

PRESENT: Cr Jason Newton (Chair), Cr Denis Todd, Ms Debra Bell, Mr Elliott Shannon, Mr Greg Piper, Mr Mark Prugger, Mr Stewart Rodgers and Mr Mal Unicomb (Local State Member).

IN ATTENDANCE: Roger Bailey (General Manager), Mr Gary Murphy (Director Technical Services) and Mrs Kylie Kerr (Manager Road Operations).

Cr Newton welcomed everyone to the meeting and explained the emergency evacuation procedure and the location of the toilets and kitchen. Introductions were held around the table.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST: Mr Mark Prugger declared a pecuniary interest in Agenda Item e) due to business interests.

APOLOGIES: Cr Dale Hogden.

AGENDA ITEMS

a) Code of Conduct Policy

The Director Technical Services (DTS) outlined the Code of Conduct Policy and how it applies to the Group including Conflict of Interest and meeting behaviour. Declaration of Conflict of Interest item to be included on future agendas.

b) Terms of Reference

The Manager Road Operations (MRO) discussed the Terms of Reference and the role of the Group. The Warrumbungle Road Network Advisory Group (RNAG) is a strategic group that provides recommendations to Council regarding the road network including regional and local rural and urban roads, bridges and other road related infrastructure.

c) 2022/2023 Works Program

MRO discussed the current major projects that are currently underway or are planned for the remainder of this financial year.

- Natural Disaster Funding
- Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program (LRCIP) – Causeways and Piambra Road
- Tooraweenah Road
- Black Stump Way
- Pot Hole Repair Program (*New*)
- Regional and Local Road Repair Program (*New*)
- Purlewaugh Road
- Warkton Bridge
- Black Gully Bridge.

Challenges include fuel and equipment theft, damage to plant, extremely wet ground and natural springs (getting bogged) and natural disaster emergency works.

d) 2023/2024 Works Program

The MRO explained that Council is currently reviewing the Delivery Program and Operational Plan for next financial year and the following projects are being put forward:

- Purlewaugh Road (*waiting on funding approval*)

- State Forest Way (*waiting on funding approval*)
 - Natural Disaster Restoration
 - Repair Program (*Regional Roads*).
- e) Funding Strategies
- This report outlined the funding strategies and sources available to Council for the maintenance, renewal and upgrading of the road network.
 - The report as presented was discussed and noted.
 - The Casual Plant Hire contract that is currently out for tender was discussed.
- f) Policy Review – Upgrading of Roads Not Constructed or Maintained by Council
- The current policy and suggested updates were discussed.
 - Hotchkiss Road and the Airport Road in Baradine were provided as an example of how the policy could be applied.
 - This Policy will be further reviewed by the Group at the next meeting.
- g) Private Works
- The report on Council's ability to carry out Private Works was discussed.
 - Following this discussion, the Group:

1/2223 RECOMMENDED that the Roads and Roads Related Private Works Program be reduced to only doing private works for other Government Organisations and works on public assets for the next 24 months.

Unanimous

- h) Heavy Vehicle and Oversize Vehicle Permit Requests
The report as presented was discussed and noted.
- i) Parliamentary Inquiry on the Implications of Severe Weather Events on the National Regional, Rural and Remote Road Network
- The report as presented was discussed.
 - It was noted that Council was not intending to make a submission to the Inquiry but that members in their personal capacity were welcome to make submissions.

GENERAL BUSINESS

The following items were discussed without resolution:

- Question was asked about, what can be achieved by the Group and what would Council like the Group to do? A discussion was had around these questions.
- A request for a list of requirements for property owners wishing to carry out roadworks (Self Help) for example insurance, white cards, etc for the next meeting.
- Option to attend meeting by video conference – this can be accommodated though the preferred option for attendance is face-to-face.
- Question was asked about holding future meetings in Coolah – this can be accommodated.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 7.50pm.

**MINUTES OF THE WARRUMBUNGLER ROAD NETWORK ADVISORY GROUP
MEETING HELD IN THE GALLERY MEETING ROOM, COUNCIL
ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, JOHN STREET, COONABARABRAN ON
TUESDAY, 17 JANUARY 2023 COMMENCING AT 5.30 PM** **PAGE 3**

The next meeting will be held in the Gallery Meeting Room, Coonabarabran on Tuesday 7 March 2023 commencing at 5.30pm.

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CHAIRPERSON