote. The final version will be tabled at the AGM to be held in October 2023 for adoption.
- The REROC Board proposes to visit Parliament House Sydney on 12 October 2023 and arrangements are currently being made to meet with various Ministers at that time.
- REROC will lodge an application to the Regional Housing Fund to undertake a Study that identifies land that has been banked but is suitable for development.
- The *Recycle Night? Recycle Right!* and the Community Recycling Centre education campaigns continue across the region on WIN and Prime.
- The website aimed at reducing contamination in kerbside FOGO collections is running. However, there has been a delay in the production of the television commercials.
- Two pilot desktop studies will be undertaken to look at landfill gas capture. Temora and Culcairn have been chosen as the bigger landfills, which will determine whether biogas capture is viable.
- The *No Time to Waste* conference is being held on 18-20 October 2023.
- The *Mapped Out* spatial information conference is planned for November 2023.

Cr Greg Verdon
Delegate

4. RIVERINA WATER COUNTY COUNCIL BOARD MEETING – 24 AUGUST 2023

To support the work of its Board members and provide regular information to its constituent councils, Riverina Water distributes a summary of the key reports from its six Board meetings per year.

The aim is to keep constituent councils informed of relevant matters including water usage, development and growth, documents and policies in development, strategies and plans and other major decisions.

The update relating to the Board meeting held on 24 August 2023 has been distributed separately to Councillors.

5. NSW COUNTRY MAYORS ASSOCIATION – RURAL & REGIONAL HEALTH FORUM – 15 SEPTEMBER 2023

The Mayor Cr Greg Verdon, together with Councillors Day and Hunter and the General Manager, attended the NSW Country Mayors Association Rural and Regional Health Forum held at Wagga on 15 September 2023.

The Forum was addressed by a variety of guest speakers including:

- Member for Wagga Wagga, the Hon Dr Joe McGirr MP, outlined the Murrumbidgee Health and Knowledge Precinct which seeks to bring together health partners, education, industry and local communities to develop innovative solutions to providing remote, rural and regional communities

with exceptional healthcare solutions, as opposed to the current approach of applying city-based solutions to regional areas.

- Rural Health Commissioner, Australian Department of Health, Professor Ruth Stewart, spoke on attracting and connecting with a generalist workforce and the role of the community in supporting the health workforce to stay.
- CEO of MLHD and Acting Deputy Secretary NSW Regional Health Division, Jill Ludford, discussed the Statewide community engagement approach from the perspective of the Regional Health Division.
- Director Engagement, Rural Doctors Network, Jeremy Mitchell, outlined the many complex issues involved in training and retaining doctors in rural areas and the steps it is taking to implement the MOUs it has signed with local government bodies to consult and co-design solutions with local government.
- NSW Parliamentary Secretary for Health, Dr Michael Holland, focused on “Growing our Own: Rural Workforce Initiatives” and noted that doctors, nurses and allied health professionals need to be supported. To recruit, develop and retain health professionals is the number one priority and the NSW Government is committed to increasing the number of health workers across NSW. He also said the Government needs to increase the number of Rural Generalist Doctors positions and particularly GP training positions in rural areas. It is about education and professional development. Development of Universities and new graduates educated locally having a better chance of staying locally.
- Executive Director Medical Services MLHD, Professor Len Bruce, described the Murrumbidgee Rural Generalist Training Pathway, the single employer model that was initiated and trialled in the MLHD and is now being extended to other parts of NSW.
- District Director Nursing and Midwifery MLHD, Christine Stephens, outlined strategies for attracting and retaining nursing and midwifery students and supporting early carer nursing staff.
- Member for Riverina, the Hon Michael McCormack MP, spoke about the Murray-Darling Medical Schools Network.
- Shadow Assistant Minister for Regional Health, Tanya Thompson MP, drew attention to the work of the Select Committee on Remote, Rural and Regional Health, and the implementation of the recommendations of the inquiry into access to health and hospital services in regional, rural and remote, areas.
- Director Information and Performance Support, Brendan Cutmore, and Director Strategy, Governance and Delivery, NSW Regional Health Division, Michelle Maxwell, gave a presentation on equity and access in healthcare.
- Staff Specialist Geriatrician, Dr Matthew Thompson, and District Manager for Aged Care MLHD, Rosemary Garthwaite talked about the role of Multi-Purposes Services in rural and regional aged care in an ageing population.

Cr Greg Verdon

Cr Fran Day

Cr Jane Hunter

Recommendation: that the Delegates' Reports be received.

160/23 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 21 August 2023			
154/23	GM	<p>Proposed Sale of Lot 5 Reid Street, Lockhart Council:</p> <p>1) Authorise the General Manager to negotiate the sale of Lot 5 DP758621 Reid Street Lockhart in accordance with the security of purpose conditions and the updated independent valuation outlined in the report.</p> <p>2) Authorise the Mayor and General Manager to execute the Deed of Agreement for the Construction of a Car Wash under Council's seal.</p>	Proponents have been informed of Council's resolution and updated independent valuation and a response is awaited.
151/23	GM	<p>Policy Reviews</p> <p>1. That the following Policies, as presented, be adopted:</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">a) Policy 2.10 Authority to Undertake Enforcement Actions</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">b) Policy 2.18 Private Water Pipes Under Roadways</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">c) Policy 2.26 Signs as Remote Supervision</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">d) Policy 2.27 Constructed Footpath Risk Management</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">e) Policy 2.30 Dust Suppression</p> <p>2. That Policy 2.29 Equipment Hire for Emergency Situations be rescinded.</p>	Policy Register updated. Complete.
150/23	MP&E	<p>Draft Model Contaminated Land Policy</p> <p>That Council places the draft Model Contaminated Land Policy on public exhibition for a period of 28 days.</p>	Draft Model Policy placed on Council's website 25/8/2023. Exhibition period expires on 22/9/2023. Complete

Lockhart Shire Council
Ordinary Meeting – 18 September 2023

Minute No:	Officer to Action	Council Resolution	Action Taken
148/23	GM	<p>Guidelines for Audit, Risk and Improvement Committees</p> <p>that Council continue to participate in the Internal Audit Alliance and endorse the following arrangements for the purpose of transitioning the Alliance to the requirements outlined in the <i>Guidelines for Risk Management and Internal Audit for Local Councils in NSW</i> issued by OLG:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A separate ARIC continue to be maintained by each member council as opposed to establishing a single shared ARIC for all six councils. 2. Member councils appoint the same independent chairperson that meets the eligibility criteria following an expression of interest process. 3. A panel comprising persons that meet the eligibility criteria be established following an expression of interest process from which member councils can appoint two independent ARIC members. 4. Member councils share the cost of employing an Internal Audit Coordinator. 5. Member councils continue to share the cost of a contracted internal auditor where possible. 	To be progressively implemented in conjunction with other Internal Audit Alliance member councils.
146/23	DEES	<p>Road Upgrade Program</p> <p>That Council:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) notes the information in the report; and b) an increase of \$150,000 to the annual road maintenance budget be incorporated into the first quarterly budget review for the 2023/24 year. c) investigates the possibility of upgrading the EF section of Commera Wilson Lane. 	Investigation into Commera Wilson Lane upgrade is continuing and a report will be considered in conjunction with the quarterly budget review, to be tabled at the November 2023 Council meeting.
141/23	DEES	<p>Spirit of the Land Lockhart – Request for Financial Assistance</p> <p>that Council continues to support the Spirit of the Land Festival and that the contribution be funded from the 2023/24 budget allocation for Section 356 contributions as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) \$12,000 in 2023/24; b) \$12,000 in 2024/25; and c) \$12,000 in 2025/26. 	Committee has been notified of Council's decision. Complete.
140/23	DCCS	<p>Request for Financial Assistance – Lockhart Lions Club</p> <p>That Council increases its annual contribution to the Lockhart Lions Club's freight costs from \$3,200 per year to \$4,000 per year.</p>	Lockhart Lions Club has been notified of Council's decision. Complete.

Lockhart Shire Council
Ordinary Meeting – 18 September 2023

Minute No:	Officer to Action	Council Resolution	Action Taken
Ordinary Council Meeting held 17 July 2023			
130/23	GM	<p>LG NSW Annual Conference</p> <p>1. Appoint the Mayor as its voting delegate at the 2023 LGNSW Annual Conference; and</p> <p>2. Nominates one other Councillor to attend the Annual Conference together with the Mayor and the General Manager.</p>	<p>Awaiting confirmation of other councillor to attend the Conference with the Mayor to complete conference registration.</p> <p>(Refer Staff Report 7)</p>
123/23	DCCS	<p>Request for Financial Assistance – Yerong Creek Recreation Ground Management Committee</p> <p>1. Council provides financial assistance in the amount of \$27,000 to the Yerong Creek Recreation Ground Management Committee and that the contribution be funded from the “Community Financial Assistance S356” internally restricted reserve, with all repairs and maintenance to be met by the Management Committee.</p> <p>2. Existing Toro zero turn mower be transported to the Lockhart Depot for Council’s mechanics to undertake an assessment of repairs required. Any repairs up to the value of \$5,000 be costed to Plant Running Expenses.</p>	<p>1. Council is liaising with representatives of the management committee in sourcing a second-hand mower.</p> <p>Second hand mower sourced from Toro NSW, arranging delivery and inspection prior to accepting quote.</p> <p>2. Transport of Toro zero turn mower to Lockhart is to be arranged.</p>
120/23	GM	<p>Draft Plan of Management – Crown Reserves for Which Council is the Crown Land Manager and Council-owned Land Classified as “Community”</p> <p>Council endorses the amendments made to the Draft Plan of Management as outlined in the report, including the area of The Rock Recreation Ground to be categorised as General Community Use, and endorse the amended Plan for public exhibition.</p>	<p>Amended Draft Plan of Management submitted to Crown Lands Office for approval to be placed on public Exhibition.</p> <p>Crown Lands Office has advised that further investigation needs to be undertaken in relation to General Community Use of the Lockhart Recreation Ground (pre-school) due to inconsistency with the gazetted purpose of the Reserve.</p> <p>It is proposed to publicly exhibit the balance of the PoM pending this further investigation.</p> <p>(Refer Staff Report 3).</p>

Lockhart Shire Council
Ordinary Meeting – 18 September 2023

Minute No:	Officer to Action	Council Resolution	Action Taken
119/23	GM	<p>Phase 4 Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Grants Program</p> <p>Council nominates the following projects for funding under Phase 4 of the LRCI grant program:</p> <p>Part A: Local road and community infrastructure projects</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Rock Show Society – new show pavilion \$ 200,000 2. Figtree Road intersection \$ 100,000 3. Pleasant Hills Tennis Courts \$ 80,000 4. Lockhart Community gym/health & wellbeing centre \$ 290,000 5. Lockhart Golf Club storage shed \$ 40,000 6. Pleasant Hills Recreation Ground amenities block \$ 100,000 7. Roads \$ 36,561 <p>Part B: Road projects</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Shoulder widening – “Davidsons Hill”, Yerong Creek Mangoplah Rd (500m) \$ 300,000 2. Vincents Road – seal 2km \$ 225,000 	<p>Nominated projects submitted to the Department of Infrastructure and awaiting approval.</p> <p>The Department has advised that the Lockhart Golf Club storage shed project does not meet the eligibility criteria and that Council should nominate an alternative project. (Refer Staff Report 1).</p>
Ordinary Council Meeting held 19 June 2023			
100/23	DEES	<p>Proposed Speed Limit Changes – Green Street, Lockhart</p> <p>That Council seeks approval through Transport for NSW to introduce a 40km/h high pedestrian zone in Green Street, between Matthews Street and Day Street.</p>	<p>Awaiting information from Transport for NSW regarding new guidelines for the high pedestrian zones.</p>

*Lockhart Shire Council
Ordinary Meeting – 18 September 2023*

Minute No:	Officer to Action	Council Resolution	Action Taken
95/23	GM	<p>Magnolia Lodge and Youth Flats – Development Options</p> <p>That Council approach the Department of Communities and Justice - Housing to gauge the Department's interest in:</p> <p>a) Constructing additional independent living units and/or youth flats on the existing sites in accordance with Option 3 outlined in this report; or</p> <p>b) Consenting to Council subdividing the land on which the Youth Flats are situated with the new vacant lot created by the subdivision being developed in its own right in accordance with Option 4 outlined in this report; or</p> <p>c) Transferring its equity in the properties to Council free of cost in return for an undertaking from Council that the land will be further developed for independent living units and/or rental accommodation to help alleviate the housing shortage in accordance with Option 5 outlined in this report.</p>	<p>Verbal and written contact has been made with the Department of Communities and Justice – Housing and a response is awaited.</p> <p>Response has been received. (Refer Staff Report 2).</p>
Ordinary Council Meeting held 15 May 2023			
70/23	DCCS	<p>Appointment of Section 355 Committees</p> <p>That Council:</p> <p>1. Establish the Lockhart Golf Course Management Committee pursuant to section 355 of the Local Government Act and delegate to that Committee, care, control and management of the Lockhart Golf Course, being part Crown Reserve 620047 as shown on the attached plan, pursuant to section 377 of the Local Government Act.</p> <p>2. Establish the Lockhart Airstrip Management Committee pursuant to section 355 of the Local Government Act and delegate to that Committee, care, control and management of the Lockhart Airstrip and that part of Crown Reserve 620047 on which the hangars are situated as shown on the attached plan, pursuant to section 377 of the Local Government Act.</p>	<p>1. Meeting with Treasurer of the Lockhart Golf Club has occurred with the S355 to commence as of 1 July 2023. Complete</p> <p>2. An initial meeting with stakeholders was held and a committee formed. Complete.</p>

Lockhart Shire Council
Ordinary Meeting – 18 September 2023

Minute No:	Officer to Action	Council Resolution	Action Taken
Ordinary Council Meeting held 20 March 2023			
44/23	DCCS/ DEES	<p>Lockhart Airstrip</p> <p>That Council:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepares a new lease for the use of land being Certificate of Title Volume 15397 Folio 249 being Part Portion 49 for use as an airstrip for the amount of \$2,500. • Renews the lease for a period of 12 months, during which time the use of the airstrip be monitored and the formation of a sec355 Committee to manage the airstrip and associated facilities be investigated. • Undertakes a review of the lease to ensure any clauses referring to the Community Forest comply with the gazetted use of that Crown reserve; and • Investigates options for leasing the airstrip hangars to interested parties. 	<p>All submitters have been notified of the resolution. Complete</p> <p>Draft lease has been agreed to by the Landlord and awaiting execution. Complete</p> <p>Removed from lease. Complete</p> <p>To be undertaken by S355 committee once operational. Ongoing. Complete</p>
Ordinary Council Meeting held 13 February 2023			
26/23	GM	<p>Proposed Acquisition of Land</p> <p>That, subject to obtaining the landowner's consent, Council authorises the General Manager to prepare and submit a development application for the development of a car park on the land situated at Lot 2 DP1196082.</p>	<p>Development application has been lodged with landowner's consent and currently being assessed. Application has been notified, one submission has been received. Additional information is being sought.</p>
9/23	GM	<p>Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements</p> <p>In accordance with the outcome of the Councillor Workshop held earlier in the day, Council nominates the following projects for funding under the Local Government Recovery Grants Program:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Emily Street, The Rock – drainage improvements 2. Cole Street, Yerong Creek – drainage improvements 3. Green Street West, Lockhart – drainage improvements 4. Flood Detour Road – culvert installation 5. Waste Mgt Facilities Access Roads 6. Community information initiative (social media) 7. Access Road – Golf Club 	<p>Projects submitted to the Office of Local Government and funds received.</p> <p>More detailed costings and work plans have been submitted and awaiting approval.</p>

Lockhart Shire Council
Ordinary Meeting – 18 September 2023

Minute No:	Officer to Action	Council Resolution	Action Taken
Ordinary Council Meeting held 19 September 2022			
195/22	GM	<p>Model Media Policy – Consultation Draft</p> <p>That the information be noted and consideration be given to adopting the Model Media Policy when Council's current Media Policy 1.2 is scheduled for review in October 2023.</p>	Deferred for consideration in October 2023.
Ordinary Council Meeting held 18 July 2022			
141/22	GM	<p>Request for Council to Purchase Private Access</p> <p>Council agrees to the request in principle subject to Council and the applicants agreeing to a reasonable cost sharing arrangement.</p>	Survey plan has signed by the affected landowners and now forwarded to the Mortgagee Bank for signature. Application for subdivision certificate has been approved and instructions issued for preparation of a contract of sale.
Ordinary Council Meeting held 16 May 2022			
109/22	GM	<p>Tender – 109 Green Street</p> <p>Council declines to accept the tender received from ASCO Group (Aust) Pty Ltd for the provision of public toilets at 109 Green Street Lockhart and seek separate quotations for the individual components of the project for the following reasons:</p> <p>a) Seeking separate quotations and being able to negotiate with different contractors for the different components of the project will provide more flexibility in seeking the most cost-effective solution bearing in mind that the funding approved under Round 4 of the Stronger Country Community Fund is less than the amount for which Council applied.</p> <p>b) Accepting the one tender that has been received for the public toilets without a contract in place for the community space component of the project will prove problematic as the community space and landscaping is critical to providing access to the public toilets.</p>	Site is being prepared, with concrete plinth seating. Toilets will be open and accessible for Spirit of the Land Festival.
Ordinary Council Meeting held 21 March 2022			
56/22	GM	<p>Development of Lockhart Industrial Estate</p> <p>Council prepares a subdivision application for the development of Stage 3 of the Lockhart Industrial Estate.</p>	Development application has been lodged and is currently being assessed. Application has been notified to adjoining landowners. No submissions received.

Lockhart Shire Council
Ordinary Meeting – 18 September 2023

Minute No:	Officer to Action	Council Resolution	Action Taken
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”.	Proposed to incorporate “Tim Fischer Way” touring route on new Visit Lockhart Shire website. Phase 1 complete with new website now live. Functionality to facilitate “Tim Fischer Way” touring route being developed is part of Phase 2 of the new website to be progressed in 2023/24. TEDO to continue scoping the project and report back to the TEDSC either in November 2023 or February 2024.
Ordinary Council Meeting held 19 April 2021			
63/21	GM	Residential Development – Lockhart 2) That Council proceed with the subdivision of Lots 62 and 90 Prichard Place Lockhart as outlined in the report. 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.	The development application for Lot 62 (westernmost lot) has been approved. The application for Lot 90 has now also been approved. Subdivision works to be scheduled. Quotes from contractors being sought. Sewer design currently being prepared.
Ordinary Council Meeting held 21 August 2023 – Councillor Questions & Statements			
Questions & Statements	DEES	Cr Marston: Vincents Road Referred to grading being undertaken at the southern end of Vincents Road and asked if a culvert is going to be installed at that end to assist with drainage issues?	No current plans for culvert installation, will be investigated further.
	GM	Cr Marston: Defibrillator Availability Mentioned a recent tragedy and asked if it might be possible to move the automatic defibrillator from inside the swimming pool complex to outside the gate to make it available at any hour.	Advice has been sought from the Royal Life Saving Society who undertake compliance audits of swimming pools to ensure that the suggested location will still be compliant. In accordance with the advice received a risk assessment will be carried out against the relevant criteria and placed on record before the defibrillator is relocated.
	DEES	Cr Marston: Toilets, The Rock Recreation Ground Referred to the public toilets at The Rock Recreation Ground which require heavy cleaning as they are unhygienic at the moment with mould growing in places.	Works request issued.
	DEES	Cr Marston: Back Lanes, The Rock Asked if there was a similar maintenance program for the urban back lanes as there is for more major roads.	No current maintenance program for back lanes, current priority is storm-damaged roads.

Lockhart Shire Council
Ordinary Meeting – 18 September 2023

Minute No:	Officer to Action	Council Resolution	Action Taken
	MP&E	Cr Day: Food Safety Inspections Asked what acknowledgement is given to local businesses of good food safety practice, and to promote confidence for consumers? Could Council consider the "Scores on Doors" programs?	Advice has been received from the NSW Food Authority on how to implement the program. Further information is included in the Engineering & Environmental Services Report (Staff Report 4).
	DEES	Cr Hunter: Plunkett Street, Yerong Creek Referred to the main street of Yerong Creek and asked if it was included in the current repair/maintenance program and, if so, where in the timeline it was placed.	Plunkett Street is on current program. Works planned for over summer period.
	DEES	Cr Walker: Slys Lane Advised he has received a request from the users of this road for the Earth Formed section to be formed up as it is badly washed away. The users have offered to maintain it once it is formed.	Earth formation section is for dry weather access only. Not included for upgrade in recent discussions.
	DEES	Cr Verdon: Laneway Maintenance Referred to the laneway between Mixner Street and The Rock Bowling Club which has some gigantic potholes and also the laneway between Nicholas and King Street off Mixner Street which also has issues.	Potholes have been assessed and scheduled for maintenance based on priority.
Ordinary Council Meeting held 17 July 2023 – Councillor Questions & Statements			
Questions & Statements	DEES	Cr Marston: The Rock Bowling Club, Telegraph Pole Referred to a telegraph pole in Wilson Street, at the rear of The Rock Bowling Club, and drew attention to a hole in the ground adjacent which is covered by grass. Cr Marston requested that Council inspect and carry out remedial work as it is a hazard for pedestrians.	Works have been completed.
	DCCS	Cr Day: International Volunteer Day, 5 December Referred to the proposal to seek funding for an event to celebrate International Day for People with a Disability on 3 December and enquired could this be combined with an event to celebrate International Volunteer Day on 5 December?	To be combined with International Day for People with Disabilities, 3 December per Res. 30/23.
	DEES	Cr Walker: Town Entrance Sign, The Rock Mangoplah Road Drew attention to this sign which requires some maintenance to straighten it up.	Remedial works have been completed.
	DEES	Cr Rockliff: Lockhart Museum Entrance Referred to the area in front of Lockhart Museum and asked if any progress has been made regarding the problem of water building up and covering the ramp and ponding under and around the ramp.	Works request created.

Lockhart Shire Council
Ordinary Meeting – 18 September 2023

Minute No:	Officer to Action	Council Resolution	Action Taken
	DEES	Cr Verdon: Yerong Street – adj. to Branch Line Drew attention to potholes in Yerong Street, adjacent to the branch line, which require some attention.	Works have been completed.
Ordinary Council Meeting held 19 June 2023 – Councillor Questions & Statements			
Questions & Statements	GM	Cr Rockliff: CCTV Requested a progress report on this project, given the problems which have occurred lately, and also asked if the funds currently set aside will be enough to complete the project.	Scope extended to include entrance to Lockhart Caravan park and The Rock Golf Club. Contractor engaged.
Ordinary Council Meeting held 15 May 2023 – Councillor Questions & Statements			
Questions & Statements	DCCS	Recreation Ground Lights Cr Jane Hunter: requested an update in relation to this project. Cr Gail Driscoll: asked is it possible that Council will not get the funding required and if so, can a Plan B be developed. Plan A is for the installation of LED lights. Can Plan B be making the towers safe and putting standard lights on them.	Costings received, contractor engaged. Work commenced. Lights at The Rock recreation ground should be installed on existing poles week of 21 August.
	DEES	Cr Sharp - South end of Lallarook Lane is a washout where water has been running over the road and not through the culvert and asked whether the culvert could be moved	Options being investigated for culvert location.
	DCCS	Cr Bob Mathews – Youth Officer: Advised that with the possibility of a sister city with Lockhart, Texas USA and the engagement through local schools, it is important that consideration be given to the appointment of a Youth Officer.	Position Description being developed.
Ordinary Council Meeting held 17 April 2023 – Councillor Questions & Statements			
Questions & Statements	DEES	Cr Marston: Yerong Creek Mittagong Road Culvert – Trees Encroaching Referred to this culvert (near the Vincents Road intersection) where trees are encroaching on the road, and asked if Council could investigate trimming these trees.	Works request created.
Ordinary Council Meeting held 13 February 2023 – Councillor Questions & Statements			
Questions & Statements	DCCS	Cr Sharp: Old Building, Pleasant Hills Recreation Ground Referred to an old building, possibly change rooms dating back to the 1950's, which have become dangerous, with loose roofing sheets etc. Cr Sharp asked if it can be demolished.	Councillor Sharp is to liaise with "management committee" volunteers to demolish old building. At this stage will be scheduled when crops are in.

Lockhart Shire Council
Ordinary Meeting – 18 September 2023


Minute No:	Officer to Action	Council Resolution	Action Taken
Ordinary Council Meeting held 21 November 2022 – Councillor Questions & Statements			
Questions & Statements	DCCS	Cr Hunter: Tiled Wall outside The Rock Gym Referred to a problem with tiles on the external wall of The Rock Pool near the gym and asked what was being done to rectify the issue.	Builders have indicated the 300x100 yellow tiles are no longer available and are attempting to source alternative sized tiles. Builder still trying to source matching yellow tiles.
Ordinary Council Meeting held 17 October 2022 – Councillor Questions & Statements			
Questions & Statements	DEES/ DCCS	Cr Verdon: Disability Access Across the Shire Referred to Kurt Fearnley's speech at the recent Lockhart Community Bank branch birthday celebrations. The speech was a reminder that people with disabilities are entitled to access. Cr Verdon suggested an audit be carried out, with a view to improving access across the Shire, making sure all Council facilities are accessible to all residents.	Audit will be undertaken when resources permit. Scope of works being put together to include the buildings and open spaces to be audited.
Ordinary Council Meeting held 18 July 2022 – Councillor Questions & Statements			
Questions & Statements	DCCS/ DEES	Cr Marston – The Rock Pony Club Advised that pony clubs are now required to load and unload horses from their floats in an enclosed area and requested some minor improvements to facilitate this.	Works are being scheduled into the works program. Culvert on Yerong St to be installed in coming weeks. Internal gravel works hampered by water pooling, needing ground to dry out.
Ordinary Council Meeting held 20 June 2022 – Councillor Questions & Statements			
Questions & Statements	DCCS	Cr Hunter – Yerong Creek Bowling Club Advised the Bowling Club are still awaiting receipt of an Occupation Certificate for the building.	Majority of work has been completed. Additional fire extinguishers being sourced by Club. When installed, final fire safety inspection will be scheduled.

Correspondence Received

Date sent to Councillors	From	Subject
1 Sept 2023	The Mayor, via Executive Assistant	Mayoral Update
11 Sept 2023	General Manager	Nomination Forms – Election of Mayor and Deputy Mayor

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

161/23 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Day and Walker that the Status Report and Correspondence Précis be received.


 CHAIRPERSON

STAFF REPORTS

STRATEGIC DIRECTION A: A Connected and Resilient Community

1. PHASE 4 LOCAL ROADS AND COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE GRANTS PROGRAM

(GM: 23/10263)

Executive Summary

Council, at its meeting held on 17 July 2023, determined the projects to be nominated for funding under the Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Phase 4 grants program (LRCI-P4). Advice has now been received from the funding body that one of the nominated projects does not meet the eligibility criteria and that Council should nominate an alternative project in its place.

Report

The following amounts have been allocated to Lockhart Shire Council under the LRCI-P4 grants program:

1. Part A: \$846,561 to spend on priority local road and community infrastructure projects,
2. Part B: \$488,315 to spend on road projects in rural, regional and outer urban areas.

A Councillor Workshop to consider projects that could be funded under LRCI-P4 was held prior to the Ordinary meeting of Council on 17 July 2023. At the Council meeting held on that day following the Workshop it was resolved:

“That in accordance with the outcome of the Councillor Workshop held earlier in the day, Council nominates the following projects for funding under Phase 4 of the LRCI grant program:

Part A: Local road and community infrastructure projects

- | | |
|---|------------|
| 1. The Rock Show Society – new show pavilion | \$ 200,000 |
| 2. Figtree Road intersection | \$ 100,000 |
| 3. Pleasant Hills Tennis Courts | \$ 80,000 |
| 4. Lockhart Community gym/health & wellbeing centre | \$ 290,000 |
| 5. Lockhart Golf Club storage shed | \$ 40,000 |
| 6. Pleasant Hills Recreation Ground amenities block | \$ 100,000 |
| 7. Roads | \$ 36,561 |

Part B: Road projects

- | | |
|--|-------------|
| 1. Shoulder widening – “Davidsons Hill”, Yerong Creek Mangoplah Rd
(German Church Road intersection) (500m) | \$ 300,000 |
| 2. Vincents Road – seal 2km | \$ 225,000” |

After submitting the above listed projects to the Department of Infrastructure, the Department has advised that the Lockhart Golf Club storage shed (item 5 on the above list) does not meet the eligibility criteria and that Council should nominate an alternative project in its place.

In particular the Department has advised that:

- *this Project does not meet the eligibility requirements set out in the [LRCI Phase 4 Guidelines](#) as the “storage shed” does not claim to be generally accessible to the wider community, only the maintenance personnel who utilise the “mowing and spraying equipment”.*
- *This type of project is also mentioned in section 5.6 What the grant money cannot be used for e.g. purchase or improvement of structural assets that are not for the primary use and benefit of the local community (e.g. caretakers’ residence).*

The Lockhart Golf Club have been advised of the outcome and it is understood that the Club will instead seek funding for the storage shed through the Crown Reserves Improvement Fund grant program (CRIF) for which the next round of funding is expected to open in September 2023.

As Councillors will be aware a “Grants Wishlist” is maintained that comprises project ideas previously raised but that remain unfunded. The Wishlist is consulted when workshops are held for grant funding that becomes available.

To assist in considering alternative projects a copy of the “Grants Wishlist” was separately distributed to all Councillors and includes the projects raised by Councillors at the most recent Workshop held on 17 July that did not make the final list endorsed by Council for LRCI-P4 funding.

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 Council determine an alternative project for funding under the LRCI Phase 4 grant program to replace the project that has been ruled ineligible.

162/23 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Mathews and Day that improved parking arrangements at the Greens Gunyah Museum be nominated for funding under the LRCI Phase 4 grant program, in lieu of the project that has been ruled ineligible.

2. **MAGNOLIA LODGE AND YOUTH FLATS**

(GM: 23/10269)

Executive Summary

Council has previously resolved to reach out to the NSW Land and Housing Corporation regarding options for the future development of the land jointly owned by Council and the Corporation i.e. Magnolia Lodge independent living units and the Youth Flats. A response to Council’s representations has now been received.

Report

The Magnolia Lodge independent living units and the Youth Flats have been built pursuant to funding agreements entered into with the NSW Land and Housing Corporation (LAHC).

The 3 x 1-bedroom self-contained units for aged persons, known as Magnolia Lodge, are vested in the LAHC and Council in respective shares as follows:

- | | | |
|----|----------------------------------|--------|
| 1. | NSW Land and Housing Corporation | 63.04% |
| 2. | Lockhart Shire Council | 36.96% |

The land on which the independent living units are situated comprises 1,394 sqm. An aerial photograph of the property is attached.

The 4 x 1-bedroom self-contained units for young persons, known as the Youth Flats, are vested in the LAHC and Council in respective shares as follows:

- | | | |
|----|----------------------------------|--------|
| 1. | NSW Land and Housing Corporation | 81.81% |
| 2. | Lockhart Shire Council | 18.19% |

The land on which the Youth Flats are situated comprises 1,838 sqm. An aerial photograph of the property is attached which indicates that only half the site has been utilised making it possible to subdivide the property in two in order to excise a vacant lot for further development.

At the Council meeting held on 19 June 2023 a report canvassing various options for the further development of the two sites was considered by Council at which time it was resolved that Council approach the LAHC to gauge its interest in:

- a) Constructing additional independent living units and/or youth flats on the existing sites; or
- b) Consenting to Council subdividing the land on which the Youth Flats are situated with the new vacant lot created by the subdivision being developed in its own right; or
- c) Transferring its equity in the properties to Council free of cost in return for an undertaking from Council that the land will be further developed for independent living units and/or rental accommodation to help alleviate the housing shortage.

The following response has been received from the Corporation in relation to a), b) and c) above:

- a) Constructing additional independent living units and/or youth flats on the existing sites.

“Youth Flats – this site is only 50% utilised so we agree this may be viable to develop additional accommodation on the remnant portion of this lot. Photo imagery indicates one constraint might be the loss of significant trees which we suggest needs to be considered in any new development. We would appreciate if Council would present a concept plan of how any new youth accommodation and associated carparking would work.”

Magnolia Lodge – it is unclear how additional accommodation could be built at the rear of this site. LAHC would not support the demolition of the existing three properties as they are too recent (30years old) and the site zoning does not support sufficient additional accommodation to warrant demolition. Are you able to present a concept plan of how any new aged care residences and associated carparking might work?”

If Council sought to develop more new social homes on either of the two jointly owned lots without subdivision, we would consider revising the current Deeds between the parties to allow for such.

- b) Consenting to Council subdividing the land on which the Youth Flats are situated with the new vacant lot created by the subdivision being developed in its own right.

“Subject to our review and approval of any draft subdivision plan, we would consider this option provided Council is solely responsible for all costs associated with any subdivision. The subdivided land lot would need to be acquired by Council from LAHC at market value.

Additionally, in alignment with the recently formed state Government’s election mandate, a deed or other form of commitment may need to be signed/made to warrant that at least 30 per cent of all homes built on the subdivided lot (being surplus government land) will be set aside for social, affordable and universal housing.”

- c) Transferring its equity in the properties to Council free of cost in return for an undertaking from Council that the land will be further developed for independent living units and/or rental accommodation to help alleviate the housing shortage.

“Under current NSW Treasury guidelines LAHC is unable to consider any transfer of assets at no cost. However, LAHC is able to undertake a transaction as a ‘direct dealing’ with Council in this instance, with any transfer of LAHC’s share of the properties to occur at market value.

Another option we would consider is for Council to investigate if a Community Housing Provider may be interested in purchasing the LAHC-owned portion of the properties at market value.”

It is apparent that the site of the Youth Flats has the most development potential given that only half of the site is utilised by the existing development. Having regard to the LAHC’s response above, the following options are available to Council:

1. Option 1: Prepare concept plans for the development of the balance of the Magnolia Lodge and Youth Flats sites for consideration by the LAHC.

If a development was to proceed on the balance of the (unsubdivided) land of the Youth Flats site the current Deed of Agreement between the LAHC and Council may need to be amended as the current Agreement requires the housing on the land to be used exclusively for young persons.

2. Option 2: subdivide the land on which the Youth Flats are situated with the new vacant lot created by the subdivision being developed in its own right.
Under this scenario Council would need to meet all the costs of subdivision and acquire LHAC's share of the new vacant lot created at market value. Furthermore a deed or other form of commitment may need to be entered into to warrant that at least 30 per cent of all homes built on the subdivided lot (being surplus government land) will be set aside for social, affordable and universal housing.
3. Option 3: Investigate if a Community Housing Provider may be interested in purchasing the LAHC-owned portion of the properties at market value.

In considering the above options it is recommended that Council further investigate Option 1 by preparing concept plans for developing the balance of the Magnolia Lodge and Youth Flats sites for the LAHC's consideration. The benefit of this option is that it would capitalise on what is otherwise an underutilised site with a joint development between LHAC and Council.

Option 2 is not supported because Council has already committed to developing two residential estates in Prichard Place Lockhart. It would be much easier and more cost effective for Council to withhold from sale one or two of these lots, so that Council can develop them for rental accommodation, rather than having to subdivide the Youth Flats site and then acquire the LAHC's share at market value.

Developing its own lots in Prichard Place for rental accommodation would not only be more cost effective for Council but Council would also be able to develop the lots free of any constraints regarding tenancies. Whereas the sites jointly owned with the LAHC would have to be set aside for social, affordable and universal housing, Council may wish to address concerns regarding availability of housing for essential workers such as nurses, aged care workers and paramedics, or simply make housing available that facilitates a new business opening in the town.

With respect to Option 3, if Council was able to identify a Community Housing Provider interested in purchasing the LAHC-owned portion of the property at market value, any development would be undertaken jointly with that Community Housing Provider and Council would simply be replacing one development partner (LAHC) with another. This could remain an option if after further investigation Council was not able to get the LAHC to agree to further developing the site.

Integrated Planning and Reporting Reference

- 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.
- A3: Continue to support, advocate, and plan for high quality services and accommodation for our aged population.
- A3: Provide young residents with greater access to youth services.

Legislative Policy & Planning Implications

Further development of the subject properties will be subject to agreement between Council and the NSW Land and Housing Corporation, or a community housing provider and the lodgement of a development application in accordance with the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act.

Budget & Financial Aspects

No provision has been made in Council's current budget for the pursuit of any of the options identified in this report.

Attachments

1. Aerial Photograph – Magnolia Lodge Independent Living Units (Green Street Lockhart)
2. Aerial Photograph – Youth Flats (Drummond Street Lockhart)

Recommendation: That:

- 1) Concept plans be prepared for the development of additional accommodation on the Magnolia Lodge site in Green Street and the Youth Flats site in Drummond Street Lockhart to facilitate further investigation and negotiation with the NSW Land and Housing Corporation; and
- 2) A further report be presented to Council at a future meeting regarding the Prichard Place Lockhart residential developments and the proposal to withhold from sale one or two lots for the purposes of developing them for rental accommodation.

163/23 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Mathews and Walker that:

- 1) Concept plans be prepared for the development of additional accommodation on the Magnolia Lodge site in Green Street and the Youth Flats site in Drummond Street Lockhart to facilitate further investigation and negotiation with the NSW Land and Housing Corporation; and
- 2) A further report be presented to Council at a future meeting regarding the Prichard Place Lockhart residential developments and the proposal to withhold from sale one or two lots for the purposes of developing them for rental accommodation.

3. DRAFT PLAN OF MANAGEMENT – CROWN RESERVES FOR WHICH COUNCIL IS THE CROWN LAND MANAGER AND COUNCIL-OWNED LAND CLASSIFIED AS ‘COMMUNITY’

(GM: 23/7748)

Executive Summary

Council at its meeting held on 17 July 2023 agreed to amendments being made to the Draft Plan of Management (PoM) that would facilitate the establishment of a community centre on The Rock Recreation Ground and endorsed the amended Plan for public exhibition.

However, following further discussions with the Crown Lands Office additional changes are proposed in relation to an unrelated matter before placing the Draft PoM on public exhibition for a second time.

Background

Lockhart Shire Council is the Crown Land Manager for a number of crown reserves in the Shire. The Crown Land Management Act imposes a number of obligations on councils that are crown land managers, most notably, the requirement to have a PoM in place for the crown reserves. In addition to this, Council has an obligation pursuant to the Local Government Act to prepare a PoM for land owned by Council which is classified as ‘community’.

A Draft PoM was developed and Council, at its meeting held on 20 June 2022, and with the approval of the Crown Lands Office, resolved to place the Draft Plan on public exhibition in accordance with statutory requirements.

Four submissions in total were received in response to the public exhibition of the Draft PoM three of which related to the one issue i.e. that “community purposes” should be added as an authorised use for The Rock Recreation Ground. Currently the only authorised use for the Crown reserve is “public recreation” which is the Reserve’s gazetted purpose. Adding “community purposes” as an authorised use will facilitate a broader range of uses and would also enable the establishment of a community centre on the land.

In order to facilitate this the Crown Lands Office proposed amendments be made to the Draft PoM and requested that the amended Draft PoM be placed on public exhibition. Council at its meeting held on 17 July 2023 agreed to the proposed amendments being made to the Draft PoM that would facilitate the establishment of a community centre on The Rock Recreation Ground and endorsed the amended Plan for public exhibition.

Report

The Crown Lands Office has been notified of the Council resolution passed on 17 July and approval sought to place the amended Draft PoM on public exhibition. However, the Crown Lands Office has now identified another unrelated issue that had previously been overlooked that needs to be considered. The matter relates to the Lockhart Pre-school being situated on the Lockhart Recreation Ground, the issue being that a pre-school is not consistent with the Reserve’s gazetted purpose i.e. public recreation.

Council’s records indicate that the Lockhart Scout Group initially erected a scout hall on the site in 1939. The Lockhart Pre-school moved into the building in 1964. There have been numerous extensions and alterations to the premises since that time, including with Crown Lands Office consent. Further research needs to be undertaken to determine how this issue may be best addressed which may take some time and cause further delay. The Crown Lands Office is also providing advice in relation to this matter.

In view of the circumstances there are two options open to Council as follows:

1. Delay the public exhibition of the Draft PoM pending resolution of the matter relating to the Lockhart pre-school; or

2. Seek the Crown Lands Office's approval to exclude that part of the Lockhart Recreation Ground on which the Pre-school is situated from the Draft PoM and place the Draft PoM on public exhibition, so that it may continue to progress towards finalisation, and subsequently deal with the section on which the Pre-school is situated at a later date.

Option 2 is recommended as it will enable the Draft PoM to progress for all other Crown Reserves in the Shire including the Lockhart Recreation Ground, with the exception of the section on which the Pre-school is situated. Excluding the section on which the Pre-school is situated will not affect the day-to-day operation of the pre-school in the meantime.

Integrated Planning and Reporting Reference

- 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: Strategically plan for our sports and recreation infrastructure, as well as cemeteries.
E1: Meet all governance and regulatory requirements in the conduct of Council operations.

Legislative Policy and Planning Implications

The Crown Land Management Act 2016 came into force on 1 July 2018. Under the legislation councils are required to prepare PoMs for those crown reserves under their control.

A PoM is also required to be prepared for council owned land that has been classified as 'community' pursuant to the Local Government Act.

Budget and Financial Aspects

Council has received funding in the amount of \$73,880 to assist with the preparation of PoMs for crown reserves for which Council is the Crown Land Manager and will be sufficient to complete the exercise.

Attachments

Nil.

Recommendation: That, subject to the approval of the Crown Lands Office, Council exclude that part of the Lockhart Recreation Ground on which the Pre-school is situated from the Draft PoM and place the Draft PoM on public exhibition and subsequently deal with the section on which the Pre-school is situated at a later date.

164/23 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Sharp and Day that, subject to the approval of the Crown Lands Office, Council exclude that part of the Lockhart Recreation Ground on which the Pre-school is situated from the Draft PoM and place the Draft PoM on public exhibition and subsequently deal with the section on which the Pre-school is situated at a later date.

STRATEGIC DIRECTION B: A Dynamic and Prosperous Economy

STRATEGIC DIRECTION C: An Environment that is Respected and Protected

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

4. ENGINEERING AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES REPORT

(DEES)

Executive Summary

Monthly report on engineering and environmental services matters.

Background Information

a) Works

Rural Sealed Roads: The Regional and Local Roads Repair Program (RLRRP) has commenced. Heavy patching is well under way. The Rock Lockhart Road is now complete with 21 patches, or 10560 square metres stabilised, and primer sealed, a second seal will be applied when the weather warms up.

Unsealed Roads: Unsealed Road Maintenance of Shire gravel roads has been conducted on Edgehill School Ln, McCreadies Ln, Ellerslie Ln, Janetskes Ln, Tuttys Ln, Illetts Ln C2 + EF, Poverty Ln, Geddes Ln, Willis Ln, Jim Willis North Rd, McRories Ln, Shaws Ln, Benders Ln, and Wetmores Ln. Grading of Henty Pleasant Hills Rd has commenced.

Maintenance Crews: Bitumen crew have been kept busy with an increase of pavement failures due to the weather, routine maintenance has continued on our Local and Regional Roads.

Maintenance crews have repaired the culverts on Lockhart The Rock Rd in conjunction with the heavy patching, back filled and removed spoils on O'Connell Street footpath and continue attending to the back log of customer enquiries.

b) Parks & Gardens

Ave. of Honour Extension, The Rock: The hard landscaping, including granite surfaces, steel garden bed edging, drip irrigation, walk bridge and dry creek bed have been completed. Planting of the garden beds will be done by Council staff as resources are available.

A concreter will be employed to install pram ramps to allow wheeled access to the new gardens and to change the existing driveway on the opposite side of Urana St into pedestrian access only.

Esplanade Upgrade, Pleasant Hills: Construction of the granite footpath has been completed. Quotes have been received for furniture, including benches, rubbish bins, picnic table and shelter. Design and quotes for the bird hide have been considered and agreed upon.

Stan Galvin Park, Yerong Creek - New Footpaths: Quotes have been received for the construction of the new paths.

109 Green St, Lockhart – Landscaping: Alterations to the landscape plan have received approval. Quotes for supplies have been sort and ordered. Installation will commence upon arrival of materials.

Weed Control: Weed control by mechanical and chemical methods is being conducted within urban areas as resources and conditions allow. Pesticides commonly used are Glyphosate and Dicamba. Signage will be placed at property entrance when spraying is in progress.

Trees: Under-pruning of Council's street trees and pruning of limbs protruding into urban lanes is being conducted as resourcing allows.

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

Resident concerns regarding street trees, including species selection, maintenance and/or removal should be made in writing and addressed to the General Manager. Such issues will be resolved based on risk and available budget and resources.

c) Biosecurity

Weeds

Property Inspections

Inspections were carried out on residential and industrial properties, which were selected due to a change in ownership.

The most commonly found weeds were Lippia (*Phyla canescens*), Privet (*Ligustrum* sp.), Bridal creeper (*Asparagus asparagoides*), Horehound (*Marrubium vulgare*), and Wild radish (*Raphanus raphanistrum*) respectively.

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
12	3	0	0	0	0	0

Control Program

Priority has been given to the control of African boxthorn (*Lycium ferocissimum*), Coolatai grass (*Hyparrhenia hirta*), Horehound (*Marrubium vulgare*) and Wild radish (*Raphanus raphanistrum*) on roadside reserves and council managed land.

22nd NSW Weeds Conference

Council's Environmental Officer attended the 22nd NSW Weeds Conference in Dubbo. Notable interesting topics included:

- Feathertop Rhodes grass (*Chloris virgata*), which was originally a winter dormant species, has evolved to both germinate and set seed in winter.
- A biological control for Skeleton weed (*Chondrilla juncea*) has been released, which would explain why it is now predominately absent from the roadside reserve.
- A biological control for African boxthorn (*Lycium ferocissimum*) is being developed, with extensive testing being carried out to ensure that the biological control does not impact the Australian boxthorn (*Lycium australe*).
- A biological control for African lovegrass (*Eragrostis curvula*) has been released in New Zealand. Investigations for its application in Australia is being considered, although this biological control is expected to impact on Australia's native grasses.
- Sowthistle (*Sonchus* sp.) has developed resistant to some herbicides.
- Sticky nightshade (*Solanum sisymbriifolium*) is becoming a significant weed in Central NSW. Local residents are encouraged to report any sightings.

Pests

Common White Snail Baiting Program

Snail baiting application occurred on Fairview Lane on 1 August.

d) Development Approvals

This report advises of the Development Application Approvals for the month of August 2023

Development Activity Table

DA/CDC No.	Development	Site of Development	Applicant	Value
DA63/23.2	Detached carport, installation of two shipping containers and two rainwater tanks	25 Plunkett St, Yerong Creek	G Hearn	\$ 18,063
DA69/23	Subdivision of One Lot into Two Lots	109 Urana St, The Rock	R Driscoll	\$ 5,000
DA05/24	2 Bedroom steel clad dwelling	116 The Rock Collingullie Rd, The Rock	B Housenloge	\$ 243,000
DA06/24	4 Bedroom brick veneer dwelling	8 Queen St, The Rock	E Birch	\$ 482,000

DA/CDC No.	Development	Site of Development	Applicant	Value
DA08/24	Install a transportable home, connect to town sewer & water	Piper St, The Rock	C Kendall	\$ 287,500
DA10/24	Construction of a new residential dwelling with attached garage	14-16 Galore St, Lockhart	K Ziems	\$ 787,536
DA11/24	Modifications to Existing Shed	6 Cape St, Milbrulong	G Hartman	\$ 15,000
DA12/24	New Detached Shed	22 Finlayson Ln, Yerong Creek	S Wheatley	\$ 37,552
			Total	\$ 1,875,651

e) Food Safety

The NSW Food Authority has provided advice regarding the Scores on Doors food safety program. The program is part of a broad suite of measures to reduce foodborne illness in NSW. It is founded on a risk-based priority system and encourages the onsite display of the results of a food business's most recent inspection for hygiene and food safety.

At a routine inspection, eligible food premises receive a hygiene and food safety rating based on points allocated under the Scores on Doors guidelines. NSW Food Authority provides the certificates and stickers free of charge to local Councils for each of the three ratings: Good, Very Good or Excellent. Businesses assessed with critical breaches or too many lesser breaches are not awarded any grade or certificate/sticker. Council is not liable for compliance failures or issues with premises conditions. Certificates are issued in good faith, intended as a general guide only. The program provides incentives to food businesses to raise food safety standards which will lead to fewer consumer complaints and fewer compliance issues requiring follow-up.

Council staff will investigate implementing the program after the next round of food inspections are completed. This is so appropriate education and advice can be provided to food business owners prior to the implementation of the program.

Legislative Policy and Planning Implications

Development 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

Nil.

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

165/23 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Mathews and Walker that Council notes the information provided in the Engineering and Environmental Services report.

STRATEGIC DIRECTION E: Strong Leadership and Governance

5. INVESTMENT AND BANK BALANCES REPORT – AUGUST 2023

(DCCS: 23/10920)

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			641,538.09
Add: Total Receipts			
	Rates	1,216,023.59	
	Debtors	45,542.01	
	Miscellaneous	59,849.34	
	Interest	41,984.13	
	Transport for NSW - Road Safety Program	5,346.25	
	Return of Investments	500,000.00	
	EV Charging Station Grant	2,830.36	
	FAG Qtr 1 Additional Payment	61,277.00	
	Sale of Plant 1426	33,304.75	
	LCRI Phase 1 & 2	467,726.00	
			2,433,883.43
Less: Total Payments			2,115,410.45
	New Investments	0	
Closing Combined Cashbook Balance			960,011.07
Closing Bank Statement Balance	Bendigo Bank	802,863.81	
	Macquarie Bank	98,752.81	
	Bendigo Bank-Prichard Trust	31,796.23	
			933,412.85
Add: Outstanding Deposits			34,492.22
			967,905.07
Less: Outstanding Cheques			7,894.00
Closing Combined Cashbook Balance			960,011.07
	Interest Rate per	Amount	% of Total
Investments:	Annum	Invested	
Bank of Queensland	5.05	700,000.00	5.22
Bendigo Bank	4.95	500,000.00	3.73
Bendigo Bank	4.85	250,000.00	1.86
Bendigo Bank	4.90	400,000.00	2.98
Bendigo Bank	4.90	1,000,000.00	7.45
Bendigo Bank	at call	66,072.20	0.49
Commonwealth Bank	4.81	500,000.00	3.73
Commonwealth Bank	4.76	1,000,000.00	7.45
Commonwealth Bank	4.83	1,000,000.00	7.45
Commonwealth Bank	4.87	500,000.00	3.73
Commonwealth Bank	4.83	500,000.00	3.73
IMB	5.05	500,000.00	3.73
Macquarie Bank	4.72	500,000.00	3.73
Macquarie Bank	4.72	500,000.00	3.73
Macquarie Bank	4.94	500,000.00	3.73
Macquarie Bank	4.81	500,000.00	3.73
Macquarie Bank	4.80	500,000.00	3.73
National Australia Bank	5.07	500,000.00	3.73
National Australia Bank	4.80	500,000.00	3.73
National Australia Bank	4.80	500,000.00	3.73
National Australia Bank	4.90	500,000.00	3.73
National Australia Bank	5.09	500,000.00	3.73
National Australia Bank	5.09	1,000,000.00	7.45
National Australia Bank	4.95	500,000.00	3.73
		13,416,072.20	
			AMOUNT
	1490-3000-0000		(1,664,776.79)
Combined Sewerage	8490-3000-0000		2,592,991.63
Trust Fund	9991-3000-0000		31,796.23
		960,011.07	960,011.07
	TOTAL FUNDS HELD ARE:	14,376,083.27	


CHAIRPERSON

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 2023/24 Operational Budget has forecast a total of \$400,000 income from interest on investments for General Fund. For the period July 2023 to August 2023, the average end of month balance of funds invested has been \$13.4 million and the average return on invested funds has been 4.84%. On these year to date figures, Council's budgeted income on investments will be achieved for the General Fund. Any adjustments will be incorporated into the July to Sept Quarterly Budget Review, to be presented at the November Council meeting.

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 August 2023 Investment and Bank Balances Report be received and noted.
- b) That the Responsible Accounting Officer Statement be noted, and the report be adopted.

166/23 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Hunter and Day:

- a) That the August 2023 Investment and Bank Balances Report be received and noted.
- b) That the Responsible Accounting Officer Statement be noted, and the report be adopted.

6. AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – 2022/2023

(DCCS: 23/10923)

Executive Summary

The purpose of this report is to address the requirement for Council and Management to make a statement as to the preparation and content of the General Purpose and Special Purpose Financial Statements for the 2022-23 financial year.

Report

The Local Government Act 1993 (The Act) requires Council to produce General Purpose Financial Statements and Special Purpose Financial Statements for inclusion in Council's Annual Report. These statements are to be externally audited prior to being adopted by Council for publication.

The Act also requires Council to resolve prior to submission to the external auditor that the accounts have been prepared in accordance with the Act and the Australian Accounting Standards to fairly represent Council's financial position. Senior staff are also required to certify the accounts to this effect. General Purpose Financial Statements and Special Purpose Financial Statements are to be signed by Councillors and Management after being adopted at the Council meeting to be held on 18 September 2023.

Integrated Planning and Reporting Reference

- E1: Continue to develop sound financial management policies and practices.
- E1: Meet all governance and regulatory requirements in the conduct of Council operations.

Legislative Policy & Planning Implications

Section 413 (2) (c) of the Local Government Act 1993 states that a council's financial reports must include a statement in the approved form by the council as to its opinion on the general purpose financial report.

Budget & Financial Aspects

Reporting on Council's financial performance for the 2022-2023 financial year.

Attachments

To be provided under separate cover, prior to Council meeting:

1. Statement by Councillors and Management – General Purpose Statements.
2. Statement by Councillors and Management – Special Purpose Statements.
3. Schedule of restricted funds by Council as at 30 June 2023.
4. Draft General Purpose and Special Purpose Financial Statements:
 - a) Income Statements
 - b) Balance Sheet/Financial Position
 - c) Cash Flow

Recommendation: 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.

167/23 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Walker and Sharp 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.

7. LOCAL GOVERNMENT NSW ANNUAL CONFERENCE

(GM: 23/10312)

Executive Summary

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

LGNSW Annual Conference

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

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

This year the Annual Conference will be held from Sunday 12 November to Tuesday 14 November 2023 at Rosehill Gardens Racecourse in Sydney.

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

At its meeting held on 17 July 2023 Council resolved to appoint the Mayor as its voting delegate and to nominate one other Councillor to attend the Annual Conference together with the Mayor and the General Manager. At this stage another Councillor has not been nominated to attend the Conference. However, Cr Sharp has expressed an interest in attending if no other Councillor is available and willing to go.

Integrated Planning and Reporting Reference

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

Legislative Policy & Planning Implications

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

Budget & Financial Aspects

The LGNSW Annual Conference costs are provided for in the 2023/24 Budget, except for any partner costs not covered by Council's policy, which will be on-charged, if applicable.

Attachment

Nil.

Recommendation: That Council nominate one other Councillor to attend the Annual Conference together with the Mayor and the General Manager.

168/23 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Marston and Hunter that Councillor Sharp attends the Annual Conference together with the Mayor and the General Manager.

8. NSW PUBLIC INTEREST DISCLOSURES ACT

(GM: 23/9640)

Executive Summary

On 1 October 2023 there will be new public interest disclosure (PID) legislation in NSW which completely replaces the Public Interest Disclosures Act 1994. The new legislation will necessitate Council reviewing its current Public Interests Disclosures Policy.

Report

Council reviews its policies every three years unless a change in circumstances prompts a review ahead of schedule such as a change in legislation, issues raised by internal or external audit, management recommendations or a change in the operating environment.

This is one such occasion where the implementation of a new Public Interests Disclosures Act (PID Act) on 1 October 2023 to replace the existing 1994 Act, necessitates a review of Council's Policy 1.18 Public Interest Disclosures and Reporting System.

The PID Act provides the framework that facilitates public interest reporting of wrongdoing by:

- Protecting those who speak up from detriment.
- Taking active steps to maintain the confidentiality of reports.
- Imposing duties on agencies who receive reports of wrongdoing to take appropriate action to investigate or otherwise deal with them.
- Compared to the previous 1994 Act, the PID Act:
 - Provides for public officials to have multiple pathways to report serious wrongdoing. This includes reporting to a disclosure officer, their manager and other agencies, such as integrity agencies.
 - The threshold for what is considered detrimental action has been lowered, and the associated penalties for the detrimental action offence have been increased, when compared to the 1994 Act.
 - Clarity is provided in the PID Act on what agencies are expected to do with a report when it is received, how they must deal with a report once it is identified it is a PID and what they must do if serious wrongdoing is found to have occurred.

- The PID Act also outlines when an agency must communicate with a PID maker and with the NSW Ombudsman.

The PID Act recognises that there are three (3) types of PIDs. These are:

Voluntary PID: This is a PID where the report has been made by the public official because they decided, of their own accord, to come forward and disclose what they know.

Mandatory PID: This is a PID where the public official has made the report about serious wrongdoing because they have a legal obligation to make that report, or because making that report is an ordinary aspect of their role or function in an agency.

Witness PID: This is a PID where a person discloses information in the course of an investigation of serious wrongdoing following a request or requirement of the investigator.

In order to ensure that agencies identify when they have received a voluntary PID, it is important to understand what serious wrongdoing is. Serious wrongdoing is defined under section 13 of the Act as meaning one or more of the following:

- Corrupt conduct
- Serious maladministration
- A government information contravention
- A local government pecuniary interest contravention
- A privacy contravention
- A serious and substantial waste of public money.

For a report to be a voluntary PID, it must have been made to one or more of the following people:

- The person's manager
- A 'disclosure officer' in any agency – this could be:
 - the agency where the person works
 - the agency to which the wrongdoing related (if not the agency where the person works)
 - another agency, including an integrity agency (such as the NSW Ombudsman's Office, the ICAC, or the Audit Office)
- The head of any agency
- A Minister or Ministerial staff (but only if the report is made in writing)
- A journalist or MP (in very limited circumstances).

Now that the PID Act provides multiple pathways to report serious wrongdoing by allowing public officials to make a PID to their manager, it will be necessary that all managers be provided with training in the PID Act within six months of the PID Act coming into force and every three years thereafter. This training will be incorporated into Council's 2023/24 Training Plan.

The NSW Ombudsman's Office has also established a dedicated webpage for the PID Act i.e. www.ombo.nsw.gov.au/guidance-for-agencies/handling-public-interest-disclosures-whistleblowing, and has released a template policy that councils and government agencies can adopt or customise to their own requirements.

It is recommended that Council review its existing public interest disclosures and reporting policy i.e. Policy 1.18, by adapting the policy template released by the Ombudsman's Office. A copy of the proposed policy is attached.

Integrated Planning and Reporting Reference

- E1: Meet all governance and regulatory requirements in the conduct of Council operations.
- E1: Minimise Council's exposure to risk and promote a strong risk management culture within Council.

Legislative Policy & Planning Implications

A new Public Interests Disclosures Act will come into force in NSW on 1 October 2023 and apply to all NSW public sector agencies. Under the PID Act 'agency' is defined to include public service agencies,

local government authorities, public universities, integrity agencies, statutory bodies and local aboriginal land councils.

Budget & Financial Aspects

Mandatory training for all managers in the PID Act will be incorporated into Council's existing 2023/24 Training Budget.

Attachments

Revised Policy 1.18 Public Interest Disclosures provided as a separate document.

Recommendation: That Revised Policy 1.18 Public Interest Disclosures, as presented, be adopted.

169/23 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Hunter and Marston that Revised Policy 1.18 Public Interest Disclosures, as presented, be adopted.

9. POLICY REVIEWS

(GM: 23/10324)

Executive Summary

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

Report

At its meeting held on 20 March 2023, Council endorsed "Policy No. 1.0 Policies – Procedure for Consideration and Adoption" which set out a process for the systematic review of Council policies and the development of new policies.

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

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

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

The following policies are presented for review in accordance Policy No. 1.0:

- 1) Policy 1.24 Bribes, Gifts and Benefits
- 2) Policy 2.24 Weeds Management
- 3) Policy 2.25 Bush Fire Operations, Supply and Management of Equipment
- 4) Policy 2.34 Refund of Development Related Fees
- 5) Policy 2.36 Refund of Fees to Community Organisations
- 6) Policy 2.46 Keeping of Animals

No changes have been made to Policies 1.24 and 2.24.

Minor changes have been made to Policy 2.46 in order to update names and references to relevant departments and legislation and to provide new links to where further information can be sourced.

With respect to Policy 2.25 Bush Fire Operations, Supply and Management of Equipment it is recommended that this policy be rescinded as the matters dealt with in that policy are by and large determined by the Rural Fire Service (RFS). Council's opportunity to have input in these matters is through its representation on the Riverina Zone RFS Service Level Agreement Liaison Committee. It is because of Council's lack of control over bush fire operations, supply and management of equipment that it has made the decision not to recognise this equipment in its financial statements.

Policy 2.34 Refund of Development Related Fees relates to circumstances where development application and related fees may be refunded, or partially refunded e.g. when a development application is withdrawn prior to it being determined or its assessment completed. Policy 2.36 Refund of Fees to Community Organisations on the other hand relates to the refund of fees as a form of financial

assistance e.g. to applicants who are community based, not-for-profit organisations or section 355 committees. These two policies have been combined into a new Policy 2.60 Refund of Application Fees.

Integrated Planning and Reporting Reference

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

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

Legislative Policy & Planning Implications

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

Budget & Financial Aspects

Where fees are refunded as a form of financial assistance to applicants who are community based, not-for-profit organisations or section 355 committees, the financial assistance will be funded through Council's budget allocation for section 356 contributions. The refund of application fees in other circumstances will not have any discernible impact on the budget.

Attachments

1. Policy 1.24 Bribes, Gifts and Benefits
2. Policy 2.24 Weeds Management
3. Policy 2.25 Bush Fire Operations, Supply and Management of Equipment
4. Policy 2.46 Keeping of Animals
5. Policy 2.60 Refund of Application Fees

Recommendation:

1. That the following Policies, as presented, be adopted:
 - a) Policy 1.24 Bribes, Gifts and Benefits
 - b) Policy 2.24 Weeds Management
 - c) Policy 2.46 Keeping of Animals
2. That Policy 2.25 Bush Fire Operations, Supply and Management of Equipment be rescinded.
3. That Policy 2.34 Refund of Development Related Fees and Policy 2.36 Refund of Fees to Community Organisations be rescinded and replaced by new policy 2.60 Refund of Application Fees.

170/23 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Sharp and Mathews:

1. That the following Policies, as presented, be adopted:
 - a) Policy 1.24 Bribes, Gifts and Benefits
 - b) Policy 2.24 Weeds Management
 - c) Policy 2.46 Keeping of Animals
2. That Policy 2.25 Bush Fire Operations, Supply and Management of Equipment be rescinded.
3. That Policy 2.34 Refund of Development Related Fees and Policy 2.36 Refund of Fees to Community Organisations be rescinded and replaced by new policy 2.60 Refund of Application Fees.

QUESTIONS AND STATEMENTS

Cr Walker

- i) **The Rock Showground & Golf Course:** Cr Walker advised that the remaining section of the old sheep pavilion has been demolished as per a request received from the The Rock Show Society.

Cr Hunter

- i) **Historical Minutes:** Cr Hunter advised she was given a copy of minutes of a Lockhart Shire Council meeting held on 21 September 1973, i.e. 70 years ago. Cr Hunter shared some excerpts from these minutes and the copy has been added to Council's archives.

Cr Sharp

- i) **Henty Pleasant Hills Road:** Cr Sharp referred to the intersection known as Figtree corner, heading south to the next intersection and advised trees are encroaching on the road. Cr Sharp asked if these could be trimmed as they will cause issues for heavy vehicles during the upcoming harvest.
- ii) **Pleasant Hills Recreation Ground:** Cr Sharp reported that the old shed has been demolished as it was in an unsafe condition.

Cr Mathews

- i) **REROC Energy & Innovation Conference:** Cr Mathews gave an overview of the conference including some opportunities which may be available to Council and the Shire. Cr Mathews advised grants are available to develop a Net Zero-carbon Masterplan for the Shire and asked that the development of such a plan be investigated.

Response – General Manager

The General Manager advised REROC has received funding for the development of such a plan for member councils and has employed a project officer for this purpose.

- ii) **Veterinary Services:** Cr Mathews referred to Council's efforts to procure veterinary services for Lockhart and advised a mobile veterinary service that may be available. Cr Mathews asked if this please be investigated.

Cr Day

- i) **Council's Logo:** Cr Day asked if Council could consider updating the Council logo to modernise?
- ii) **Pavement – Lockhart Pharmacy:** Cr Day referred to the pavement outside Lockhart Pharmacy and advised it requires maintenance as it is currently a trip hazard.
- iii) **Social Media:** Cr Day asked if Council has a "What's On" on the website or community Facebook page?

Response – General Manager

The General Manager advised that Council's tourism website, Visitlockhartshire.com.au, has recently been updated and includes a list of upcoming events. Council's social media strategy development is the subject of grant funding.

Cr Marston

- i) **Avenue of Honour:** Cr Marston advised that The Rock RSL Subbranch has been successful in obtaining grant funding to purchase two seats for the Avenue of Honour. The Subbranch will fund a further two seats. Exact locations of the seats will be decided in consultation with Council, with two in the newly landscaped section and the other two near the memorial. Cr Marston supplied a photograph of the proposed style of seating.



Cr Verdon

- i) **Lodge Road:** Cr Verdon advised this road, which provides access to The Rock Cemetery, is deteriorating rapidly and requires attention.
- ii) **Entrance laneway, The Rock Bowling Club:** Cr Verdon advised there are potholes in this laneway which require attention.

The General Manager gave information on the Riverina Regional Library arbitration, which is set down for this week, and commenced on 18 September in Sydney. The General Manager will be attending as a witness.

The General Manager advised Tuesday, 3 October 2023 has been confirmed as the date for a tour of the SecureEnergy accommodation camp. Interested Councillors should advise the General Manager of their wish to attend. The tour will depart the Council Chamber at 11am and will be onsite from 11.30am to 2.30pm. Lunch will be provided.

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)(a) of the Act and should be dealt with as part of the meeting closed to the media and public.

171/23 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Mathews and Marston that Council close the meeting to the public as per section 10A(2)(c) of the Local Government Act 1993.

The meeting moved into Closed Session at 6.10pm.

172/23 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Day and Marston that Council move into Open Session.

The meeting moved into Open Session at 6.14pm.

OPEN COUNCIL


The resolutions of Council, relating to Staff Report 10, passed while the meeting was closed to the public were read to the meeting by the Mayor.

10. GENERAL MANAGER ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REVIEW FOR PERIOD ENDING 30 JUNE 2023

- 173/23 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs Sharp and Marston that
1. the Council note this Mayoral Minute which includes the General Manager's Performance Review Panel's position following the Annual Review for 2022/2023.
 2. The Panel, in accordance with clause 8.3 of the General Manager's Contract of Employment, has noted the **Excellent level** of performance and is recommending a 7% increase in the Total Remuneration Package.

The meeting concluded at 6.20 pm.

The minutes of the meeting held on Monday, 18 September 2023, were confirmed as a true and accurate record at the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 16 October 2023, at which time the signature was hereunto subscribed.



CHAIRPERSON



CHAIRPERSON