

PRESENT: Cr Jason Newton (Chair), Cr Denis Todd, Cr Dale Hogden, Ms Debra Bell (*left the meeting at 6.50pm*), Mr Elliott Shannon, Mr Greg Piper, Mr Stewart Rodgers and Mr Mal Unicomb (Local State Member).

IN ATTENDANCE: Roger Bailey (General Manager) 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.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST: Mr Elliott Shannon declared a conflict of interest due to owning grids (less than significant).

APOLOGIES: Mr Mark Prugger and Ms Nicole Benson (Director Technical Services).

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

The minutes of the Warrumbungle Road Network Advisory Group meeting held in Coonabarabran on 14 March 2023 are to be held over for confirmation at the next meeting.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

The business arising from the previous minutes is to be held over to the next meeting.

AGENDA ITEMS

a) Natural Disaster Restoration Works, Regional and Local Roads Repair Program and Pothole Repair Program Update

The Manager Road Operations provided the Committee with an overview of the following:

- Natural Disaster Restoration Works
- Regional and Local Roads Repair Program
- Pothole Repair Program

The report was received and noted.

b) Grid Policy

The Grid Policy was reviewed and the following issues were raised:

- What is the need for grids? It was agreed that it is a benefit to the property owner.
- Insurance requirements for the ongoing ownership of grids.
- Gates only (no grid) may be considered but Council permission only.
- What happens if the policy is not met?
- The grid design needs to consider the vehicle type that uses the road particularly for weight.
- Checklist needs to be more specific and be able to be used by the property owner to self-assess. It is too vague at the moment.
- What are the requirements to install the grid and approaches? Eg White Card, insurances.
- What is the definition of a single grid?
- Road Hierarchy – needs to be reviewed.

- Road Hierarchy – what happens if a grid is already on the road but, it is a collector road? Does it need to be removed?
- What does the standard and maintenance requirements actually mean to the property owner?
- Is it possible when Council is doing grading that the crew leader notes down the grid condition?
- What about CML and HML vehicles and grid design?
- Is it feasible for the grid owner to actually maintain the 20m either side of the grid? What about insurances and access to equipment to do the work? Maybe Council should maintain the approaches and signage once installed.
- When installing a new ramp / replacement it should include the work to do the 20m approaches.
- Need to update \$10 million public liability insurance to \$20 million.
- Community consultation is a must and include existing owners and terminology explained.
- What is the permit fee for existing grids?
- White gate and sign – why? It was later clarified that the white gate is a requirement under the Roads Act.
- What about when the owner no longer wants the grid? Will Council remove the grid at no cost?
- There must be a Communication / Consultation Plan implemented for this policy.

ACTION

That a report on the Grid Policy be brought back to the next meeting for further discussion and that a Consultation Plan be developed and implemented.

c) Warrumbungle Shire Council Disaster Resilience Community Strategic Plan
The Manager Road Operations provided the Committee with an overview of the Warrumbungle Shire Council Disaster Resilience Community Strategic Plan project as well as viewing the social pinpoint mapping tool. The report was received and noted.

d) Rural Road Consultation Project
The Manager Road Operations provided the Committee with an overview of the Rural Road Consultation project. The report was received, noted and supported.

GENERAL BUSINESS

Nil.

MEETING DATES

The Committee determined the following future meeting dates and locations:

- 6 December 2023 – Coolah
- 16 January 2024 – Coonabarabran
- 5 April 2024 – Coolah
- 2 July 2024 – Coonabarabran
- 1 October 2024 – Coolah

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.25pm.

**MINUTES OF THE WARRUMBUNGLER ROAD NETWORK ADVISORY GROUP
MEETING HELD IN THE GALLERY MEETING ROOM, COUNCIL
ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, JOHN STREET, COONABARABRAN ON
WEDNESDAY, 4 OCTOBER 2023 COMMENCING AT 5.30 PM** **PAGE 3**

The next meeting will be held at the Coolah Council Chambers on Wednesday
6 December 2023 commencing at 5.30pm.

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CHAIRPERSON