

Attachment 14
June '19

1-101275

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

RE: PROPOSED INCREASE IN WATER RATES

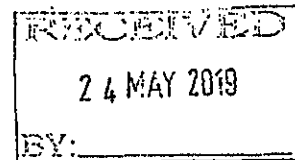
As a concerned resident living in Baradine, I strongly disagree with the proposed increase in water and sewerage rates within Warrumbungle Shire Council.

I own two residences in Baradine

[REDACTED]

and

[REDACTED]



We have already had several increases over the years and with any further increase this would put an extra strain on day to day living.

I am strongly against any changes and increases.

Yours faithfully

[REDACTED SIGNATURE]

[REDACTED]

21 May 2019

2-101274



Warrumbungle Shire Council

Customer Requests and Complaints Form

Name	[REDACTED]		
Address	[REDACTED]		
	Binnaway NSW		
Home Phone		Work Phone	0448 486616
Mobile Phone			
Email	[REDACTED]		

Details / Comments

I AM DISGUSTED WITH THE ISSUE OF WATER RATE RISE OF 18%

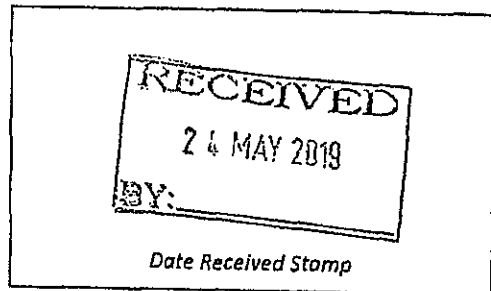
WE CAN NOT DRINK THE WATER IT IS BROWN AND FULL OF CALCIUM? IVE HAD TO REPLACE TAPS 2X SINCE BUILDING HOUSE IN 2014 I WAS TOLD IT WAS DUE TO PREVIOUS COUNCIL NOT DEALING WITH INFRASTRUCTURE. THIS IS BULL. HAVE THE COUNCILLORS ARE THE PREVIOUS ONES! NO RISE UNTIL YOU START DOING YOUR JOB RIGHT.

Signature	[REDACTED]	Date	24/5/19
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Office Use Only

Received by: Mail Counter

Taken by: _____



Angela Fairman

From: Jennifer Maundrell
Sent: Friday, 24 May 2019 11:48 AM
To: Roger Bailey
Subject: [REDACTED]

Roger

[REDACTED] came to the counter this morning. She has been having trouble with her phone, which is why I have not been able to contact her over the last few days.

[REDACTED] made a verbal submission against the proposed increase in water and sewer charges, owing to the rates already being raised by 15% last year.

I told [REDACTED] I would capture her objection in our system.

Jenni Maundrell | EA to the General Manager

Warrumbungle Shire Council
PO Box 191, Coonabarabran NSW 2357
Reception: P 6849 2000 | F 02 6842 1337
[REDACTED]

Excellence in Local Government



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4-100932

Angela Fairman

From: Roger Bailey
Sent: Monday, 13 May 2019 6:48 PM
To: Jennifer Maundrell
Subject: FW: Council Letter 11 May 2019.docx
Attachments: Council Letter 11 May 2019.docx; ATT00001.txt

Jenni

Would you please register the attached letter that was emailed to the Mayor and task it to Kim Parker.

Kim

This should be dealt with as a submission on the Operational Plan.

Thanks

Roger Bailey | General Manager

Warrumbungle Shire Council
PO Box 191, Coonabarabran NSW 2357
P 02 6849 2000 | F 02 6842 1337

Excellence in Local Government

-----Original Message-----

From: Denis Todd
Sent: Monday, 13 May 2019 5:52 PM
To: Roger Bailey
Subject: Council Letter 11 May 2019.docx

[REDACTED]
Coonabarabran 2357
New South Wales

Mob : [REDACTED]

To:
Mr Denis Todd
Mayor, Warrumbungle Shire
PO Box 191
Coonabarabran 2357
New South Wales

Dear Mr Todd

INCREASE IN WATER AND SEWERAGE CHARGES

I refer to:

1. Your media release of 6 May 2019 proposing increases in water and sewerage charges of up to 18% and 15% respectively;
2. Your media release of 10 May 2019 providing additional information on the above matter;
3. My letter to you of 10 May 2019 registering my concern on these increases; and
4. Our telephone discussion on these matters earlier today.

Again I thank you for the opportunity to provide additional comment and for your willingness to discuss these matters.

I note the point you have made in your 10 May 2019 media release that Council is required to achieve full cost recovery for the provision of water and sewerage services and that these cannot be subsidised from the general rates fund.

I note also that you are proposing to increase general rates by the maximum possible under the rate pegging arrangements of 2.7%, and waste management charges by 5%.

In respect of water and sewerage rates, I repeat the point that I made in my previous letter that in the interests of full transparency, you have not yet made a compelling case to justify increases of the magnitude proposed. You need to take the community into your confidence and provide a full acquittal of grant funds Council received for bore construction, and a clear estimate of the ongoing costs. This includes an indication of the extent to which these costs will reduce, once the drought breaks and bores are no longer required.

Whilst I accept that it may be case that cross subsidisation of the water and sewerage costs from elsewhere is not be possible, this is simply a matter of accounting. What we as ratepayers see is the total bill – not so much its individual parts. What we are seeing is 18%

increases in water, 15% increases in sewerage, 5% increase in waste management fees and general rates increases of 2.7%. In aggregate, these are enormous increases in dollar terms.

As you would know, Councils have discretion to increase general income up to the rate peg of 2.7%, or by less than the rate peg or not at all. It is here that you should be looking to relieve the rate burden in these difficult times. There are many ways in which this can be achieved and it behoves Council to instruct Council staff to come up with lower priority activities that can be scaled back or not done at all to ameliorate this burden. I make the same point in respect of waste management activities.

For example, Council could be asked to achieve an overall productivity dividend of 1 or 2% across the complete operations of Council. This could be implemented by making individual managers responsible for these savings from their own directorates by achieving efficiencies within their own operations. This approach has been used at other levels of government for decades to great effect. In this context I note that the rate peg of 2.7% is set with zero allowance for productivity improvements. This means that efficiencies being achieved in Council operations, if any, are being absorbed by Council and are not being passed on to ratepayers through reduced rates.

So again I request that you rethink your approach to rate increases for the next fiscal year to a level reflecting the financial stress the community is under due at least in part to the prolonged and ongoing drought.

Yours sincerely



11 May 2019

5 - 100902

Angela Fairman

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, 24 May 2019 5:14 PM
To: Records Officer
Subject: Increase in water and sewage rates

I am just wrighting in to voice my opposition on the proposed increase.

We live in Bugaldie and there is no mention of any upgrades to the village water and we have no access to sewage, we also have property and pay sewage rates when we will never go past our gates, maybe council should be emptying our septic tanks...?

It is not the fault of the warrumbungle community that council over payed for the sinking of the bores in Coonabarabran, and the wider community should not be expected to absorb this increase when we have no benifit from it. How can you expect residents in an already struggling shire to cope this cost!

6-100831

Angela Fairman

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, 22 May 2019 2:56 PM
To: Records Officer
Subject: proposed water and garbage rate increase

As a ratepayer I am voicing my opinion on the proposed increase. I like many other people in this community cannot afford this increase, living on a pension is hard enough as it is. This increase would see us all suffer even more. Citizens of Coonabarabran worry about our little town and how it is surviving now. It is obvious just looking at the businesses closing down that our little town is suffering bad enough as it is. By increasing rates we will all have to forego more luxuries such as food, our cars because we won't be able to afford the fuel to run them. For many of us it is hard enough to just keep up with the rates we have to pay. We are currently paying 2 lots of rates. By increasing the rates you are just adding more nails in the coffin, so why don't you just close the town down now and then all your worries would be over there would be no residents in the town to consider NO WATER used and NO GARBAGE to collect. Not to mention the employees of the Shire Council would have to be like many others and have to rely on Government benefits to survive. Come on Coonabarabran Shire Council and councillors think of you community and what is best for it. It is the ratepayers who help keep the Council going.

Yours truly

[REDACTED] (Rate Payer)

7-100824

Angela Fairman

From: info@warrumbungle.nsw.gov.au
Sent: Thursday, 23 May 2019 4:20 PM
To: Records Officer
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Customer Requests and Complaints Form

You have successfully submitted the following information. This copy is for your records.

Title : Ms
First Name : [REDACTED]
Surname : [REDACTED]
Address : [REDACTED]
Town : Leadville
State : NSW
Postcode : 2844
Home Phone :
Mobile Phone :
Email Address : [REDACTED]
Details / Comments : To The General Manager

As a Business owner in the shire I find that it is disgraceful that you are intending to increase water and usage charges by such a huge amount. Residents and Businesses are STRUGGLING as it is with the ongoing drought and lack of infrastructure to help our Shires economy. You would think that helping people that VOTED you in would mean that you wanted to HELP them NOT MAKE IT WORSE. Maybe if the Council was to spend OUR MONEY more wisely and not on trees to beautify Coonabarabran and banner poles etc the rate payers of WHATABUNGLE SHIRE would be more accepting of rises in bills BUT not as HUGE as you SHIRE EMPLOYEES want to make them. You expect all residence and business owners to pay the increases it is hard when they don't get wage rises as you do and businesses are doing it really tough. It would be beneficial if council would do a time in motion study on ALL EMPLOYEES from THE MAYOR down and release to the RATE PAYERS the outcome and productivity.

8 - 100817

Angela Fairman

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 23 May 2019 9:55 PM
To: Records Officer
Subject: Re Proposed Water Sewage rates rise

To Whom it may concern

I do not support any intended increase to the water & sewage rates, especially not 18%. I also do not want to pay for what I do not get and that is clean fresh drinking water.

On any given day the water at my house is discoloured, smelly and sometimes feels greasy. It has been this way since I moved here 10 years ago. I have complained many times. I do not accept the reasons given by council on many occasions that the problem is with the pipes in my house. There are many many people in Coonabarabran who like myself will not drink the water here. Many people who have the same problems as I do, discoloured, smelly water. This problem stretches from my street Namoi right up to Belar st, which is a huge distance apart.

Take a look at the comments on Facebook as too how many people complain. Take a look to see how many people have replaced the pipes in their homes only to still have dirty water.

Speak to people on the street and they will have the same response. I have to buy water from Woolworths for drinking as I will not allow my family to drink from the taps, they can't and won't as the water is horrible. My husband has a CPAP machine with a humidifier, which has been ruined due to the water from the tap. I have had to replace it at great cost to me.

I am on a Carers Pension as I care for 2 people in my home with disabilities. Buying water for them to drink is bloody ridiculous when they should be able to drink from the taps!

I feel that any raise in water rates will put extra financial burden on lots of people here within the Warrumbungle Shire. There are a lot of aged and infirm people within the shire and paying any extra is going to be difficult for them. I struggle with paying my rates now as it is, paying extra for a service I don't get is not something I am prepared to do.

I do not support this proposal for increasing the water & sewage rates.

Kind regards

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Coonabarabran

Ph [REDACTED]

9-100807

Angela Fairman

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 23 May 2019 9:33 AM
To: Records Officer
Subject: increase in water rates and garbage

I am 45 year old and have lived here for most of my life. I am concerned about the proposal to increase the water rates and am worried that it is going to have a large impact on our town. WHY such a big increase? I feel this proposal needs to be reconsidered as most people will not be able to pay the over 30% fees you are proposing. Our town has very little employment possibilities and there is a large aged population put these together and money is very tight. I do not have property here but know the pressure my parents are under now before the increase and fear that they and many others will be struggling to find the extra money needed.

The unemployed and retirees need to work to a very tight budget and any large increase like this will make things very hard for them as there is no increase in their income. Please reconsider for the sake of the residents of our town.

[REDACTED]

10-100806

Angela Fairman

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, 22 May 2019 7:24 PM
To: Records Officer
Subject: rate increase

On behalf of my husband [REDACTED] and myself I am writing this letter to let you know we are both very upset about the proposed increase. As retirees struggling to maintain a reasonable lifestyle we are entitled to we now need to try and find extra money which is not there to pay for your blunders. Why didn't you use the grant given to you to increase the dam instead it was lost. We cannot understand the need for such a large increase and wonder how this figure was chosen. No wage earner gets an increase of 18%. Our town has a high unemployment rate and a lot of elderly people struggling now just to keep going and we believe this increase will be their downfall. We are concerned about the amount of stores closing and believe this will cause more hardship on the businesses trying to stay afloat. It seems that you have not considered the other issues facing families that this increase will bring. Our beautiful town is dying before our eyes and you as our representatives should be doing everything possible to keep it thriving. We urge you to reconsider your proposed increase.

[REDACTED]
Resident and Ratepayer

Angela Fairman

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, 22 May 2019 8:25 AM
To: Records Officer
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Op Plan and Delivery 2019/20 Submission

Op Plan and Delivery 2019/20
Page 32

Council Offices & Other Property

Item – Pandora Gallery public toilets maintenance \$30,000

In clarification, this is not for the internal Pandora Gallery toilets

The outside car park access toilets that were vandalised and replaced with stainless steel fittings are the ones requiring refurbishment.

The bowls were not fitted with seats, and no repainting was done – toilets last painted in 2007 when building was refurbished. Hand basins, taps need maintenance.

Public Hall

Coolah Hall/Library Upgrades \$50,000

Ceiling showing moisture damage – this building built in 1935 and the Council Offices were reroofed in 2019 – (built in ?1965).

Neon lights require upgrade.

Small office area (adjacent Radio Room) used by Coolah Coordinator in need of setup with desk, shelving.

Small outside store room used by Coolah Development Group has a collapsed ceiling.

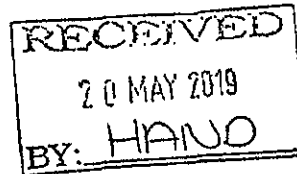
Need for additional power point in Pandora Gallery and request for assistance to install gallery lighting upgrade.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

12-100738

████████████████████
████████████████████
████████████████████
Coonabarabran N.S.W. 2357.
████████████████████

20/05/2019.



Warrumbungle Shire Council
Cr D. Todd, Mayor
P.O.Box 191
14-22 John Street
Coonabarabran N.S.W. 2357.

Dear Warrumbungle Shire Council:

I am a long-time resident (grew-up here) of our town, and I am writing to express my concern about the recent discussion and the pending decision to increase our water rates (18%). I currently pay \$2,063.43 and can only just scrape this together each quarter (\$518.43/\$515.00).

Cr Todd, I cannot afford this now let alone after the increase. I struggle in my day to day expenses of food and bills already. I am a mother, wife and career who only has a part-time job that pays minimum wage. I am sure that there are a lot more people in my shoes, for example my father ██████████ (pensioner) who will feel the rate hike in his rent. I am against this dramatic increase in our rates and also any action (beautification to town, planting of trees) that uses this precious (water) commodity. I'd also like to point out that I use my grey water to water my vegetable garden and don't waste water!

Furthermore the town's tap water which is supposed to be drinkable, It Isn't! Only after boiling and filtering can the water be drunk. More than once I have had to rewash my clothing (more times than I can remember) due to water that resembles weak tea or medium coffee! The smell is off putting at times and I can still count on one hand the amount of times I've seen the pipes being flushed on my corner! Why should I (and others) pay for a basic human right that is not being delivered??

Warrumbungle Shire Council
20/05/2019.

12-100 738 (cont)

Page 2

I also object to the grants that were given to Warrumbungle Shire for drought proofing to be used in any other way other than what that money was given/intended to be used for. It is council's job to fix, maintain and expand our dam, we the town's people shouldn't be squeezed to foot council's bill!

I am looking forward to your response.

Sincerely, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

13-100709

To Whom It May Concern

I Would like to voice my concern at the

18% increase in Water Rates

15% increase in Sewrage Rates

I cannot understand how in a time of complete hardship this council wish to put more pressure on hardworking locals.

*I am **ABSOLUTELY DISGUSTED** at the thought of how people will be able to pay this increase.*

The council need to stop making the ratepayers pay for their stupidity and lack of respect for the local townspeople.

Mark my words we will have a ghost town here soon wake up to yourselves you are killing the town.

I would like to know where all the monies have gone that were granted to CWS for water infrastructure and why did we have to drill bores when we already had bores down.

I know that the bores that were sunk by CWS have impacted my water supply at my place of residence on TIMOR ROAD and I don't care what you say or what study u do.

I used to be able to pump from my bore (which I might add is the only water supply I have to my property) and fill my 2 x tanks in 12hrs it is now taking 36+ hrs and they are still not full.

So maybe I should send the extra electricity cost to Coonabarabran Shire for payment for extra electricity usage .

*There needs to be an enquiry into CWS and its **mismanagement of ratepayers monies** within the Coonabarabran Shire.*

*On Proposal of Town Beautification are you totally MAD CWS why would you want to implement planting trees and gardens when the town has **NO WATER** honestly for christsake grow up we need businesses to come to town instead of them closing down and we need our residents to be able to have access drinkable water.*

*Work on the main problems first because you wont need the town to look good , the way yous are going as people wont want to stop here as theres nothing here to entice them to stay or buy. **NO SHOPS ,NO WATER NO PEOPLE AND NNO COMMONSENSE FROM CWS***

JUST STICK YOUR HEADS OUT THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS AND HAVE A LOOK AROUND AT HOW MANY HOUSES ARE ON THE MARKET ATM.AND THE BIGGEST ISSUE IS NOONE WANTS TO BUY HERE THERES NO JOBS, NO WATER

██████████

14-100691

██████████
██████████
COONABARABRAN, NSW, 2357
██████████

20/05/2019

Dear General Manager,

In response to Council's proposal to increase water rates, the following arguments should be considered on behalf of the residents who are required to pay this increase.

It is not to be forgotten that just like the air we breathe, water is a basic human right, which we cannot mistake for a privilege like driving a car, and it cannot be overlooked that Council does not pay for the water it receives to charge to residents and residents are not having a level of independence for basic human rights.

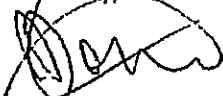
The method of distributing the water is getting beyond our affordability as it is clear that Council has not had the staff with the educational certification to repair and properly maintain the working order of the infrastructure. What we must consider; is if this method of distributing water is actually worth pay for, after all, it does not leave residents with any water or waste that they self-manage, such as using tanks which would encourage residents to consider their water usage. I see on the rates notices for villages such as Ulamambri and Kenebri that there is a charge for kerb and guttering, a method of supposedly collecting water that doesn't exist – there is no kerb and guttering.

We also must consider the effect on the environment due to the amount of waste and chemicals entering the river system causing negative effects on the native environment, which is simply dying.

The drought has to be the biggest wake-up to the local residents on how the council are equipped for dealing with a natural crisis, it has caused the greatest amount of upset for residents who has less than satisfactory access to clean water not to mention leading up to the drought, the level of mismanagement of the water infrastructure that has led to an incredible amount of money used for water bores. Where is the educational level that had the ability to monitor the pricing and service provided? I ask this due to the incredible amount of money spent on water bores – a farmer would know it doesn't cost that amount, even the drilling workmen commented to me that the residents are being ripped off. It seems we are just being laughed at.

I find these arguments a serious breach of resident's money and Council management and the future we are handing onto our children is unhealthy. It would be better that resident's get a refund and use their refund on tanks and systems that use their own grey water and create a healthy level of individual independence and responsibility.

Sincerely,



AMANDA JONES

Angela Fairman

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, 14 May 2019 7:37 PM
To: Records Officer
Subject: ATTN: General Manager Re: water and Sewerage Rate increase

To whom it may concern,

I have submitted the following letter to various members of parliament and the Dunedoo District Diary.

I hope we can open up a discussion on how the council can move forward and recover costs without having to burden our community members further.

Kind Regards,
[REDACTED]

.....

For anyone that is interested in the debacle over the water rates rise in the Warrumbungle Shire. The increase to our water rates will set us at 21% above the state median average. Their justification for this asks us to take into consideration that unlike other larger population shires that the Warrumbungle shire is made up of several smaller water treatment plants, sounds fair. However has it been taken into consideration that theoretically several smaller treatment plants serve less people which translates to a smaller work load? A smaller work load surely indicates less wear and tear? Shouldn't smaller treatment plants be easier to maintain and repair than larger scale ones?

More importantly is the question of why do we need to increase our water rates? I completely understand that councils operate as businesses and need to recover costs. When spending other people's money I believe there should be great care taken. So I have investigated the past 5 years operational plan and delivery programs. To see exactly where the money is being spent that created such a large deficit that rates needed such a drastic increase. According to the operational plans and delivery program documents for the 4 years leading into 17/18 there should have been a surplus of at least \$644,000 from Warrumbungle Water. According to this document that money is in the category of "general fund". According to the council "emergency drought works" were performed, frequently noted is the issues with the water supply in Mendooran. So let's assume that these "emergency works" were performed in 18/19, when Mendooran were

suffering. According to the draft Operational Plan and Delivery Program for 18/19 written in July of 2018, there would be an increase in spending for Warrumbungle water that would indicate a \$790,000 deficit. This leads us to believe that the council to some degree had an understanding of the work that needed to be done in these “emergency drought works” to maintain the water supply to its communities. So if there were grants provided by the government to assist in offsetting the costs of the “emergency drought works” and a \$644,000 surplus from previous years, why is there such a dramatic increase in rates?

The council themselves noted that “council cannot cross subsidise between funds” so where did the \$644,000 go? How much was provided in grants?

Correct me if I’m wrong because I’m not an expert, but the numbers just don’t seem to add up to justifying such an aggressive increase in water rates. Surely there is another solution rather than putting further strain on communities that struggle as it is?

While I’m on the topic of council spending, there is another point I would like to raise. The current push on the “Beautification of Coonabarabran”. I understand that every town deserves to look appealing, however why is the “beautification of Coonabarabran” a priority over ensuring the facilities in Milling Park in Dunedoo are at a decent standard and practical? The children’s playground that services not only the town of Dunedoo but also the thousands of travellers that pass through Dunedoo is in horrible condition. The soft fall is in below standard condition. There is not shade provided over the play equipment, which is appalling for a place that frequently reaches above 40°C through the summer. There is one bench seat provided near the kids play equipment for parents to sit and supervise their children. The ground in the fenced play area is literally covered in burs, which is great when small children fall over and get covered in them. So please tell me why planting 8 new trees in Coonabarabran is more of a priority than fixing these long standing issues?

Angela Fairman

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 9 May 2019 11:36 AM
To: Records Officer
Subject: Increase in rates in Baradine

To the general manager
Mr Rodger Bailey

I am writing about the proposed rate rise

This is causing some stress because we are having trouble paying our rates as it is and with the proposed rate hike I have serious concerns that we will be pushed to braking point

I would appreciate it if you would reconsider the proposed rate hike

Thanks for listening
[REDACTED]

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

17-99670

Mr. Roger Bailey
General Manager
Warrumbungle Shire Council
PO Box 191
COONABARABRAN NSW 2357
9.4.19

Re: OL Milling/Lions Park - DUNEDOO

Shire Community Consultation Meeting 5.30pm. Tuesday 9th April 2019. Jubilee Hall DUNEDOO.

Dear Roger and Councillors

I write to ask if a full-time gardener for Dunedoo OL Milling/Lions Park be assigned in the forthcoming 2019/20 budget please?

Dunedoo is ideally located a one hour driving distance from larger centres north south east and west on two highways. The park is our greatest asset and we need help to take advantage of this location.

Local volunteers do much to keep this small town going with monthly markets, social and cultural events and social interaction with young and old through sport and community projects. This is never ending and one has to leave the district to get a break.

At our once a month markets, the street is filled to capacity with cars having problems finding a park. Yahoo, What a problem! The shops are busy and the community is alive socially and culturally.

Market management only accept locally 'Made 'N' Grown' produce and products (150klms. radius) Stall holders are increasing all the time with the latest being Blue Sky Cheese from Mendooran, and the other great Mendooran enterprise of Black Gate Whisky.

Rumour has it that an artist is applying for funding to paint the world best race horse, Winks, and the world's best jockey, Hugh Bowman, on the privately-owned silos in the heart of our street.

With a well tendered attractive park, and increased reasons to come this way, Dunedoo, could become the preferred route to/from all directions. A huge bonus for the WSC region, locals and the wider region, as well as capitalising on Mudgee/Gulgong tourism.

I have just travelled four thousand kilometres over three weeks, through Victoria with a women's only travelling group to see major points of interest including silo art. We stopped at small rural towns that were attractive and stood out from the others. Our destination was Halls Gap where 100 women spent four days (\$30 night) at the local caravan park. We travelled independently in campervans, motorhomes and with caravans. We all had to refuel, we all had to eat.

Dunedoo does not have the Grampians but Coonabarabran has the Warrumbungle's and Coolah is Tops! We just want a gardener!


I ask that serious consideration be given to this request to do us proud and to stand out.

Yours sincerely with thanks.

██████████ M. ██████████ ██████████

I am writing to you voice my opinion on the proposed rates increase. This is very upsetting to me as I feel you need to take into consideration the rate hike will have on many in our community. As an aged pensioner my income is very limited and this increase would be more then I will be able to afford. This town cannot afford an increase like this. Just look at the businesses that we are loosing, that must show you our town is suffering financially. How will we be able to keep food, car expenses and electricity bills just to name a few paid when we don't get an increase in our fortnightly payments to cover the rate increases. You are employed by us to do the right for the community this is not right. How can you justify such an increase. I guess this will just help to line the pockets of the Shire Council to hell with the little man. Just close the gate and turn off the lights as you leave the town. As there will be no one left in town we won't need a council or employees to pick up the garbage.

Yours

 (Pensioner and Rate payer)

Sent from Outlook