



Warrumbungle Shire Council

Council meeting
Thursday, 16 April 2009

to be held at the Council Chambers, Coolah

commencing at 1.00 pm

MAYOR

Councillor Peter Shinton

DEPUTY MAYOR

Councillor Murray Coe

COUNCILLORS

Councillor Kerry Campbell

Councillor Tilak Dissanayake

Councillor Ray Lewis

Councillor Mark Powell

Councillor Victor Schmidt

Councillor Ron Sullivan

Councillor Denis Todd

MANAGEMENT TEAM

Robert Geraghty (General Manager)

Carolyn Upston (Director Corporate Services)

Kevin Tighe (Director Technical Services)

Tony Meppem (Acting Director Environmental Services)

Rebecca Ryan (Director Community Services)

WARRUMBUNGLE SHIRE COUNCIL

**ORDINARY MEETING OF THE WARRUMBUNGLE SHIRE COUNCIL TO BE HELD AT
THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, COOLAH ON THURSDAY, 16 APRIL 2009 COMMENCING
AT 1.00PM**

Date: 9 April 2009

Cr Peter Shinton
Mayor
Warrumbungle Shire Council
John Street
COONABARABRAN 2357

Cr Shinton

AGENDA

I submit the following report for Council's consideration at its April meeting. I further attach relevant reports from the Directors to me for the consideration of Council.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES of the ordinary meeting of Warrumbungle Shire Council held on 19 March 2009

ADOPTION OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS of the Traffic Advisory Committee meeting held on 26 March 2009

ADOPTION OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS of the Warrumbungle Shire Council Occupational Health & Safety Committee meeting held on 26 March 2009

ADOPTION OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS of the Warrumbungle Shire Tourism and Economic Development Advisory Committee meeting held on 25 March 2009

MINUTES of the Consultative Advisory Committee meeting held on 26 March 2009
for notation

ACCEPTANCE of the minutes of the Binnaway Town Committee meeting held on 20 October 2008

ACCEPTANCE of the minutes of the Baradine Town Committee meeting held on 20 October 2008

ACCEPTANCE of the minutes of the Mendooran/Merrygoen Town Committee meeting held on 21 October 2008

ACCEPTANCE of the minutes of the Dunedoo Town Committee meeting held on 21 October 2008

ACCEPTANCE of the minutes of the Coolah Town Committee meeting held on 21 October 2008

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PRESENTATION

1.15pm Weight of Loads Group - Mr David Wolfenden from Moree Plains Shire Council

Matter to be dealt with "in committee"

In accordance with the Local Government Act 1993 and the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005, in the opinion of the General Manager, the following business is of a kind as referred to in Section 10A(2) of the Act, and should be dealt with in a part of the meeting closed to the media and public.

The following items – Sale of Land for Overdue Rates and Fees write off - are classified CONFIDENTIAL under Section 10A(2)(b) and (c) of the Local Government Act 1993, which permits the meeting to be closed to the public for business relating to the following:

- (b) confidential information relating to staff
- (c) information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person/or persons with whom the council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business.

.....
R J GERAGHTY
GENERAL MANAGER

WARRUMBUNGLE SHIRE COUNCIL

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GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

ANNEXURE 1

1.1 BUDGET ADJUSTMENTS COOLAH PRESCHOOL

In reviewing the structure of the Budget for 2009/10 the Coolah Preschool/School of Arts activities have been separated and moved from Corporate Services to Community Services. When this was done an apportionment of costs was also made between the two on a half each activity basis.

When the adjustment was made the Capital Works programme was also moved. The work Council was advised that was needed was for \$10,000 towards repairing a box gutter and carpeting the Preschool. Both Directors have advised that the works have been previously done and the funds are now not needed. The monies were placed in the 2008/09 budget as a revote.

Therefore it is necessary for Council to remove this item from the Budget.

Part of the \$10,000 was financed by a contribution from the Coolah School of Arts Restricted Asset.

Therefore the bottom line effect will be to reduce the final deficit by \$6,000.

RECOMMEDATION

That Council approve a supplementary vote of a credit adjustment for the Coolah Preschool Capital Works of \$10,000 and a debit against the various items of transfer from Restricted Assets Coolah School of Arts.

1.2 COUNCIL COMMITTEES – ENDORSING STRUCTURES OF COMMITTEES

Council at its Special meeting in September 2008 endorsed the following Community Committees and Councillor representatives:

Coonabarabran Town Beautification Advisory Committee

2 Councillor representatives being Councillors Shinton and Schmidt

Warrumbungle Shire Tourism and Economic Development Advisory Committee

2 Councillor representatives being Councillors Schmidt and Campbell

Medical Services Advisory Committee

2 Councillor representatives being Councillors Dissanayake and Todd

Shire Halls Advisory Committee

2 Councillor representatives being Councillors Schmidt and Coe

Warrumbungle Aerodromes Advisory Committee

2 Councillor representatives being Councillors Powell and Campbell

Roads Review Committee

All Interested Councillors

Warrumbungle Shire Council Social Services Advisory Committee

1 Councillor representative being Councillor Campbell

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Attempts have been made by Council to fill these positions and as result of lack of interest and by way of Resolution Number 273 of the ordinary March 2009 meeting the following committees were desolved:

Coonabarabran Town Beautification Advisory Committee

2 Councillor representatives being Councillors Shinton and Schmidt

Shire Halls Advisory Committee

2 Councillor representatives being Councillors Schmidt and Coe

The makeup of the community representation of the remaining Committees now need to be confirmed:

Warrumbungle Aerodromes Advisory Committee

2 Councillor representatives being Cr Powell and Campbell

Mr Roy Matthews – Baradine

Mr Garry Connelly – Coolah

Mr Colin Tink – Coonabarabran

Mr Kevin Barrington - Coonabarabran

Warrumbungle Shire Tourism and Economic Development Advisory Committee

2 Councillor representatives being Councillors Schmidt and Campbell

Team Leader Tourism and Economic Development (Mrs Aileen Bell)

One member from each of the five smaller towns who is involved in a Progress Association or Development Group being:

Baradine Progress Association – Mrs Liz Cutts and Mrs Gaye Farrell (alternate)

Binnaway Progress Association – Mrs Sharon Bowen and Mr Glen Halliday (alternate)

Coolah District Development – Mrs Carol Richard and Mr Roy Cameron (alternate)

Dunedoo District Development – Mrs Sue Stoddart, Mrs Wendy Hill (alternate), Mrs Jenny Kubowicz (alternate) and Mrs Debbie O'Connor (standby)

Community Development Officer (Mr Proctor Morris)

Coonabarabran Chamber of Commerce – to be approved (Mr David Baker)

NSW Farmers Association – to be approved (Mrs Juleen Young nominee and Ms Donna Burton alternate)

Warrumbungle Tourism Association Inc – Mrs Marie Rickert and Mr Wolfgang Brederick (alternate)

Department of Environment and Climate Change (NPWS) – Mr Mark Fosdick (alternate) and

Nominee to be advised

Indigenous Community Working Party – to be approved (Therese Cain)

Medical Services Advisory Committee

2 Councillor representatives being Councillors Dissanayake and Todd

2 Staff representatives – to be advised

1 Community representative from,

Baradine – Mr Peter Munns

Coolah – Mr Kenneth Pellow

Coonabarabran – Mr Leon Roach

Dunedoo – to be approved (Mr Barry Evans)

Roads Review Committee

All Interested Councillors

Director of Technical Services and General Manager

Warrumbungle Shire Council Social Services Advisory Committee

1 Councillor representative being Councillor Campbell

1 Social Services Staff Member

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RECOMMENDATION

That Council endorse the membership of the remaining Council Community Committees.

1.3 COUNCIL COMMITTEES – ADDITIONAL NOMINATIONS

Council at its ordinary February meeting approved various nominations for Community Committees. The following nominations have since been received for membership of the Warrumbungle Shire Tourism and Economic Development Advisory Committee:

Coonabarabran Chamber of Commerce –

Mr David Baker

NSW Farmers – Mrs Juleen Young – Nominee
Ms Donna Burton – alternate

Department of Environment and Climate Change –

Nominee – to be advised

Mr Mark Fosdick – alternate

Indigenous Community Working Party –

Ms Therese Cain

Medical Advisory Committee – Mr Barry Evans

The Department of Environment and Climate Change has advised that the position of Manager National Park Visitor Centre is yet to be filled however, when this has been completed Council will be informed of the new occupant and nominee for this Committee.

This will then mean that the composition of the Warrumbungle Shire Tourism and Economic Development Advisor Committee will be complete.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council formerly endorse the above nominees.

1.4 INVESTMENTS POLICY

At the time of the amalgamation the Coonabarabran policies were adopted in partnership with those of Coolah Shire subject to no conflicts. There was no formal Investment Policy at Coolah Shire so the Coonabarabran one takes effect.

The policy at Coonabarabran Shire was as follows:

A7. Investments

To invest surplus cash in a manner which is most advantageous to Council subject to the following -

- i That quotations be obtained from each bank with a branch in Coonabarabran along with the Local Government Investment Service and surplus funds lodged with the most advantageous offer.*
- ii That all transactions and quotations be kept in a suitable register;*
- iii That security as to both principle and interest are assured.*

In light of the current world financial market situation and the direction from the Department of Local Government it is appropriate to review this policy to bring it more in line with contemporary standards.

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A Draft Investments Policy has been forwarded to Councillors under separate cover.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council adopt an Investment Policy.

Investment Policy

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this policy is to establish the investment guidelines that Warrumbungle Shire Council adopts in investing its surplus funds.

OBJECTIVES:

The objectives of the policy are:

- 1 To ensure Council undertakes investment of surplus funds in line with the latest Investment Order released by the Minister for Local Government;
- 2 To maximise the security of Council funds by setting parameters for exposure to credit risk and durations of risk within the investment portfolio and the 'single party' exposure of the portfolio to individual institutions;
- 3 Subject to those constraints and Council's liquidity requirements, to maximise the earnings from the portfolio; and
- 4 To establish a framework for monitoring the investments and comparing performance to appropriate benchmarks.

AUTHORITY FOR INVESTMENT AND PRESCRIBED PRACTICES:

All investments are to be made in accordance with:

Local Government Act 1993 – Section 625;
Local Government Act 1993 – Order (of the Minister) dated 31 July 2008
The Trustee Amendment Act (Discretionary Investments) 1997 –
Sections 14A (2), 14C (1) & (2).
Local Government (General) Regulation 2005
Local Government Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting
– Section 11.3

DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY:

The following officers have authority to invest surplus funds, and manage those investments in accordance with this Policy:

General Manager*

* The General Manager will have the authority to sub delegate this authority to the Director Corporate Services and/or the Manager of Finance if deemed appropriate.

AUTHORISED INVESTMENTS:

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All investments must be denominated in Australia Dollars and are limited to those that are included in the Local Government Act 1993 – Investment Order as signed by the Minister for Local Government 31 July 2008. A copy of that current Order is attached as Appendix 1 to this policy. Council's authorised investments are limited to:

- Local, State, Territory or Commonwealth Government bonds, Debentures or Securities;
- Interest bearing deposits, Debentures or Bonds issued by an authorised deposit-taking institution (as defined Banking Act 1959 (Cwth));
- Any Bill of Exchange not exceeding 200 days to maturity with a right of recourse against a bank which has been designated as an authorised-deposit institution;
- A deposit with the Local Government Financial Services Pty Ltd; and
- A deposit with the New South Wales Treasury Corporation.

UNAUTHORISED INVESTMENTS:

- Managed Funds
- Investments containing subordinate debt obligations; and
- Any other investments medians not included in the Local Government Act 1993 – Order (of the Minister) dated 31st July 2008.

INVESTMENT GUIDELINES:

The following guidelines relate to diversification and term to maturity constraints. The percentages are to be applied to the total portfolio and not just the individual portions of the portfolio.

1. TERM TO MATURITY FRAMEWORK FOR THE PORTFOLIO

Overall Portfolio term to Maturity Limits	
Term	Maximum Term to Maturity
Up to 1 Year	100%
1 Year to 3 Years	80%
3 Years to 7 Years	40%

2. PORTFOLIO DIVERSIFICATION

Council will diversify its portfolio so as to control its exposure to any individual institution, as much as possible. The maximum percentage of the total portfolio that can be held with any one institution is as follows;

Issuer	Maximum % with one institution
State, Territory or Commonwealth of Australia	30%
Other Institutions	20%

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3. PERFORMANCE BENCHMARKS

Council will benchmark its performance against the following rates:

Investment Type	Performance Benchmark
Cash	11am Cash Rate
Cash Enhanced/Fixed Interest	UBSWA Bank Bill Index

4. QUOTATIONS ON INVESTMENT:

Council, wherever possible, will obtain quotations from each bank with a branch within the Shire when sourcing and proposing investments.

That all quotations and transactions be kept in a suitable register.

5. NON FINANCIAL FACTORS:

When assessing an investment opportunity in-line with the prudent person rule of the Trustees Amendment Act 1997 there will always be a number of factors, which are not easily quantifiable, that should be considered. These factors may lead to not always accepting the highest rate of return on a particular investment. Staff who make such decisions should document the reasons to support these decisions. This will ensure accountability and transparency and enable those reasons to be easily identified at a later date.

The highest rate alone should not always be accepted by Council, but the investment which delivers the best overall value to Council. This allows staff to include other financial and non-financial factors, in their consideration, when choosing an investment.

Factors which may be considered when choosing investments include:

- Transaction costs
- Ease of making transactions
- Level of service from an institution
- Ability to access funds
- Benefit to Council

6. TRANSITIONAL ARRANGEMENTS

Any non-compliant investments that were held prior to the date of the most recent Investment Order dated the 31st July 2008, which were made in compliance with the previous Ministerial Order dated 15th July 2005 are to be taken as being in compliance with the current Order. This does not apply to any restructuring or switching of investments or any re-investment of proceeds received on the disposal or maturity of such investment.

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For all of council's investments that are captured by this transitional agreement, the following considerations are to be taken:

As these investments mature or if they are sold then they must be replaced with medians that comply with the revised Ministerial Investment Order dated 31st July 2008. In determining the most practicable time to withdraw any such investments, so as to maximise return, Council should consider, but not be limited by, the following issues:

- Any capital loss if the investment was sold
- The preservation of capital if the investment was continued to be held to maturity
- Whether the downgrade of the value is a market fluctuation or a market correction
- The maturity date of the investment
- Council's requirement for the invested funds, (liquidity) and
- Exercising due care and diligence

7. REPORTING

a) Monthly Reports

A monthly report that complies with relevant legislative requirements will be provided to Council, detailing the investment portfolio in terms of holdings, performance and counterparty percentage exposure of total portfolio. The report will detail with actual investment income earned compared to budget for the year to date. It will also confirm compliance with legislative and Council's Policy investment requirements.

b) Audit Certificates

For Audit purposes, certificates must be obtained from the relevant financial institutions confirming the amounts of investment held by Council or on its behalf as at 30 June each year.

8. GENERAL

Council will maintain and invest in accordance with this Policy and relevant legislated requirements. The Investment Strategy will be in accordance with relevant legislated requirements and this Policy. Council will also ensure that security as to both principle and interest are assured.

Any updated Ministerial Investment Order will be incorporated as the new Appendix 1 to this policy

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Circular No. 08-48
Date 18 August 2008
Doc ID. A153888

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REVISED MINISTERIAL INVESTMENT ORDER

The recent Review of NSW Local Government Investments ("the Cole Report") investigated the impact on councils that invested in structured financial products. The NSW Government adopted all the recommendations from the report.

The Minister for Local Government has now issued a revised Order pursuant to section 625 of the *Local Government Act 1993*. The Minister signed the amended Order on 31 July 2008 and it was gazetted on Friday 15 August 2008. It replaces the Order dated 15 July 2005. The revised Order is attached to this circular.

The changes to the Order include:

- including both principal and investment income in the definition of investment instruments
- removal of investments with specific credit ratings under items (k) and (l) of the previous Order. This decision will be reviewed after 31 December 2009
- removal of item (g) in the previous Order, which identified purchase of land as a form of investment. This removal does not preclude a council from acquiring land for the purpose of exercising any of its functions (s186(1) *Local Government Act 1993*)
- streamlining the wording around investing in public funds and securities issued by or guaranteed by the Commonwealth or Territory (part (a))
- restricting mortgages over land to first mortgages with a Loan to Value ratio of no greater than 60% (part (c))
- excluding subordinated obligations (part (d))
- improving the wording for investments and bills of exchange with authorised deposit-taking institutions (part (e))
- transitional arrangements regarding existing investments (grandfathering provisions).

The Department is preparing guidelines aimed at assisting councils in developing a comprehensive investment policy. The process will incorporate consultation with stakeholders. The guidelines will include issues raised in the Cole Report relating to conflicts of interest, such as product manufacturers and distributors being appointed as investment advisors, and the fiduciary responsibilities of councils and county councils in relation to investment activities.

When considering selling current investments that fall below the requirements of the revised Ministerial Investment Order (see Circular 06-70), councils should exercise due care and diligence. Councils should not solely rely on advice from the issuer of the investment and should seek independent financial advice. An investment adviser or dealer acting on behalf of a council should be licensed by the Australian Securities and Investment Commission (ASIC) (www.asic.gov.au)

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Garry Payne'.

**Garry Payne AM
Director General**

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LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1993 – INVESTMENT ORDER

(Relating to investments by councils)

I, the Hon. Paul Lynch MP, Minister for Local Government, in pursuance of section 625(2) of the *Local Government Act, 1993* and with the approval of the Treasurer, do, by this my Order, notify for the purposes of section 625 of that Act that a council or county council may only invest money (on the basis that all investments must be denominated in Australian Dollars) in the following forms of investment:

- (a) any public funds or securities issued by or guaranteed by, the Commonwealth, any State of the Commonwealth or a Territory;
- (b) any debentures or securities issued by a council (within the meaning of the *Local Government Act 1993* (NSW));
- (c) mortgage of land in any State or Territory of the Commonwealth (restricted to first mortgages over land with a Loan to Value ratio of no greater than 60%);
- (d) interest bearing deposits with, or any debentures or bonds issued by, an authorised deposit-taking institution (as defined in the *Banking Act 1959* (Cwth)), but excluding subordinated debt obligations;
- (e) any bill of exchange which has a maturity date of not more than 200 days; and if purchased for value confers on the holder in due course a right of recourse against a bank which has been designated as an authorised deposit-taking institution by the Australian Prudential Regulation Authority;
- (f) a deposit with the Local Government Financial Services Pty Ltd
- (g) a deposit with the New South Wales Treasury Corporation or investments in an Hour-Glass investment facility of the New South Wales Treasury Corporation.

All investment instruments (excluding short term discount instruments) referred to above include both principal and investment income.

Transitional Arrangements

- (i) Subject to paragraph (ii) nothing in this Order affects any investment made before the date of this Order which was made in compliance with the previous Ministerial Order dated 15 July 2005, and such investments are taken to be in compliance with this Order.
- (ii) Paragraph (i) only applies to those investments made before the date of this Order and does not apply to any restructuring or switching of investments or any re-investment of proceeds received on disposal or maturity of such investments, which for the avoidance of doubt must comply with this Order.

Dated this 31st day of July

2008


Hon PAUL LYNCH MP
Minister for Local Government

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1.5 LOANS LIABILITIES

Council borrows funds to undertake projects that it cannot otherwise do within the income budget each year. The consequence of any loan is that a premium is paid by way of interest and that burden appears in each future budget both in principal and interest.

The loans Council is committed to are as follows:

Reference	Purpose	Original Borrowed	Annual Repayment	Lender	Term
WSC 1	Coona Medical Centre	\$100,680	\$16,696.40	Westpac	8 years
WSC 2	Construct Woolshed and Bugaldie Ck Bridges	\$600,000	\$51,520.28	Westpac	20 years
WSC 3	Baradine Sewerage	\$193,934	\$27,516.40	Westpac	10 years
WSC 4	Coolah Drs Residence	\$200,000	\$19,715.88	Commonwealth	20 years
WSC 5	Coolah GM's Residence	\$200,000	\$18,920.22	Commonwealth	20 years
WSC 6	Coolah Pool	\$50,000	\$4,704.54	Commonwealth	20 years
WSC 7	Construct Queensborough, Boolaroo & Mogador Bridges	\$500,000	\$43,773.42	Westpac	20 years
WSC 8	Mendooran Water	\$1,000,000	\$81,791.56	NAB	30 years

Most of those loans were raised on the basis of the term of the loan with periods of 4 years for renewals. Thus periodically Council must determine what it will do by either paying out the loan or renewal of all or part of the remaining balance. The above loans are due for renewal or finalisation on the following dates:

Reference	Purpose	Date	Action
WSC 1	Coona Medical Centre	12/07/08	Paid out
WSC 2	Woolshed and Bugaldie Cr Bridges	30/06/09	Renewal
WSC 3	Baradine Sewerage	29/09/10	Paid out
WSC 4	Coolah Drs Residence	16/06/10	Renewal
WSC 5	Coolah GM's Residence	04/12/10	Renewal
WSC 6	Coolah Pool	27/06/12	Renewal

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WSC 7	Queensborough, Mogador and Boomaroo Bridges	15/04/09	Renewal
WSC 8	Mendooran Water # 1	22/10/13	Renewal

In this respect immediate action is needed to determine what will be done with,

Woolshed and Bugaldie Cr Bridges Loan	30/06/09
Queensborough, Mogador and Bootheroo Cr Bridges Loan	15/04/09

Also in the immediate future what action will be needed for,

Coolah Dr's Residence	16/06/10
Coolah GM's Residence	04/12/10

The above information is presented to allow Council to determine what action it wants to do in response to the above maturing loans.

RECOMMENDATION

For Council's determination

1.6 MEETING TIMES

The following item was tabled at the ordinary Council meeting in January:

Under Resolution 75 of the Council meeting held on 29 September 2008, Council resolved as follows:

75 RESOLVED that the ordinary meetings of Council be held on the third Thursday of each month commencing at 1.00pm and that meetings alternate between Coonabarabran and Coolah and if residents are interested that one of the meetings be held at Goolhi and **FURTHER** that the October 2008 meeting be held on 16 October, the November 2008 meeting be held on 13 November and the December 2008 meeting be held on 18 December. **FURTHER** that no ordinary meeting be held in January 2009 and that the February 2009 meeting be held on the second Thursday of the month in lieu of the third Thursday.

Since that meeting concerns have been raised by some Councillors regarding the commencement time. Council may now wish to review this matter.

Resolution 206 of that meeting determined that, *no action be taken at this time concerning this matter, however the matter is to be resubmitted to Council's April meeting for further consideration.*

The matter is now resubmitted for further consideration.

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RECOMMENDATION

For Council's consideration.

1.7 BARADINE SES VOLUNTEER LOCAL CONTROLLER

Council has received correspondence from the Region Controller for the SES advising of the resignation of the Local Controller for Baradine SES, Mr Jeremy Johnston, due to personal commitments.

The Region Controller has recommended that Mr George Muller be appointed to this position until the Director General makes a formal appointment. The appointment of all controllers is by review each odd numbered year and is done with a common date of the 1st of August.

Council should now consider the temporary appointment of Mr George Muller and advise the Region Controller, David Monk of its determination.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council endorse the appointment of George Muller as Local SES Controller for Baradine SES.

1.8 BUSHFIRE EQUIPMENT

Council is involved in the operations and management of the Rural Fire Services activities. One of those involvements of Council's is that the equipment is in the ownership of Council. That means when any item is depreciated or needs to be disposed of it is Council's formal responsibility to finalise the process.

That disposal must be in accordance with any policy that Council may have on the disposal of equipment. To this end Councillors should refer to the policy register under Strategic 1.16 "Disposal of Council Assets".

This matter may well fit under clause 14 but must have clearly articulated reasons for setting aside the policy.

An additional requirement for this equipment is that the Commissioner of the Rural Fire Service must also approve of the disposal of the equipment.

The present matter fits into two separate categories and those special circumstances are outlined.

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Tanker Appliances (Trucks)

The Commissioner has approved the writing off and disposal of the following equipment:

Bedford	1973 KD	1981	BFO-6650
International	C1510	1968	BFO-2045
International	ACCO 21-4X4	1963	BFO-2059
International	MARK 3	1973	BFO-2050
Bedford	MK	1972	BFO-2058
International	AB 160	1966	BFO-2254
International	MARK 5 6X6	1974	BFO-2056

by way of Auction/Tender or Transfer.

Council has been authorised to remove particular aspects of equipment from the trucks to ensure that they cannot be used in future as fire fighting equipment. Once this is done Council must dispose of the equipment with the proceeds less advertising being forwarded to the NSW RFS Head Office.

A separate truck is for disposal but rather than disposal by auction or sale Council has been requested by the Commissioner to gift the appliance to the Cudgegong RFS Heritage Committee. The appliance is a unique piece of equipment. It is a Studebaker – USB 1943 BFO-2043. This equipment represents one of six fire fighting appliances that were built in 1943.

The appliance would be refurbished and displayed in a museum to yet be created.

Tanker Trailers

This equipment has traditionally been held on individual properties where it was kept full of water ready for localised fires. Many tanker trailers have been on farmers properties for decades. A briefing report by the Zone Manager has been forwarded to Councillors separately.

The first step must be for Council to agree to write off the following tanker trailers:

BF No.	Brigade	Description
1481	Binnia	Dean 650-1980
5033	Binnia	Unknown
1498	Coolah Creek	Dean 650-1970
1499	Coolah Creek	Dean 650-1980
8651	Tombildoon	T3601
8654	Tombildoon	T3604
8670	Yaminbah	T4205
8609	Dandry	Unknown
8610	Dandry	T1202
8611	Dandry	T1203
8597	Brooks Road	T0802

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8600	Brooks Road	T0805
8579	Baradine Country	T0102
8582	Baradine Country	T0105
8580	Baradine Country	T0103
8620	Goorianawa	T1503
8634	Marran	T2303
8635	Marran	T2304
8636	Marran	T2305
5449	Cobbora	TT71
5453	Cobbora	TT186-1996
5450	Cobbora	TC95 1300-1996
5451	Cobbora	TC179
5452	Cobbora	Unknown
1467	Dapper	TT72 Dean
1477	Dapper	TT73 Dean
1459	Dapper	TT67 Dean
1480	Dapper	TT81 Dean
1445	Dunedoo	TT70 1300
1458	Dunedoo	TT62
1444	Dunedoo	AT457889 Dean

The next step is for Council to determine the means of disposal. In this case the Rural Fire Service has recommended that the 31 tanker trailers be “written off in situ” – that is disposed of by gift to the property owner on whose land the tanker trailer is currently located. The RFS advises that this fits in with the Service Standards.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council write off and dispose of the following equipment in the following manner:

- a) Tanker appliances - that the following seven appliances be disposed of by public tender:

Bedford	1973 KD	1981	BFO-6650
International	C1510	1968	BFO-2045
International	ACCO 21-4X4	1963	BFO-2059
International	MARK 3	1973	BFO-2050
Bedford	MK	1972	BFO-2058
International	AB 160	1966	BFO-2254
International	MARK 5 6X6	1974	BFO-2056

- b) The Studebaker Tanker Appliance be gifted to the Cudgegong Rural Fire Museum subject to a suitable form of recognition is given to Warrumbungle Shire Council for this gift.

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- c) That the 31 tankers be written of in situ and the Rural Fire Service be required to advise each property owner and brigade of the disposal:

BF No.	Brigade	Description
1481	Binnia	Dean 650-1980
5033	Binnia	Unknown
1498	Coolah Creek	Dean 650-1970
1499	Coolah Creek	Dean 650-1980
8651	Tombildoon	T3601
8654	Tombildoon	T3604
8670	Yaminbah	T4205
8609	Dandry	Unknown
8610	Dandry	T1202
8611	Dandry	T1203
8597	Brooks Road	T0802
8600	Brooks Road	T0805
8579	Baradine Country	T0102
8582	Baradine Country	T0105
8580	Baradine Country	T0103
8620	Goorianawa	T1503
8634	Marran	T2303
8635	Marran	T2304
8636	Marran	T2305
5449	Cobbora	TT71
5453	Cobbora	TT186-1996
5450	Cobbora	TC95 1300-1996
5451	Cobbora	TC179
5452	Cobbora	Unknown
1467	Dapper	TT72 Dean
1477	Dapper	TT73 Dean
1459	Dapper	TT67 Dean
1480	Dapper	TT81 Dean
1445	Dunedoo	TT70 1300
1458	Dunedoo	TT62
1444	Dunedoo	AT457889 Dean

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1.9 MENDOORAN PARK

Discussion and negotiations have been progressing with the Mendooran Progress Association and members of the public about the state of the park in the main street at Mendooran. The primary issue has been the watering of the Park.

The plan is to put an in ground watering system in place. While the Department of Water will not issue licences for new bores agreement has been received from the RSL Board that Warrumbungle Shire Council can use a bore on their land. The bore is not being used by the club. However, there are some issues in the workings of the bore and quality of water that still need to be investigated.

The Mendooran Progress Association has now asked that the \$30,000 or that is a restricted asset for special projects in Mendooran be now allocated to the park upgrade.

RECOMMENDATION

That a supplementary vote of \$30,000 be made to the Mendooran Town Park and that this amount be offset by a transfer from Restricted Assets Mendooran Special Projects of \$30,000.

1.10 RESTRICTED ASSETS

Council has placed amounts of money in restricted assets for various determined purposes at a future date. Each allocation to restricted assets needs also to be backed by cash. There now is a concern as to whether that means this should be accessible cash – that is if the restricted asset is backed by cash that is tied up in a long term investment and under the current global financial situation access to those funds is not readily available as previously was the case.

Were investments cannot be accessed for several years is it appropriate to allocate restrictions which really cannot be done because of lack of cash flow.

The policies of both the previous Council's were adopted under the Proclamation. The Coonabarabran Shire Council's Policies were adopted and take precedence. Where there is a conflict with the Coolah Shire Policy the Coonabarabran one is used otherwise the Coolah Shire Policy is added.

There was no policy in the Coolah Shire directing what could or could not be created as a restricted asset. The Coonabarabran Shire had a policy covering restricted assets and it is outlined below:

A9. Restricted Assets

- i Type of expenses provided for in restricted assets shall be replacement of plant, office equipment, employees leave entitlements and any other matter Council may determine by resolution.*
- ii Amount of Annual Provision*

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a) Plant -

The amounts required to meet the programmed replacement of plant under Council's Long Term Replacement Programme be transferred to the restricted assets for that purpose.

b) Office Equipment -

The amount required to meet the anticipated cost of replacing the major items of equipment at the end of their useful life;

c) Employees Leave Entitlements -

The amount required to maintain an adequate level of reserves to meet charges as made;

A list of current restricted assets will be tabled at the April Council meeting.

When that is done Councillors will note there are two classes of restricted assets – externally restricted assets are set by legislation or are required as a condition of a Grant, effectively there is no choice. The second type are internally restricted and these are what Council decides it wants to put aside and why. Restricted assets must have a purpose, there should be no restriction for an undefined purpose.

This Policy will apply to the internal restrictions.

If the restricted assets are not reviewed regularly many thousands of dollars are there without there being a need.

A number of Councils annually review their restrictions and I believe Warrumbungle Shire Council should do the same.

Council should now determine the extent of a Restricted Assets Policy.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council adopt a Policy on the type of restricted assets that should be created and further that annually at the August Council meeting a list of current restrictions be submitted to Council for review and endorsement.

1.11 SHIRES CONFERENCE

The Annual Shires Conference is to be held in Sydney on 1st, 2nd and 3rd June 2009. Each year according to Council policy the Mayor and General Manager attend along with two Councillors.

It is now necessary for Council to determine the number of Councillors attending the Conference.

RECOMMENDATION

For Council's consideration.

.....
R J GERAGHTY
GENERAL MANAGER

WARRUMBUNGLE SHIRE COUNCIL

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Mr R J Geraghty
General Manager
Warrumbungle Shire Council
John Street
COONABARABRAN 2357

Dear Sir

DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE SERVICES

ANNEXURE 2

2.1 RECONCILIATION OF GENERAL FUND BANK ACCOUNT – 31 MARCH 2009

Reconciliation of General Fund Bank Account Date 31st MARCH, 2009	
CASHBOOK	
Balance as at 01.03.09	18,224,850.40
Income	
- Total Receipts	4,083,397.62
- Total Investments	
	<hr/>
	22,308,248.02
Expenditure	
- Total Cheques Drawn	4,094,426.47
	<hr/>
Balance as at 31.03.09	18,213,821.55
BANK STATEMENT	
Bank Statement As at 31.03.09	731,550.74
Total of Bank Statements as at 31.03.09	731,550.74
Amount Not Receipted This Month	
	<hr/>
	731,550.74
Outstanding Deposits	<hr/>
	37,752.21
	<hr/>
	769,302.95
Total Investments	15,185,000.00
Unpresented Cheques	5,399.35
	<hr/>
	15,948,903.60
DIFFERENCE	2,264,917.95

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Please Note:

Recent bank reconciliations presented to Council have been drawn directly from Practical. The auditors uncovered some discrepancies in their recent visit. This is a bank reconciliation prepared in an Excel spreadsheet using data from actual bank statements and our General Ledger/Cashbook. The discrepancies are currently being investigated but it is now evident these discrepancies date back several years.

**CAROLYN UPSTON
DIRECTOR CORPORATE SERVICE**

WARRUMBUNGLE SHIRE COUNCIL

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Reconciliation of Bank Accounts with General Ledger – 31 March 2009		
Bank Accounts		Ledger Balances
5220-3001-0000	Investments	11,070,161.93
5220-3000-0000	Managed Funds	10,841,798.15
5410-3000-0000	Bank Account	(9,554,574.85)
5410-3004-0000	Externally Restricted Assets	-
5410-3099-0000	Managed Investments	(1,024,536.73)
5220-3002-0000	Bank Account	(48,245.32)
7100-3000-0000	Baradine Water	(277,796.92)
7100-3001-0000	Baradine Water Investments	271,112.91
7200-3000-0000	Binnaway Water	(216,533.70)
7200-3001-0000	Binnaway Water Investments	636,528.41
7300-3000-0000	Coona Water	(252,850.49)
7300-3001-0000	Coona Water Investments	1,572,488.91
7300-3003-0000	Due from Reserves	74,900.00
7300-3004-0000	Externally Restricted Assets	(74,900.00)
7300-3005-0000	Section 64 Contributions	1,031.82
7400-3000-0000	Coolah Water	(650,807.01)
2830-3099-0000	Merrygoen Water	16,249.00
8100-3000-0000	Coona Sewerage	535,066.57
8100-3001-0000	Coona Sewerage Investments	1,591,702.94
8200-3000-0000	Baradine Sewerage	175,225.27
8200-3001-0000	Baradine Sewerage Investments	178,251.86
8400-3000-0000	Coolah Sewerage	309,261.32
8400-3900-0000	Coolah Sewerage Investments	793,910.00
7400-3900-0000	Coolah Water Investment	-
TOTAL		15,967,444.07
DIFFERENCE		18,540.47

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2.2 STATEMENT OF INVESTMENTS AS AT 31ST MARCH 2009 INVESTMENT REGISTER

Warrumbungle Shire Council Local Government Financial Management Regulations (Clause 16)						
	Invested With	Amount	Initial Interest Rate	Taken	Maturity	Current Interest Rate
On Call	Suncorp Metway	185,000.00		Daily	Daily	3.75%
1	ANZ Three Pillars - FRN-AA-	500,000.00	BBSW+1 20	24/03/2005	6/04/2010	Principal Protection
2	RIM Securities BOND ST CUSTODIAN- TITANIUM AAA	2,000,000.00	7.27%	17/05/2005	14/12/2010	5.31%
3	CBA Range Accrual	1,000,000.00	7.50%	14/12/2010	14/12/2010	Outside Range
4	CBA Range Accrual	1,000,000.00	7.50%	16/12/2010	16/12/2010	Outside Range
5	ROYAL BANK CANADA Range Accrual	1,000,000.00	7.70%	16/03/2006	16/03/2011	Outside Range
6	PIMCO PRINCIPAL PROTECTED	500,000.00	50% CG	22/02/2007	28/02/2011	Principal Protection
7	TRIDENT-CREDIT SUISSE SYDNEY BRANCH PPN-AA-	500,000.00	50% CG	30/05/2007	30/05/2011	Principal Protection
8	ANZ CREDIT SAIL-ANZ INVESTMENT BANK CDO- A	500,000.00	BBSW+1 50	14/11/2005	30/12/2011	Principal Protection
9	BENDIGO BANK FRN	500,000.00	BBSW +120	21/09/2007	21/09/2012	Principal Protection

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	Invested With	Amount	Initial Interest Rate	Taken	Maturity	Current Interest Rate
10	ANZ ASPIRT 1- CPPI/FRN-Aap	500,000.00	50% CG	15/11/2006	8/11/2012	Principal Protection
11	WBC DANDELION-FRN-	1,000,000.00	BBSW + 12BP	20/12/2007	21/12/2012	Principal Protection
12	ANZ ASPRIT 11- CPPI/FRN-Aap	800,000.00	50% CG	30/03/2007	30/03/2013	Principal Protection
13	DEUTSCHE BANK AG LONDON DAISY	1,500,000.00	6% + CG	21/03/2006	20/03/2013	Principal Protection
14	ANZ ALL SEASONS- KEOLIS AAA	1,500,000.00	8.00%	16/06/2006	16/06/2013	Principal Protection
15	ANZ AVERON BOND- SEALINK P/L- CPPI/FRN-AAA	700,000.00	BBSW+1 50	25/10/2005	30/10/2015	Principal Protection
16	DRESDNER BANK OCTAGON PLC- EMU NOTE	1,500,000.00	7.00%	25/10/2015	30/10/2015	Principal Protection
		15,185,000.00				

In addition to the above investments Council's General Fund Bank Account and Trust Fund Bank Account is maintained in a credit position at all times and attracts a rate of 0.9% (CBA) and 1.5% (WBC).

In accordance with Regulation No.264, Clause 19(3)(b) I certify that the investments have been made in accordance with the Act, the Regulations and the Council's Investment policies.

Paul B Baker
Finance Manager

WARRUMBUNGL SHIRE COUNCIL

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RECOMMENDATION

For Council's information.

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2.3 RATES AND CHARGES COLLECTION REPORT UP TO AND INCLUDING END MARCH 2009

GENERAL		RATE ARREARS	2007/2008 LEVY	PENSIONER WRITE OFF	TOTAL PAYMENTS TO DATE	TOTAL OUTSTANDING 2008/2009	TOTAL OUTSTANDING 2007/2008	COLLECTION % 2008/2009	COLLECTION % 2007/2008
	CBN RES/RURAL RES	112,581	940,156	71,594	700,999	279,675	262,105	42.56%	72.16%
	BARADINE	38,915	126,476	17,387	84,007	63,994	58,491	53.69%	57.20%
	BINNAWAY	18,975	59,120	10,084	42,447	25,563	30,968	51.91%	55.91%
	VILLAGES	7,995	21,698	2,102	16,388	11,201	11,653	48.19%	57.03%
	FARMLAND	151,493	3,835,073	19,675	2,923,162	1,032,383	954,433	70.22%	75.42%
	COOLAH	13,702	181,643	14,444	136,925	43,975	39,277	72.88%	78.15%
	DUNEDOO	12,688	200,118	16,263	146,875	49,668	46,588	69.71%	75.35%
	MENDOORAN	9,744	62,484	6,979	44,119	21,126	17,391	67.30%	73.25%
	LEADVILLE	2,511	9,430	1,487	6,419	4,034	4,338	55.15%	58.71%
	MERRYGOEN	539	3,817	688	2,393	1,275	1,245	56.84%	64.09%
	NEILREX	107	2,296	200	1,289	914	587	72.32%	74.81%
	UARBRY	830	3,386	76	3,950	190	1,066	66.73%	66.73%
	COOLABAH ESTATE	2,259	14,347	1,563	10,666	4,376	5045	56.45%	66.17%
	RUR/RES COBBORA	599	3,387	299	2,374	1,312	855	68.11%	78.93%
	GENERAL RESD/BUS-STH	10,724	129,606	9,193	100,563	30,566	26,242	73.58%	79.32%
	BUSINESS-CBN- RURAL	31,534	361,148	250	291,401	100,933	92,598	72.31%	76.44%

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		RATE ARREARS	2007/2008 LEVY	PENSIONER WRITE OFF	TOTAL PAYMENTS TO DATE	TOTAL OUTSTANDING 2008/2009	TOTAL OUTSTANDING 2007/2008	COLLECTION % 2008/2009	COLLECTION % 2007/2008
WATER						0			
	COONABARABRAN	31,344	310,865	27,419	221,940	92,564	78,724	69.25%	72.97%
	BARADINE	36,144	85,278	10,272	61,472	49,677	48,518	49.69%	53.08%
	BINNAWAY	33,560	65,706	8,708	52,816	37,739	45,030	49.12%	52.48%
	VILLAGES	16,526	11,040	960	6,857	19,748	18,976	22.44%	24.89%
	FARMLAND - NTH & STH	88.00	1,026.00	0.00	861	253	260.64	85.41%	72.86%
	COOLAH	21,343	183,484	11,034	125,065	68,728	33,558	69.65%	75.88%
	DUNEDOO	8,348	123,105	9,348	89,688	32,418	29,213	68.70%	74.15%
	MENDOORAN	9,926	96,480	4,664	65,680	36,053	17,675	64.51%	69.75%
	MERRYGOEN	2,439	10,580	831	7,495	4,693	4,740	53.86%	58.93%
SEWERAGE						0			
	COONABARABRAN	44,440	635,885	27,224	477,986	174,716	160,385	70.92%	74.65%
	BARADINE	52,659	145,365	8,740	117,402	71,878	77,309	54.02%	57.75%
	COOLAH	13,463	152,896	8,804	116,776	40,779	36,846	71.22%	76.22%
	DUNEDOO	8,975	144,059	9,173	107,462	36,400	34,311	69.98%	74.90%
		694,451	7,919,954	299,461	5,965,476	2,336,830	2,138,428	65.45%	73.26%

WARRUMBUNGLE SHIRE COUNCIL

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		RATE ARREARS	2007/2008 LEVY	PENSIONER WRITE OFF	TOTAL PAYMENTS TO DATE	TOTAL OUTSTANDING 2008/2009	TOTAL OUTSTANDING 2007/2008	COLLECTION % 2008/2009	COLLECTION % 2007/2008
GARBAGE- North		68,913	601,268	52,010	443,010	175,103	151,488	69.04%	74.57%
GARBAGE - South		32,222	369,371	36,124	262,570	102,883	109,541	68.34%	68.34%
FARMLAND - NTH - STH		722	29,890	471	21,881	8,259	20,996	72.60%	0.00%
LEGAL FEES		178,484	121,211	0	121,211	178,410	66,520	40.45%	27.94%
						0			
INTEREST		153,612	0	0	86,737	66,875	95,632	56.46%	37.38%
	TOTALS	1,128,404	9,041,695	388,067	6,814,148	2,868,359	2,582,605	69.75%	71.94%

Note: These do not include Legal / Interest / Waste Outstanding Amounts as they are not broken up into these localities

RECOMMENDATION

For Council's information.

.....
CAROLYN UPSTON
DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE SERVICES

WARRUMBUNGLE SHIRE COUNCIL

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Mr R J Geraghty
General Manager
Warrumbungle Shire Council
John Street
COONABARABRAN 2357

Dear Sir

Attached is my report for consideration by Council

DIRECTOR OF TECHNICAL SERVICES

ANNEXURE 3

3.1 BLACKSPOT FUNDING APPROVAL

Background

Council has received correspondence from the Western Region Roads and Traffic Authority (RTA) advising of approval for a project under the Auslink Blackspot programme. The project proposed involves widening the outside of curves and signage improvements on Highway 27, 9 kilometres east of Dunedoo at the intersection with Highway 18. The RTA has a preliminary estimate of works at \$450,000, however Council will need to provide a detailed estimate of cost as part of the project. Council will also be responsible for preparation of a concept plan in conjunction with RTA officers. Works are to be completed under the RMCC arrangements and will be issued as a works order under this contract. Meetings to scope the project and discuss detailed design requirements will be held on site during April/May, with a view to Council starting work early in the new financial year.

Issues

Council now has the opportunity to scope and prepare this project up to a maximum budget of \$450,000. Given the current budget outlook for 09/10 Council's work staff should have little difficulty in programming works to be completed next financial year. All preliminary design and planning works are fully funded under the project budget.

Options

Council may wish to advise the RTA of its acceptance of this funding, and also advise the RTA of its ability to undertake and complete works in the 2009/20010 financial year.

Financial Considerations

This project is fully funded by the federal Auslink programme and requires no supplementary funding by Council. This project has the potential to inject \$450,000 into next year's capital works program for Road Operations.

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RECOMMENDATION

That Council advise the RTA of its acceptance of the grant and further advise of its ability to program and complete works in the 2009/2010 financial year.

3.2 BARADINE FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE BACKGROUND

Council resolved to accept a grant from the Minister for Climate Change, Environment & Commerce for a flood study in Baradine. The process involves establishment of a Floodplain Management Advisory Committee and as such an advertisement was placed calling for nominations from community representatives to be on the Committee. The Baradine Progress Association were also advised.

Three nominations have been received and coincidentally the Committee is to include three community representatives. Nevertheless, Council is still required to formally accept or reject the nominations. A copy of each nomination has been forwarded to Councillors under separate cover.

ISSUES

Ideally the community representatives should have a sound knowledge of the flooding characteristics in Baradine. Also, the representatives should be able to contribute positively to the development of plans for mitigating the impacts of flooding in the town.

OPTIONS

Nominations have been received from the following;

- Mr Barry Johnston
- Mr Richard Crawley
- Mr Mitchell Evans

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

There is no budget implications associated establishment of the Baradine Floodplain Management Advisory Committee.

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the following people are accepted onto the Baradine Floodplain Management Advisory Committee;

- Mr Barry Johnston
- Mr Richard Crawley
- Mr Mitchell Evans

WARRUMBUNGLE SHIRE COUNCIL

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3.3 PROPOSAL TO ESTABLISH A COMMITTEE TO OPPOSE RAIL CLOSURES

BACKGROUND

A request has been received from the Lachlan Regional Transport Committee for Council to become part of a Committee that opposes rail closures. Weddin Shire Council has contributed funds to the proposal which aims to secure the future of rail branch lines. The funds would be used to prepare the various submissions.

The proposal has relevance to Council given that closure of the Gwabegar Binnaway rail line will adversely impact upon the condition of roads in the Shire. Council will need to resolve to become part of the proposed committee and whether it wishes to contribute funds. A copy of the letter from the Lachlan Regional Transport Committee has been forwarded to Councillors under separate cover.

ISSUES

It appears that some rail branch lines in the Lachlan area are threatened with closure and that a group of Councils in the area are preparing submissions with the aim of preventing the closures. This experience is familiar to Warrumbungle Shire Council when a local action group together with Council prepared submissions in 2004 in relation to the Gwabegar Binnaway rail line.

It appears that the State Government has ignored the impact on roads as a result of closing the Gwabegar Binnaway rail line and through this proposed Committee, there may be an opportunity to highlight the infrastructure needs of the grain growers and road users.

OPTIONS

Council has complete discretion in this matter

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

Apparently Weddin Shire Council has contributed \$10,000 towards the establishment of a sub committee of the Lachlan Regional Transport Committee. There is no current budget allocation that will allow Council to make a contribution.

RECOMMENDATIONS

That Council decline an invitation from the Lachlan Regional Transport Committee to be part of a sub committee that aims to prevent closure of rail branch lines.

3.4 BRIDGE NAMING PROPOSALS – TALBRAGAR RIVER AND BOMERA CREEK

BACKGROUND

Council has previously considered to a submission to name the new bridge over the Talbragar River as the NANDOWRIE BRIDGE. Also a submission was considered in relation to Bomera Creek where the proposed name is DUNCAN CARSON BRIDGE. Both these bridge names have been advertised and two submissions have been received.

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One submission supports the bridge name proposals, the other offers an alternate name for the Talbragar River Bridge. Both submissions have been forwarded to Councillors under separate cover.

The name suggested for the Talbragar River Bridge is 'Blue Spec'. 'Blue Spec' won the 1905 Melbourne Cup and apparently was born and bred on the property Turee which surrounded the Talbragar River site.

Council is now required to either accept the proposed bridge names or reject the proposals.

ISSUES

There are no guidelines for naming of bridges, however bridges are often named to recognize a significant cultural event, feature or person associated with the district near the bridge.

OPTIONS

Council has discretion in this matter. Further, there is no requirement to name a bridge at all.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

There are not expected to be any budget implications as a result of naming the bridge.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That the bridge over the Talbragar River is named NANDOWRIE BRIDGE
2. That the bridge over the Bomera Creek is named DUNCAN CARSON BRIDGE

3.5 STREETLIGHT REQUESTS

BACKGROUND

Council has a budget allocation for new streetlights across the Shire and to date, in the current financial year, four requests have been received. The budget allocation is small and invitation for submissions has not been publicly advertised.

The location of the requested streetlights are as follows;

1. Queen Street Baradine outside the Catholic Church
2. Castlereagh Street Coonabarabran behind Coona Bearings
3. Access laneway off Timor Lane behind Library in Coonabarabran
4. Namoi Street Baradine, near the intersection with Walker Street.

A copy of a letter received in support of request No 2 has been forwarded to Councillors under separate cover.

Council is asked to determine which streetlight requests should receive funding in this financial year.

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ISSUES

In the past decisions on streetlight proposals was based on a 3 year programme, however there is no such programme for the current year. That is, new streetlight proposal were considered during preparation of the budget and this year a nominal allocation has been made.

The requests for new streetlights are generally made with the aim of improving night time access or improving security.

OPTIONS

Council has discretion in this matter.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

The budget allocation for new streetlights is \$5,000.

Quotations have been received from Country Energy for installation of the streetlights are they are as follows;

1. Queen Street Baradine outside the Catholic Church	\$2,450*
2. Castlereagh Street Coonabarabran behind Coona Bearings	\$2,828
3. Access laneway off Timor Lane behind Library in Coonabarabran	\$3,423
4. Namoi Street Baradine, near the intersection with Walker Street.	\$3,479

*This quotation was received in August 2008 and may be subject to change.

With each new streetlight proposal, Council's annual maintenance cost with Country Energy increases. Generally the increase is around \$67 per year per streetlight.

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the following two streetlight locations receive funding this financial from the budget allocation of \$5,000.

- Queen Street Baradine outside the Catholic Church
- Castlereagh Street Coonabarabran behind Coona Bearings

3.6 TRANSFER OF CROWN ROAD 5.5KM SOUTH OF COONABARABRAN

BACKGROUND

The RTA is requesting Council agreement to transferring authority for a small area of land from the Crown to Council. The area of land is just 360 square metres in size and is within the existing road reserve. The land is referred to as Lot 10 in DP778024 and is shown in enclosure forwarded to Councillors under separate cover. The general location is approximately 5.5km south of Coonabarabran on the Newell Highway as shown in attachment 1.0.

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The RTA will undertake the administrative work associated with the transfer and pay the associated fee to the Department of Lands. The agreement to transfer must be made by Council and under Council's common seal.

ISSUES

It appears that ownership of Lot 10 was not transferred at the time widening works were undertaken by the RTA.

OPTIONS

Council has discretion in this matter, however there seems no reason why the request from the RTA should be refused.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

There are budget implications associated with this request from the RTA.

RECOMMENDATIONS

That Council agrees to transferring Lot 10 Dp778024 from the Crown to Council for the purposes of road. Further, the General Manager and Mayor are authorized to sign the agreement form under the common seal of Council.

3.7 REQUEST TO USE FOOTPATH TO CONSTRUCT RAMP ACCESS TO A SHOP

BACKGROUND

The owner of a shop in Dalgarno Street Coonabarabran, commonly known as Boysies Butchery, is requesting use of the footpath to construct an access ramp into the shop. Currently, access to the shop is via two internal steps. The first step is approximately 240mm in height and the second step is approximately 140mm in height. The owner wants to provide easier access to the shop and in particular provide wheelchair access.

Essentially the proposal involves use of public land for private purposes and Council is being asked to consider the merits of the proposal. A copy of the letter has been sent to Councillors under separate cover.

ISSUES

Under the Roads Act, Council is able to lease the land to the property owner for a period up to 5 years. The proposed lease must be advertised. It is also possible to sell the land however such a process involves closing that section of the road reserve which can only be approved by the Minister.

The ramp will be used essentially for private gain and under the Local Government Act, such a proposal must also be advertised.

Reference is made by the applicant to the ramp on the footpath outside the Commonwealth Bank. Council approved the ramp in the year 2000 subject to a number of conditions including making modifications to the internal floor layout of the building

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to accommodate up to 35% of the ramp length. The bank also constructed a new external doorway as part of the ramp. The ramp proposal was also subject to a Development Application.

In terms of insurance the ramp becomes Council responsibility. Council could require the shop owner to take out a public liability insurance policy that covers the ramp, however this ongoing requirement needs to be administered by Council.

From a technical perspective it is possible to construct a ramp that meets current Australian Standards for disability access. The length of frontage over which the ramp can be constructed is 7.5m.

OPTIONS

There are three other shop entrances adjoining Boysies butchery with step entrances. There may be significant visual impact on the streetscape, should each of these shops construct an access ramp.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

The proposal is not expected to have any implications for Council's budget.

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the application to use footpath to construct an access ramp into Boysies Butchery is refused on the basis that it will restrict pedestrian flow along Dalgarno Street and it will detract from the general amenity of the street.

3.8 FISH PASSAGE PROPOSAL FOR CONCRETE CAUSEWAY OVER THE CASTLEREAGH RIVER ON MERRYULA ROAD

BACKGROUND

For the last two or three years Officers from the Department of Fisheries have been in discussion with Council Officers regarding construction of a fish passage in the existing causeway over the Castlereagh River on Merryula Road. The Department has identified the causeway as a significant obstruction to the movement of fish along the Castlereagh River and hence it detracts from aquatic environment of the river.

The Central West Catchment Management Authority is now offering funds to allow modifications to be made to the causeway to allow movement of fish. The causeway is a road under the care and control of Council and as such Council is being asked to approve the project.

ISSUES

The existing causeway is thought to have been constructed sometime in the late 1970's. The condition of the causeway is very good with no evidence of cracking or loss of structural integrity. The causeway is subject to turbulence and high drag forces during

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times of flooding in the river and any modifications must ensure the structural integrity of the causeway.

The current proposal involves removing the central 7 metre section of the existing concrete causeway and replacing it with three (3) box culverts. Each box culvert is 1800 mm wide and 600mm high. The proposal includes constructing a concrete slab over the box culvert structure to the level of the existing road.

OPTIONS

Council has discretion in this matter, however the proposal will lower the water level by around 900 mm. Such a proposal may cause some concern for upstream users of the river particular those people who pump from the river for either stock or domestic use or for irrigation. As such any proposal must be advertised to allow Council to determine the extent of any adverse impact to existing users.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

There is no Council budget allocation for the proposed project. The Central West CMA is offering up to \$150,000 for the project and is available only in 2008/09. Acceptance of the funding will be subject to a formal agreement. At this stage no contribution is being sought from Council other than in kind contribution. In this regard, the cost of survey and design requirements can be accommodated within existing budget allocations.

Council construction resources are expected to be fully utilized for the remainder of the financial year. As such a quotation was sought and received from the builder undertaking construction of the bridges for Fulton Hogan. The quotation for the work is \$72,000 (incl. GST). This does not include the material cost of the culverts which is estimated to be \$35,000.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Council agrees in principle with the proposal to modify the existing concrete causeway on Merryula Road over the Castlereagh River, subject to the proposal being advertised and there are no impacts on Council's budget.
2. Council enters into a funding agreement with the Central West Catchment Management Authority regarding construction of a fish passage in the concrete causeway on Merryula Road over the Castlereagh River.

3.9 PROPOSED ROADWORKS AT RAIL BRIDGE SITE ON THE BARADINE ROAD

BACKGROUND

Council will be aware that funding was received from the Australian Government to remove the height restriction on the rail bridge on the Baradine Road. Council will also be aware that the level of funding was insufficient to construct a new rail bridge and hence the bridge that was removed has not been replaced.

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Application was made to the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government to change the scope of works and spend the unused funds on the Castlereagh River Bridge at Ulamambri. As a second alternative, application was made to use the funds for road widening and drainage works at the site of the former rail bridge.

The DITRDLG has provided informal advice that the funds may be used for roadworks at the site of the former rail bridge, that is, Council's second alternative. Council is required to resolve to accept the proposed change in scope of works and agree to the new funding program.

ISSUES

The revised scope of works at the rail bridge site is aimed at improving road safety for a distance of 400 metres either side of the bridge site. The revised scope includes the following works;

- Realignment of the curve immediately west of the bridge site so that the design speed is increased from 70kph to 80kph.
- Widen the road so that the formation width is 9.5 metres.
- Installation of a drainage culvert at the site of the rail bridge.
- Rehabilitation of deformed road pavement at the site of the rail bridge.

OPTIONS

It appears that Council's first alternative, using the funds for the Castlereagh River bridge project, will not be accepted by the Department. Should Council not wish to proceed with the second alternative, it is likely that Council will be denied the funds.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

The original budget allocation for the rail bridge project was \$500,000. Council committed \$50,000 towards the project and the remaining \$450,000 is funded by the Australian Government. To date \$90,000 was spent on the original project and payments totaling this amount have been received.

That is, \$360,000 of the original grant from the Australian Government remains and is available to be spent on the revised scope of works. It is expected that Council will still be required to make a contribution towards the works and this will be known when a formal agreement is received.

The funding amount of \$360,000 is required to be spent by the 30 June 2009.

RECOMMENDATIONS

That Council accepts the revised scope of works that involves upgrading Baradine Road either side of the former rail bridge. Further, the General Manager and Mayor are authorized to execute a formal agreement for the revised scope of works.

3.10 WALKER STREET CULVERT PROPOSAL

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BACKGROUND

Council will be aware that a project to construct a culvert structure in Walker Street is included in the current 2008/09 budget. The location of the proposed culvert structure is in Teridgerie Creek between Namoi Street and Barwon Street. The proposed structure involves constructing a five cell culvert in the existing channel and modifying a section of levee bank.

The proposal has been on exhibition and two submissions have been received. One of the submissions is from the Baradine Progress Association and contains a petition with 22 signatures expressing concern about the proposal. Copies of the submissions have been forwarded to Councillors under separate cover. Photographs of flooding in the creek have also been sent to Councillors as background information.

Council is required to assess the merits of the submissions, and indeed the project itself, based on the design proposal and estimated cost.

ISSUES

Anecdotal evidence suggests that Walker Street is isolated by floodwaters for up to 24 hours after a peak flood height occurs in Teridgerie Creek. That is the height of the floodwater above the Walker Street road surface in excess of 250 mm may last for up to 24 hours. The frequency of this type of flood event is unknown, however anecdotal evidence again suggest that in a 'wet' season, Walker Street may be cut off on two or three occasions each year. The construction of a culvert will reduce the frequency and duration of the isolation; however the submissions question whether or not the inconvenience caused by the isolation justifies the expenditure.

Rudimentary calculations of the proposed culvert structure indicate that it has sufficient capacity for the 1 in 10 year Average Recurrent Interval storm event. Flood flows from storm events in excess of the 1 in 10 year ARI will overtop Walker Street. On the 22 December 2007 approximately 100 mm rain fell in the catchment area over a period of around 4 hours and it was suggested at the time that it was a 1 in 100 year ARI storm event.

A significant issue surrounding the proposal, and one that is identified in the submissions, is the question; will the proposal increase the frequency and severity of flooding of properties in Baradine? There is no doubt that the proposed structure will alter the characteristics of major floods in Baradine, that is, the velocity, extent and depth of flow will be altered by the proposed structure. However, what is very much in doubt is will these changes adversely impact on frequency and flooding of properties already at risk. The answer to this question will come from detailed analysis and modeling by computer of the flood flows. The computer model will rely heavily on information supplied by locals who have observed past flood characteristics. Such a model will be developed through the flood study process.

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A cross section profile of the waterway at Walker Street indicates that the road surface at Barwon Street is 690 mm above the road surface at the centre of the floodway. The road surface at Namoi Street is 850mm above the centre of the floodway. From photographs of the flood event on the 22 December 2007, the level of the floodwater appears to be within 70mm of the road surface at Barwon Street. Photographs also show that floodwaters overtopped the rail line upstream of Walker Street, the level of the rail line at this location is approximately 20mm lower than the surface level of Walker Street at Barwon Street. Floodwater that overtops Walker Street at Barwon Street or the rail line is significant as flood flows are outside the current levee and it impacts on properties east of the rail line.

A plan of the proposed works is shown in attachment 1.0.

The proposed culvert structure and road approaches have been designed to minimize the loss of waterway area within the floodway. The surface level of the floodwater on the 22 December 2007 is approximately 300.93m, the cross section area under this level is 35.65m². The proposed culvert structure and road approaches will reduce the cross section area to 32.33m². That is, if the same flood event occurred and the proposed structure is in place the waterway area will be reduced by 3.32m² or a 9.3% reduction in waterway area. As mentioned above, this loss of waterway area will alter flood characteristics, however the impact is unknown.

OPTIONS

The objective of the project is to minimize loss of road access to the western area of Baradine during periods of flooding. Based on rudimentary calculations it appears that the proposed culvert structure, will have minimal impact on adjoining properties during flood periods. However, there is a risk that some impact will occur and to adequately quantify this risk a flood study is required. Council is in the process of undertaking a flood study, however useful information necessary to make decisions will take several years to obtain.

Should Council not wish to proceed with the project, consideration will need to be given to where the funds should be allocated; this is particularly the case with the R2R component of the funding.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

The budget allocation for the Walker Street project is \$90,000. The funding sources are \$40,000 from the R2R program and \$50,000 from Council's own funds.

However, the estimate to construct the culvert as advertised has risen substantially to \$123,000. The increase is primarily due to an increase in the number of culverts required and also a substantial increase in the cost of the culverts. The material cost of the box culverts alone is \$40,000. The design also proposes construction of a cast in situ concrete slab over the box culvert structure, reconstruction of 160m of road pavement and alterations to a levee bank downstream of the road on the eastern side.

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Should Council wish to proceed with the project a supplementary vote will be required. Alternatively, Council may wish to include the funding shortfall in budget considerations for 2009/10.

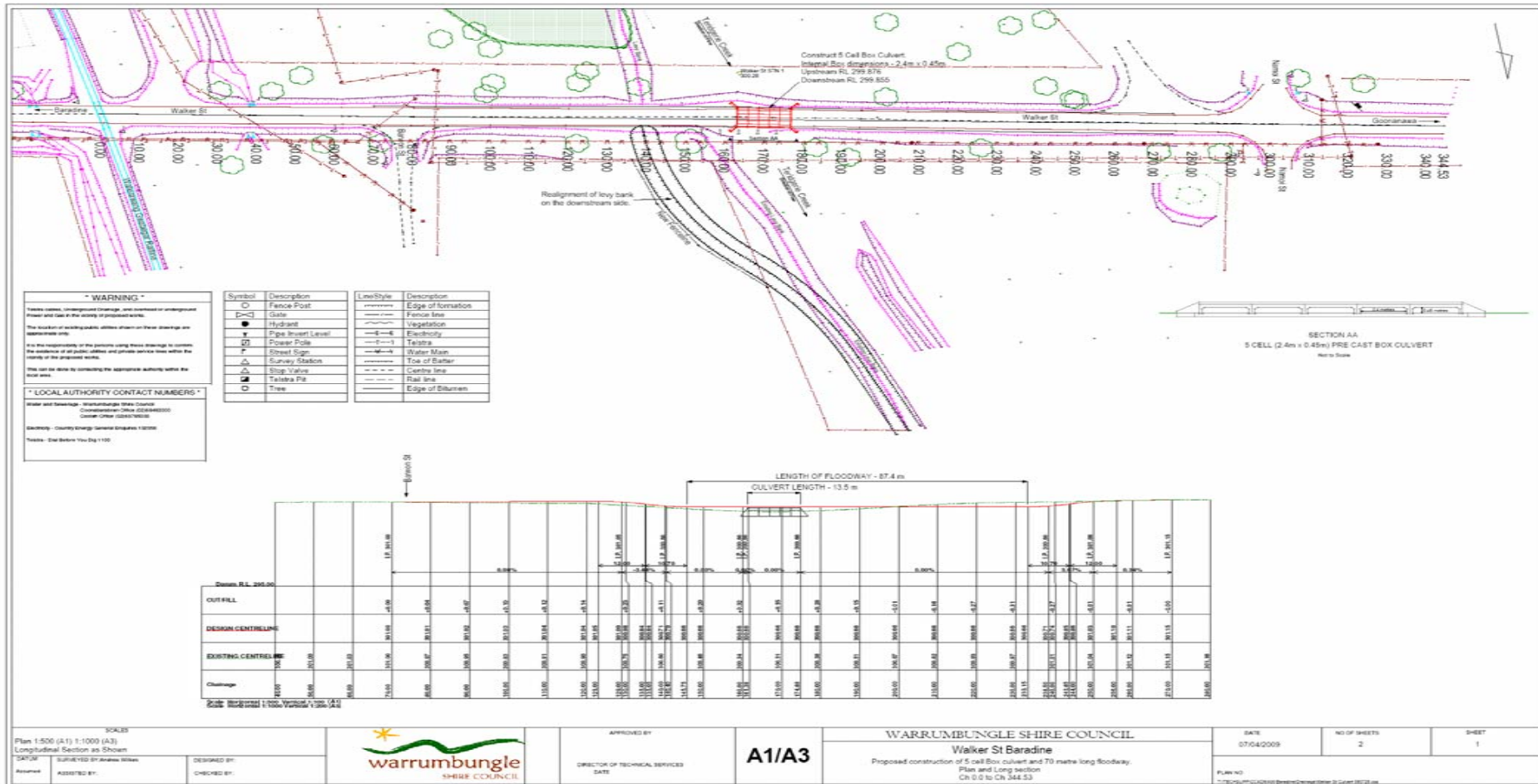
RECOMMENDATIONS

That Council proceed with the project to construct a five cell box culvert structure in Walker Street Baradine, subject to \$33,000 being made available in the 2009/10 budget to make up the funding shortfall. Further, the quotation of \$37,638 from Humes for supply of the box culverts is accepted and ordered immediately.

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ATTACHMENT 1.0

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3.11 USER PAY SEWAGE POLICY AND TRADE WASTE POLICY

BACKGROUND

In respect of user pay sewage pricing, Council made the following resolutions on the 19 March 2009;

- 1. Model No 2 is used for the determination of sewer charge, that is, an access and usage charge is levied against non rateable properties and rebates are provided to eligible pensioners. That is, model No 2 is used across the whole Shire.*
- 2. Access charge will be based on best practice guidelines*
- 3. Each strata title residential unit or flat is treated as a residential assessment (ie, no distinction between houses and flats).*
- 4. Submissions will be permitted from property owners with water service connections 100mm in diameter or larger. Such submissions will only be considered and determined by Council.*
- 5. Non Residential charges will be implemented over a 5 year period commencing 1 July 2009.*
- 6. That for the purpose of preparing charges for 2009/10 the usage charge is based on current capital budget allocated for each town.*

These resolutions have enabled more detailed modeling of expected charges for individual properties in the towns of Baradine, Coolah, Coonabarabran and Dunedoo. Council also wanted some indication of the likely charges if 20% of the revenue came from non residential properties.

Council is asked to consider the outcome of the calculations and resolve to include a set of charges in the 2009/10 draft management plan.

In addition Council is required to implement a trade waste policy and this report includes a proposal for trade waste charges.

ISSUES

User Pay Sewerage

The five year phase in period primarily assists non residential properties adjust to the changes in price; however, the phase in period will also assist many residential properties in Coonabarabran. Council will be aware that residential charges in Coonabarabran are based on property value and hence sewer charges for some residential properties are well below the expected uniform charge.

By forcing non residential properties to pay 20% of the revenue, instead on paying based on water consumption, has significantly skewed the discharge factors for both non residential properties and residential properties. In this regard, the concept of a 80/20 revenue split moves away from the principles of user pay sewage and is unlikely to be accepted by the Department of Water and Energy.

Liquid Trade Waste Policy

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Liquid trade waste is effluent produced from non residential properties and commercial operations and includes waste from pubs, motels, restaurants, fast food outlets, butcher, service stations, hospitals, schools, etc. There are three categories of liquid trade waste dischargers;

Category 1. Dischargers with nil or minimal pre treatment and low impact dischargers

Category 2. Dischargers with a prescribed pre treatment.

Category 3. Large dischargers – greater than 20kl/day and industrial dischargers.

OPTIONS

In relation to User Pay Sewerage Policy, Council's discretion is now limited. Council should be mindful that the pricing policy adopted will be scrutinized by the Department of Water and Energy.

In relation to Liquid Trade Waste Policy, Council's discretion is limited as there are guidelines issued by DWE that have been in place for over ten years. Council officers will require training in identifying whether a particular commercial operation is a category 1, 2 or 3 discharger. The following general descriptions are applied to each of the three categories;

- Category 1
 - Commercial food, no greasy / oily wastes
 - Other commercial activities requiring nil or minimal pre treatment
 - Activities with prescribed pre – treatment but have low impact on the sewerage system
- Category 2
 - Commercial food with greasy, oily waste
 - Other commercial activities with prescribed pre treatment
 - Medium impact facilities
- Category 3
 - Large dischargers of liquid trade waste.
 - Industrial dischargers, high risk and require DWE approval
 - Discharges > 20kL / day

It is possible to phase liquid trade waste charges over a three period.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

User Pay Sewerage

In relation to user pay sewerage, the calculations are based on expected revenue for 2008/09. That is, any increases in revenue required in years beyond 2008/09 have not been factored into the calculations.

For non residential properties, and for residential properties in Coonabarabran, Council resolved to phase in the charges over a five year period and hence the annual charge for each property is a pro rata amount based on the complying charge being levied in year 5. For example if the complying charge for a particular property is \$500 and the current charge is \$100, then in year 1 the charge will be \$180, year 2 - \$260, year 3 - \$420 and year 5 - \$500. Each year during the phase in period, the pro rata difference will need to be adjusted for any changes in required revenue.

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Typical charges for residential and non residential properties in each of the towns are provided in attachments 1.0 and 2.0.

Under the current proposal there is no phasing period for residential flats or units. That is, if there is more than one unit or flat on a residential property, the charge for the property will be the residential charge multiplied by the number of units or flats and this will apply in year 1.

Council also wanted to consider charges based on an 80 / 20 split in revenue between residential and non residential. Under this proposal non residential properties are subsidized by residential properties. Further, as the charges are based on water consumption, the proposed split significantly distorts the resultant discharge factor. For Coonabarabran the resultant discharge factor is 207%, while for Coolah it is 110%, Dunedoo 105% and Baradine 80%. Such a distortion of discharge factors is unlikely to be approved by DWE. The calculated charges under an 80 / 20 split have been forwarded to Councillors under separate cover.

Liquid Trade Waste Policy.

There are generally three charges associated with liquid trade waste policy and it is proposed to adopt a charging regime typically used by most local water utilities as shown below;

- Annual fee - \$70
- Usage Charge with appropriate pre treatment – charge equivalent to sewer charge. For those properties without pre – treatment the usage charge is \$11/kL of water consumed.
- Inspection fee - \$65.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. User pay sewerage charges are based on the figures in table 1.0 below and phased in over a five year period commencing 2009/10. Further these charges are included in the 2009/10 draft management plan.

.....
KEVIN TIGHE
DIRECTOR TECHNICAL SERVICES

WARRUMBUNGLE SHIRE COUNCIL

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Table 1.0 – User Pay Sewerage Charges

	Baradine	Coolah	Coonabarabran	Dunedoo
Residential Properties	\$467.91	\$318.86	\$412.42	\$303.65
Non Residential Properties				
▪ Minimum charge	\$467.91	\$318.86	\$412.42	\$303.65
▪ Usage Charge - \$/kL water consumed through meter	\$1.31	\$0.46	\$1.19	\$0.64
▪ Access Charge - 20mm water meter size	\$265.21	\$345.99	\$316.08	\$277.81
▪ Access Charge - 25mm water meter size	\$414.39	\$540.61	\$493.88	\$434.08
▪ Access Charge – 32mm water meter size	\$678.94	\$885.73	\$809.16	\$711.19
▪ Access Charge – 40mm water meter size	\$1,060.84	\$1,264.32	\$1,383.96	\$1,111.24
▪ Access Charge – 50mm water meter size	\$1,657.56	\$1,975.50	\$ 2,162.44	\$1,736.31
▪ Access Charge – 100mm water size	\$6,630.25	\$7,902.00	\$ 8,649.75	\$6,945.25

2. Liquid Trade Waste Charges are applied in 2009/10 in accordance with categories outlined in Table 2.0.

Table 2.0 – Liquid Trade Waste Charges

Category of Discharge	Baradine	Coolah	Coonabarabran	Dunedoo
Category 1	Annual fee - \$70 Reinspection where warranted - \$70.	Annual fee - \$70 Reinspection where warranted - \$70.	Annual fee - \$70 Reinspection where warranted - \$70.	Annual fee - \$70 Reinspection where warranted - \$70.
Category 2	Annual fee - \$70 Reinspection - \$70 Usage charge - \$1.31/kL No pretreatment - \$11/kL	Annual fee - \$70 Reinspection - \$70 Usage charge - \$0.46/kL No pretreatment - \$11/kL	Annual fee - \$70 Reinspection - \$70 Usage charge - \$1.19/kL No pretreatment - \$11/kL	Annual fee - \$70 Reinspection - \$70 Usage charge - \$0.64/kL No pretreatment - \$11/kL
Category 3	Annual fee and usage charge by agreement.	Annual fee and usage charge by agreement.	Annual fee and usage charge by agreement.	Annual fee and usage charge by agreement.

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Attachment 1.0

Expected Charges for Residential Properties (1)

Town	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
Residential Properties					
Baradine	\$510.78	\$500.37	\$489.78	\$478.98	\$467.91
Coolah	\$361.02	\$349.18	\$336.99	\$324.37	\$318.86
Coonabarabran(2)					\$412.42
Dunedoo	\$333.97	\$326.62	\$319.40	\$311.69	\$303.65

(1) Charges based on 2008/09 revenue, which may change over course of five year period.

(2)The charge for each property will be different as currently, charges are based on land value.

WARRUMBUNGLE SHIRE COUNCIL

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Attachment 2.0

**Expected Charges for Certain Non Residential Properties - based on compliance with guidelines
(based on 2008/09 expected revenue)**

Property	Current Charge	User Pay Charge*	Five Year Phase in Period for Charges				
			Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
COONABARABRAN							
Pub	\$2,981.58	\$3,861.65	\$3,177.12	\$3,348.01	\$3,518.90	\$3,689.79	\$3,861.65
Club	\$1,295.16	\$4,780.73	\$2,011.80	\$2,703.79	\$3,395.78	\$4,087.77	\$4,780.73
School primary	\$3,667.40	\$3,421.35	\$3,637.71	\$3,583.38	\$3,529.05	\$3,474.71	\$3,421.35
School high	\$2,250.20	\$1,738.86	\$2,167.45	\$2,060.06	\$1,952.67	\$1,845.28	\$1,738.86
Café	\$792.28	\$718.56	\$797.05	\$777.19	\$757.32	\$737.46	\$718.56
Butcher	\$378.27	\$681.25	\$458.39	\$513.86	\$569.34	\$624.81	\$681.25
Newsagent	\$792.28	\$412.42	\$735.83	\$654.73	\$573.64	\$492.55	\$412.42
Motel 3 connections	\$2,233.10	\$6,319.21	\$3,069.84	\$3,881.94	\$4,694.04	\$5,506.14	\$6,319.21
Motel 1 connection	\$1,496.32	\$2,286.45	\$1,673.86	\$1,826.77	\$1,979.67	\$2,132.58	\$2,286.45
Most affected							
Resident 1	\$164.72	\$412.42	\$233.78	\$278.20	\$322.62	\$367.04	\$412.42
Resident 2	\$1,351.30	\$412.42	\$1,183.04	\$990.15	\$797.25	\$604.35	\$412.42
Nonresident 1	\$2,464.66	\$412.42	\$2,073.74	\$1,688.17	\$1,242.60	\$827.03	\$412.42
Nonresident 2	\$2,099.78	\$12,173.74	\$4,134.09	\$6,143.76	\$8,153.43	\$10,163.10	\$12,173.74
BARADINE							
Pub	\$465.85	\$2,005.35	\$773.75	\$1,081.65	\$1,389.55	\$1,697.55	\$2,005.35
Club	\$465.85	\$1,119.16	\$596.60	\$727.35	\$858.10	\$988.55	\$1,119.16
School	\$1,883.05	\$4,388.01	\$2,384.04	\$2,885.03	\$3,386.03	\$3,887.02	\$4,388.01
Café	\$465.82	\$467.91	\$467.91	\$467.91	\$495.41	\$467.91	\$467.91
Butcher	\$465.82	\$667.61	\$506.20	\$546.56	\$586.91	\$627.26	\$667.61
Newsagent	\$465.82	\$467.91	\$467.91	\$467.91	\$467.91	\$467.91	\$467.91
Non Resident most affected	\$465.82	\$5,015.15	\$1,375.75	\$2,285.64	\$3,195.54	\$4,105.44	\$5,015.15
COOLAH							
Pub	\$325.10	\$1,308.35	\$521.75	\$718.40	\$915.05	\$1,111.70	\$1,308.35
Club	\$325.10	\$1,132.87	\$486.65	\$648.21	\$809.76	\$971.31	\$1,132.87
School	\$2,617.50	\$3,505.41	\$2,795.08	\$2,972.66	\$3,150.24	\$3,327.82	\$3,505.41
Café	\$325.10	\$411.72	\$342.42	\$359.75	\$377.07	\$394.40	\$411.72
Butcher	\$325.10	\$876.76	\$435.43	\$545.76	\$656.09	\$766.42	\$876.76
Motel	\$325.10	\$1,229.94	\$506.07	\$687.04	\$868.00	\$1,048.97	\$1,229.94
Non Resident most affected	\$325.10	\$5,651.54	\$1,390.39	\$2,455.68	\$3,520.96	\$4,586.25	\$5,651.54
DUNEDOO							
Pub	\$325.10	\$875.68	\$448.47	\$549.82	\$654.68	\$763.24	\$875.68
Club	\$325.10	\$1,075.04	\$488.34	\$629.56	\$774.30	\$922.72	\$1,075.04
School	\$2,917.70	\$1,830.90	\$2,700.34	\$2,482.98	\$2,265.62	\$2,048.26	\$1,830.90
Café	\$325.10	\$483.41	\$370.02	\$392.91	\$419.32	\$449.42	\$483.41
Butcher	\$325.10	\$567.31	\$386.80	\$426.47	\$469.66	\$516.54	\$567.31
Newsagent	\$325.10	\$357.55	\$344.84	\$342.57	\$343.81	\$348.74	\$357.55
Motel	\$325.10	\$2,182.02	\$709.74	\$1,072.35	\$1,438.49	\$1,808.31	\$2,182.02
Non Resident most affected	\$1,409.93	\$5,224.36	\$2,172.10	\$2,935.16	\$3,698.23	\$4,461.29	\$5,224.36

WARRUMBUNGLE SHIRE COUNCIL

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Mr R J Geraghty
General Manager
Warrumbungle Shire Council
John Street
COONABARABRAN 2357

Dear Sir

Attached is my report for consideration by Council

DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES ANNEXURE 4

4.1 REQUEST TO REMOVE RESTRICTIVE COVENANT – LOT 21 DP 1049366, TIMOR ROAD, COONABARABRAN

Background

Previously Council has placed Section 88B restrictions on land to be subdivided to ensure that each lot of a proposed subdivision is serviced by essential services being;

- water (bulk and potable)
- electricity
- telecommunications and,
- access (legal and practical)

In 2002 Council approved a five (5) lot Rural Residential subdivision. Condition seven (7) of the consent concerning bulk and potable water supply, requiring the construction of a 5000 cubic metre dam and the installation of a 45,000 rainwater tank (10,000 reserved for fire fighting purposes). The requirements of this restriction were later endorsed on the plan of subdivision by way of Section 88B, the details of which are attached.

In 2004, Council approved the erection of a dwelling on the property (DA 7/2004). The dwelling was approved and erected with the requirements of the Section 88B instrument not being complied with.

The potential purchaser of the above parcel of land approached Council (as the beneficiary of the restriction) concerning the requirements of the restriction. Council then received a letter from the owners' solicitor (attached) requesting the removal or modification of the following restriction from the title to the land:

“No dwelling shall be erected on any lot without the provision of a dam of 5000 cubic metres being constructed and the provision of a tank having a minimum of 45,000 litres for domestic purposes with a reserve of 10,000 litres for fire fighting purposes.”

WARRUMBUNGLE SHIRE COUNCIL

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The owner sought the removal of the covenant so that sale of the property (with dwelling already constructed) was not impeded. Also, because an alternative water supply (bulk and potable) has been supplied to the property.

With regards to the requirements of the restriction no such dam or tank have been constructed or installed on the property. Domestic water is supplied by a bore. One rainwater tank of 10,000 litres and an additional supply of water (swimming pool) have been installed to meet the requirements for bushfire fighting purposes. The alternative water supply (bore) that has been provided is sufficient.

RECOMMENDATION

- i. As a result of Council previously granting approval for the construction of a dwelling on the property with an alternate water supply other than that required by the restriction, that Council remove the restriction on the land subject to the alternative water supply that has been provided, being sufficient for the required purpose.
- ii. That Council resolve to affix its Common Seal to the necessary legal documents involved in this process.
- iii. Any legal costs involved in the removal or variation of the restrictive covenant be at the landowners' expense.

4.2 PROPOSED SECTION 94 CONTRIBUTIONS EXPENDITURE PROJECT – COONABARABRAN PUBLIC SWIMMING POOL

BACKGROUND

This year's initial capital (discretionary) works program was deferred because of the urgent need to address a multitude of identified Occupational Health & Safety and Public Liability necessities. In the case of the Coonabarabran Pool the existing play equipment was unable to be used in the coming swimming season because of the absence of soft-fall and the existence of large tree roots as hazards. In a report to council in October 2008 an amount of \$13,000 was granted to complete these works from the Section 94 contributions fund. The project was initially costed at \$13,000 however the costs of site preparation were higher than expected and so the project had to be amended to complete the soft-fall under the climbing equipment only.

PROPOSAL

A balance of \$4,155 is left over from the stage 1 project. A further amount of \$3,000 would allow the swings to be completed with the soft-fall.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Council's adopted June 2007 Financial Statements indicated that an amount of \$17,000 was held in Restricted Assets for embellishment of Community Facilities. The amount of \$13,000 was taken from this fund. The further \$3,000 is also requested from this fund.

STATUTORY REQUIREMENT

WARRUMBUNGLE SHIRE COUNCIL

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Section 94 funds must be spent demonstrating a direct connection between the purpose for which the money was raised and the locality from which it was sourced.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council adopt the completion of the soft-fall project at the Coonabarabran Pool as a suitable project for Contribution Funds expenditure under the Section 94 Contributions Plan and allocate \$3,000 from the Contributions Fund reserve for this purpose to be expended in this financial year.

4.3 PROPOSED URGENT REPAIRS TO THE BARADINE POOL REQUIRING THE ALLOCATION OF A SPECIAL BUDGET FOR THE 2009/10 FINANCIAL YEAR

BACKGROUND

In previous years substantial water losses have been experienced over the swimming season at the Baradine Swimming Pool. Last year the water was left in the pool over the winter season in an effort to identify the nature and location of the leak. Overnight there was a loss of one foot of water. Numerous repairs and investigations were undertaken by the pool superintendant when the pool was emptied, without a primary source being identified. A specialist diver was hired who identified a number of significant cracks and the surface of the pool walls as needing to be stripped, cracks repaired, and then the surface to have a new membrane and paint. The number of air-bubbles present in the current finish indicate the substantial level of concrete cracks behind the paint.

PROPOSAL

To immediately rectify the significant water losses occurring at the Baradine Pool. The pool paint needs to be stripped back. This process is costly and potentially difficult due to the age and condition of the concrete. At this stage it will be an unknown timeframe, however based on the surface area would not exceed 2 weeks. The surface will then need to have render repairs and the cracks filled (potentially 2-3 weeks) before a new membrane (2 coats of membrane, 2 weeks work 2 men) will be painted onto the raw surface. Specialist rubberised pool paint (3 coats paint, 3 weeks with 2 men) will then be applied. The painting of the pool would be undertaken by the pool superintendant at Baradine and the full time pool superintendant from Binnaway as part of his winter works. The project would commence in the second week of June, with the blasting contractor to be paid in the first week of July, when the new budget funds become available. This timeframe is necessary to allow the project to be completed in a timely fashion for the next pool season and in case of any unforeseen problems occurring.

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FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Consultation with other local councils and contractors has produced estimates that are based on a "worst case scenario". The costs are broken down as follows:

Set-up and blasting costs estimate	\$42,000 (\$3,000/day for 2 weeks)
Concrete repairs to render	\$15,000
Membrane for surface	\$ 8,000
Re-painting of the swimming pool	<u>\$ 8,000</u>
	\$73,000

RECOMMENDATION

That Council adopt the proposal to perform the immediate repairs and maintenance work necessary to rectify the leaks at the Baradine Swimming Pool. That the project commence mid-June with the estimated funds of \$73,000 allocated as part of the 2009/10 budget.

4.4 POOL KIOSK OPERATIONS

BACKGROUND

In the 2006/7 and 2007/8 financial years, the kiosk retainers were offered at \$2,800 and, with difficulty, kiosk operators were found for five of the six swimming pools. Kiosk operators were required to be present at the swimming pools during all public opening hours. Feedback from these operators confirmed that kiosk takings were insufficient as a primary income, to back up the retainer paid for the hours involved.

This year the kiosk retainers were offered at \$1,500 (per pool) with substantially reduced minimum hours required to be present at the pool (mainly after school and weekends when kiosk sales and public attendance are highest). The expression of interest closing date was extended twice this year in order to obtain submissions. In addition advertisements in local papers, school newsletters, Council's website and on local notice boards and office front counters for the same reason. Swimming clubs were also offered the kiosk rights. Only three kiosk tenders were filled: Coonabarabran, Coolah and Mendooran.

KIOSK OPERATOR FUNCTIONS

Kiosk operators collect the gate money on behalf of Council, register season tickets, and provide emergency back up for the lifeguard on duty. The primary need for the kiosk operator is to back up of the lifeguard and encourage usage of the swimming pool. The onsite kiosk facilities should ensure that swimmers stay longer and provides the convenience for patrons of not having to leave the facility or bring refreshments.

In the absence of a kiosk operator, alternative management procedures are necessary to minimise Council's exposure to risk as identified by the Statewide Mutual risk assessor during his procedures audit. Lifeguards were equipped with a bumbag and collected the gold coin entry fees. Signs were erected at the entry to the pool instructing patrons to sign in. For the most part this was successful however the absence of a kiosk operator at the pools has been felt significantly by pool superintendants and the visiting public.

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Vending machines were considered to address the convenience needs of the visiting public, however they have been considered problematic given past experience. They must be located near a power source, stocked, serviced, protected from vandalism but remain accessible to the public. Any breakdowns will potentially be a distraction to the lifeguard on duty.

KIOSK PROPOSAL

The following proposal is made after a recent tour of the Mid-Western Shire Council public swimming pools. It is made at this time as Council's decision on this matter will impact on the budget allocation for the next financial year.

In order to encourage a kiosk tender for each pool, a sum of \$200 would be paid weekly to the pool kiosk operator to subsidise their time. The kiosk operator would be required to be present during all afternoon and weekend opening hours. The kiosk operator submits a weekly timesheet as per regular staff that is signed off by the pool superintendant. The amount of two hundred dollars falls just below the permissible income threshold for any person receiving a pension. This would enable and provide potential incentive for Return to Work, Sureway and other Employment Agency candidates to apply. Mudgee found that instead of struggling to attract operators, they are now conducting interviews for the position, and attracting suitable candidates. In addition, this proposal may allow a casual lifeguard to take up the kiosk as happened in Mudgee, to supplement their income.

RECOMMENDATION

That the sum of two hundred dollars per week be paid to the kiosk operator at each swimming pool subject to their contract requirements, namely those of hours present, appropriate insurances in order, and appropriate checks being passed, being fulfilled.

4.5 POOL OPENING HOURS FOR THE 2009/10 SEASON

BACKGROUND

Each year Council has difficulty obtaining casuals to staff the public swimming pools. Last year the Lifeguard Training Initiative alleviated some of the pressure by enabling some of the Swimming Clubs and Schools to oversee their own activities outside of regular opening hours. Significant problems of under-staffing are occurring during the school term period as casual staff tend to be secured over the school holiday period when the university students return for their break.

PROPOSAL 1 LIFEGUARD TRAINING PROGRAM

This will be the last season for two of the pool superintendants. There is currently only a candidate for one of the positions. This year aggressive recruiting will be necessary for future succession planning and the casual staffing of our pools. It is for this reason that a lifeguard training initiative is proposed again this year.

WARRUMBUNGLE SHIRE COUNCIL

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That Council subsidise 50% of the lifeguard package (or individual qualifications as required to obtain the lifeguard package) for individuals prepared to volunteer 15 hours over the season. These hours would be recorded on a timesheet with the relevant pool superintendant. Upon completion of these voluntary hours, the individuals would be eligible to apply for any casual lifeguard positions available within the Shire. Total cost of the lifeguard training and chemical handling day is \$555.00 per person.

PROPOSAL 2 OPENING HOURS FOR EACH POOL

Discussions with the pool superintendants and casuals and the patterns from the attendance record sheets this year have defined the proposed new hours of opening for each pool to suit each town. Previously the same level of service (ie opening hours) have been implemented for each town pool across the Shire but this practice has led to difficulties accommodating different needs, in staffing, and in wasted resources.

The opening hours will be based on minimum use of casuals during school term to assist with staffing constraints, but greater hours of opening during the school holidays. Staff would be allocated a 38 hour week roster as per the award. Overtime would have to be paid only for the weeks of intensive swimming in the instances where the number of students could not be accommodated during the regular operating hours. This may occur at Baradine, Coonabarabran and Coolah swimming pools. Schools can generally be accommodated in the morning sessions for regular sport.

BARADINE & BINNAWAY POOL OPENING HOURS FOR 2009/10 SEASON **School Term**

Monday Wednesday Friday

6.30am – 7.30am	Lap swimming
11.00am – 1.00pm	Morning Session
2.00pm – 6.00pm	Afternoon Session

Saturday & Sunday

11.00am – 1.00pm	Morning session
2.00pm – 5.00pm	Afternoon Session

School Holidays

Subject to staffing:

- The pool would be open on a Tuesday and Thursday from 2.00 -7.00 pm.
- Opening hours would be extended daily to 7pm.

DUNEDOO POOL OPENING HOURS FOR 2009/10 SEASON **School Term**

Monday - Friday

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6.30am – 8.am	Lap swimming
1.30pm – 6.00pm	Afternoon Session

Saturday & Sunday

11.00am – 1.00pm	Morning session
2.00pm – 5.00pm	Afternoon Session

School Holidays

Subject to staffing, daily opening hours would be:

6.30am – 8.00am	Lap Swimming (Except weekends)
11.30am – 1.00pm	Morning session
2.00pm – 7.00pm	Afternoon Session

MENDOORAN POOL OPENING HOURS FOR 2009/10 SEASON

School Term

Monday - Friday

6.30am – 8.am	Lap swimming (Wed, Thurs, Fri)
1.30pm – 6.00pm	Afternoon Session

Saturday & Sunday

11.00am – 1.00pm	Morning session
2.00pm – 5.00pm	Afternoon Session

School Holidays

Subject to staffing, daily opening hours would be:

6.30am – 8.00am	Lap Swimming (Wed, Thurs, Fri)
11.30am – 1.00pm	Morning session
2.00pm – 7.00pm	Afternoon Session

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COOLAH POOL OPENING HOURS FOR 2009/10 SEASON

School Term

Monday - Friday

6.30am – 8.00am	Lap swimming
9.30am – 1.00pm	Morning Session (and schools)
2.00pm – 6.00pm	Afternoon Session

Saturday & Sunday

1.00pm – 5.00pm	Afternoon Session
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School Holidays

Monday - Friday

6.30am – 8.00am	Lap swimming
11.30am – 1.00pm	Morning session
2.00pm – 7.00pm	Afternoon Session

Saturday & Sunday

2.00pm – 7.00pm	Afternoon Session
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COONABARABRAN POOL OPENING HOURS FOR 2009/10 SEASON

School Term

Monday - Friday

6.30am – 8.00am	Lap swimming
9.30am – 1.00pm	Morning Session
2.00pm – 6.00pm	Afternoon Session

Saturday & Sunday

11.00am – 1.00pm	Morning session
2.00pm – 5.00pm	Afternoon Session

School Holidays

Monday - Friday

6.30am – 8.00am	Lap swimming
11.30am – 1.00pm	Morning session

WARRUMBUNGLE SHIRE COUNCIL

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2.00pm – 7.00pm Afternoon Session

Saturday & Sunday

11.30am – 1.00pm Morning session

2.00pm – 7.00pm Afternoon Session

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That Council provides the subsidy for the pool lifeguard training initiative to be run in October 2009, and that the budget allocation of \$1,000 is made accordingly.
2. That Council adopts the draft opening hours for exhibition so that submissions can be called for from the community prior to the budget adoption for 2009/10.
3. That the 2009/10 pool season opens on Saturday 24th October 2009 and closes on Sunday 27th March 2010.

WARRUMBUNGL SHIRE COUNCIL

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4.2 WARRUMBUNGL SHIRE COUNCIL APPLICATIONS RECEIVED FOR THE MONTH OF MARCH 2009

Complying Development (set criteria) Development Application (Specialised Conditions)	Date Received	APPLICANT'S NAME	LOCATION (of development)	(Town)	Development Type	Status (Approved or Pending)
DA105/0809	2 March 09	Sue Harvey-Walker	Lot 22 Tibuc Road	Coonabarabran	2 Lot rural subdivision	Pending
CDC106	3 March 09	Toby Bacon	Worrigal Street	Baradine	Erection of additions	Approved
CDC107/0809	11 March 09	Peter Roach	Baradine Road	Coonabarabran	Erection of a shed	Approved
CDC108/0809	12 March 09	Kevin Burchall	27 Bullinda Street	Dunedoo	Erection of a Double Garage and Carport	Approved
CDC109/0809	16 March 09	Peter McMenamin	Cnr Cox & Plumb Streets	Leadville	Erection of a 3 bedroom dwelling	Approved
DA110/0809	17 March 09	Harnett Transportable Homes	Lot 8 Koala Crescent	Coonabarabran	Install a transportable dwelling	Pending
DA111/0809	18 March 09	Dirt Bike Promotions	Avonside Road	Dunedoo	Weekend Moto Cross Event	Pending
DA112/0809	23 March 09	Rebel Bullingham – Evans	McGuinness Road	Weetaliba	Erection of a 1 bedroom dwelling	Pending
DA113/0809	23 March 09	Bill Brown	1 Short Street	Coonabarabran	Erection of a 'Granny Flat'	Pending
CDC114/0809	23 March 09	A & K Weekes	35 Edward Street	Coonabarabran	Erection of a patio cover	Approved
CDC115/0809	25 March 09	David Ward	31 Farnell Street	Mendooran	Erection Car port	Pending

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WARRUMBUNGLE SHIRE COUNCIL APPLICATIONS HELD PENDING AS AT THE MONTH END FEBRUARY 2009

CD or DA	Date Received	Applicant	Location	Town	Type of development	Status
CDC 60/0809	16.10.2008	C Spiteri	Turill Road	Uarbry	Erection of Shed	Processing, clock has stopped – waiting submission plans
DA 74/0809	26.11.2008	RFS	Gardiner Street	Coonabarabran	Erection of a brigade shed	Processing, clock has stopped – waiting submission of further information.
DA 76/0809	26.11.2008	RFS	Whitely Street	Dunedoo	Subdivision of land and erection of fire centre	Processing, clock has stopped – waiting submission of further information and advertising
DA 98/0809	29.1.2009	G Trickey	Lot 13 South Burloo	Coonabarabran	2 lot subdivision	Awaiting submission of amended plans

.....
TONY MEPPEM
ACTING DIRECTOR ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

WARRUMBUNGLE SHIRE COUNCIL

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Mr R J Geraghty
General Manager
Warrumbungle Shire Council
John Street
COONABARABRAN 2357

Dear Sir

Attached is my report for consideration by Council

DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY SERVICES ANNEXURE 5

5.1 COONABARABRAN VACATION CARE PROGRAM

At the February 2009 Meeting, Council considered a report in relation to the future use of the former Coonabarabran Preschool building, at 14 Robertson Street Coonabarabran. Council resolved to *'agree to the relocation of Connect 5 and Castlereagh Family Day Care to 14 Robertson Street Coonabarabran with the intention of an Out Of School Hours (OOSH) and Vacation Care program being provided from this facility.* (part Resolution No 256).

An application was made to the NSW Department of Community Services to reactivate the Coonabarabran Vacation Care Program which held an amount of \$2,405. This proposal was approved and a 2008-2009 Service Funding Agreement Variation has been received for Council to sign and attach Councils seal to enable payment of these monies.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council accepts the \$2,405 funding for Coonabarabran Vacation Care program and authorise the Mayor and General Manager to sign and attach Council seal to the NSW Department of Community Services 2008-2009 Service Funding Agreement Variation.

5.2 LIBRARY SERVICES – BINNAWAY AND MENDOORAN

The 2008 annual review of the operational capability of the library service has coincided with 2009-2010 budget deliberations for Macquarie Regional Library (MRL). Following is a summary of this review in regards to the number of service points in Warrumbungle Shire Council Local Government Area; of which there are currently six. A full copy of this report and recommendations is provided to Councillors under separate cover.

In summary the ongoing viability of providing equitable and viable services to both Binnaway and Mendooran is being questioned. There is a recommendation to implement a phased program over two years to close both public service outlet points. It is possible the NSW TAFE mobile library service will meet the needs of the Mendooran community.

WARRUMBUNGLE SHIRE COUNCIL

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There are obviously sensitive issues relating to the withdrawal of services in a small community. And by no means does Council wish to limit access to Library services to all residents, particularly those which are transport disadvantaged. However whilst ever this level of library service provision to each community is maintained; it comes at a cost. The purpose of this report is to inform Council of these costs and level of service options to assist with the preparation of the 2009/2010 Management Plan.

Table 1: Statistical information and cost summary of each Library Service based on 2008-2009 Management Plan budget figures.

Township	Registrations	Issues/ Loans	Visitations	Reference Enquiries	Net MRL Cost Salary/Books & Local Projects less SLNSW Subsidy	Overheads Cost Rent / Insurance Electricity etc
Coonabarabran	2,769	19,741	21,364	1,895	\$141,087	\$49,784
Coolah	660	6,099	8,034	201	\$74,101	\$16,945
Dunedoo	451	5,772	4,339	365	\$45,416	\$11,000
Baradine	172	1,189	365	7	\$23,192	\$4,440
Binnaway	77	1,003	Not Avail	2	\$15,604	\$900
Mendooran	124	824	600	12	\$18,081	\$4,000

In view of the library statistics the MRL report has recommended the phase in changes to the library service delivery in Warrumbungle Shire with particular reference to Binnaway and Mendooran. Council may choose to either;

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1. Accept Macquarie Regional Library's report without taking any further action
 - 2009-2010 Management Plan will be prepared based on no changes to either Coonabarabran, Dunedoo, Binnaway and Mendooran Library services

Implications to 09-10 Budget; nil

2. Implement the recommended phased changes of reducing hours and closing a service point over two years
 - Mendooran – as at July 2009 reduce opening hours by 3 hours per week transferring hours and library staff to Dunedoo.
 - Binnaway – as at July 2010 implement closure transferring hours and library staff to Coonabarabran

Implications to 09-10 Budget; net saving to Mendooran Library Service budget with the MRL Salary component contribution transferred to Dunedoo Library Service budget.

3. Implement the recommended changes of reducing hours and closing a service point as at July 2009.
 - Mendooran – as at July 2009 reduce opening hours by 3 hours per week transferring hours and library staff to Dunedoo.
 - Binnaway – as at July 2009 implement closure transferring hours and library staff to Coonabarabran

Implications to 09-10 Budget; net saving to Mendooran Library Service budget with the MRL Salary component contribution transferred to Dunedoo. A net saving to Binnaway Library Service less overhead expenses transferred to Coonabarabran Library Service.

4. Implement the recommended changes of closing two service points as at July 2009 with option of replacing Mendooran service with TAFE mobile service.

Implications

- Mendooran – as at July 2009 implement closure transferring hours and library staff to Dunedoo.
- Binnaway – as at July 2009 implement closure transferring hours and library staff to Coonabarabran

Implications to 09-10 Budget; net saving to Mendooran Library Service less overhead expenses transferred to Dunedoo Library Service. A net saving to Binnaway Library Service less overhead expenses transferred to Coonabarabran Library Service.

Option 4 has further implications to the Corporate Services budget, which receives \$2,500 rental income for the Mendooran Library Service, which is housed in the Community Centre. Whilst another tenant may be located or visiting medical services expanded this would be a net loss of income to Councils budget.

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Table 2: Additional Cost or (Saving) estimates to Library Services Budgets

Township	Net MRL Cost Salary/Books & Local Projects less SLNSW Subsidy	Overheads Cost Rent / Insurance Electricity etc	Option 2 09-10 Budget	Option 3 09-10 Budget	Option 4 09-10 Budget	Option 4 with TAFE Mobile Service Option
Mendooran	\$18,081	\$4,000	(\$6,620)	(\$6,620)	(\$22,081)	(\$17,361)
Dunedoo	\$45,416	\$11,000	\$6,620	\$6,620	\$18,081	\$18,081
Binnaway	\$15,604	\$900	No change	(\$16,504)	(\$16,504)	(\$16,504)
Coonabarabran	\$141,087	\$49,784	No change	\$15,604	\$15,604	\$15,604
Net Total Library Budget Savings			Nil	(\$900)	(\$4,900)	(\$180)

Note : Additional Cost or (Saving) estimates are based on 2008-2009 Management Plan

If no library services are provided in either Mendooran or Binnaway it is not the intention of this report to suggest that staff be made redundant. The recommendations are made in view of the potential for growth in both Dunedoo and Coonabarabran where the community is utilising the Library services.

RECOMMENDATION

For Council consideration

5.3 BASKETBALL RINGS DUNEDOO JUBILEE HALL

Manual handling concerns raised by staff at Occupational Health and Safety meetings, in regards to this current system of raising the stage and securing the basketball rings at the Dunedoo Jubilee Hall, Council's Workplace Safety Officer undertook two separate inspections to assess situation and make recommendations. Both reports are attached under separate cover for Council information.

The stage and western basketball ring at the Dunedoo Jubilee Hall are raised via a winch and pulley system with staff required to raise the stage and lock it into place, then the basketball ring and backboard is manually lifted with a rope and bolted onto stage frame. The task involves at least 3 staff and use of ladders lifting a weight of approximately 50kg.

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Following this report and recommendations, the stage has remained in its lowered position and basketball has not been played. The basketball ring on the eastern side of the hall has not been removed at this stage.

Since then a letter from St Michaels School Dunedoo has been received asking Council permission to utilise the basketball rings and backing boards at the new school court facilities.

The issue of replacing the basketball rings is a separate matter, as any cantilever suspended roof rings would be of significant cost.

Should Council agree to donating St Michael's School these rings and backing boards, a suitably qualified contractor would be employed to remove the one on the eastern wall prior to collection. As for any donation of such like equipment, the grantee must accept in current state and Council not held liable for any structural or faulty detail.

Further it is the grantee's responsibility to ensure any faults or defects are repaired at their cost prior to installation.

RECOMMENDATION

For Council consideration

5.4 FAMILY WORKER SERVICE – EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

The NSW Department of Community Services (DoCS) has invited Expressions of Interest (EOI) for a Family Worker Service, a Families NSW funded project. This service will provide support services to families of children aged 0-5 years with priority to Aboriginal communities in the in Warrumbungle and Gilgandra Shires. This is a new project for the Western Region and Council is eligible to submit an EOI for the auspice of the Family Strengthening (Family Worker Model) Service. Total funding allocated from the Western Region budget to the Gilgandra and Coonabarabran Family Worker Service is \$246,168 over two years (2009-2010 and 2010-2011) and a one off payment of \$17,000 for establishment costs.

The approved auspice will be required to sign a Service Agreement or Letter of Agreement with DoCS which will monitor, evaluate and review the project on a regular basis. DoCS will enter into a time limited Agreement with the successful provider. The successful agency will be responsible for the overall management and operation of the project.

Given Council's experience and successful history of managing similar programs; Connect 5 and Castlereagh Family Day Care that service both Warrumbungle and Gilgandra shires it is reasonable to suggest that a strong EOI may be prepared and submitted for this project.

It is proposed that this project would be co-located with Connect 5 and Castlereagh Family Day Care at the former Coonabarabran Preschool building at 14 Robertson Street Coonabarabran. Both Connect 5 and Castlereagh Family Day Care will complement this program, as will the inclusion of Vacation and After School Care, Playgroup, Nursing Mothers and Community Health at this purpose built children's service. A recruitment process would be implemented

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should the EOI be successful to employ a suitably qualified person to fill the position by the start date of 1 July 2009.

This project would be implemented at no cost to Council, other than the rent free premises which includes rates and building insurance. All other expenses would be charged to the project at full cost recovery. Should Council's EOI be successful then this would result in a professional person being employed by Council based in Coonabarabran.

Applications close Monday 20 April 2009.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council authorise the General Manager to submit an Expression of Interest by Warrumbungle Shire Council to auspice the Families NSW Family Worker Service (2009-2010 and 2010-2011) for Gilgandra and Coonabarabran.

5.5 CIRCUS EDISON

Circus Edison has booked the hiring of the Training Grounds at Bowen Oval in Coolah for a period of one week from Monday 13 April to Sunday 19 April 2007. This would be for the purpose of resting animals and performers, camping on the grounds and operating 2 shows over the weekend (Friday 17 and Saturday 18 April)

At the meeting of the 12th September 2006 Council agreed to '*apply special circumstances to the Edison Circus at Bowen Oval and charge the Hire Fee as per the Management Plan of \$96 (GST inc) per day for the 2 Show days only (total hire fee \$192) and allow the camping for the remaining 5 days free of charge.*' Resolution No 94

The Circus is required to contact the Coolah Rugby Club to make a contribution towards electricity used for the week. All the necessary Public Liability Insurances are provided and the area is left clean and in the state in which it was found. The Circus does not enter onto the actual Bowen Oval area.

Circus Edison has again requested Council for this special Oval hire charge of 2 days only.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council apply special circumstances to the Edison Circus at Bowen Oval and charge the Hire Fee as per the Management Plan of \$96 (GST inc) per day for the 2 Show days only (total hire fee \$192) and allow the camping for the remaining 5 days free of charge.

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REBECCA RYAN
DIRECTOR COMMUNITY SERVICES