

PRESENT: Councillor Clancy (Chairman), Councillors Atkinson, Bell, Egan, Scott, Shinton, Sullivan and Todd, the General Manager, Director of Corporate Services, Manager Road Operations and Director of Environmental Services.

The Mayor presented the Coonabarabran Beautification Advisory Committee's Tidy Property Award to Mr Peter Harris and Mrs Nita Harris of 69 Edwards Street, Coonabarabran.

The Coonabarabran Shire Council / Coonabarabran Times Quarterly Business Award for the period July - September 2002 was presented to Jack's Catering, proprietors Bill and Chris Brown. The award was presented in for providing outstanding customer service in catering to the Coonabarabran Shire and wider region for over 40 years and acknowledges the economic contribution Jacks Catering Service creates for the local economy directly by providing local employment and indirectly by the support by purchasing of goods from local suppliers.

5.30 PM

The meeting adjourned for the evening meal.

6.03 PM

The meeting resumed.

The Mayor welcomed Councillors, staff and members of the gallery to the meeting.

The General Manager gave an apology for the Director Technical Services and advised that the Manager Road Operations, Mr Greg Kable, was representing Technical Services.

PUBLIC FORUM

6.03PM

Greg Weatherall addressed Council about the Truck Wash. He advised that a number of people use the facility, including buses and the four local commercial stock truck operators. He is concerned about the possibility of Council closing the facility. Mr Weatherall particularly needs access to the Truck Wash when he carts sheep, as he cannot load sheep onto his truck after carting cattle without washing the truck. After discussions with the Director Technical Services where he advised he would do his best to limit use of the Truck Wash, Mr Weatherall changed the lock on the Truck Wash on 24 October 2002, and advised other uses that if they needed to use it they were to contact him for a key, and to register their use. The facility has only been used on one occasion since it was locked.

Mr Weatherall spoke about the Avdata keys in use at various facilities in the region, and also raised the possibility of using treated effluent from the sewerage works, stating he believed that it was the practice at Narromine.

6.15 PM

Robert Lord addressed Council, advising of the existence of the Warrumbungle Textile Industry Group. WTIG is an association of eight businesses in the local area which has formed to facilitate the exchange of information. They meet monthly to discuss what they are doing and how they can improve their businesses. Mr Lord stated that the common factor for each business was the shortage of trained staff. WTIG is working with TAFE to develop a short, specific training course of approximately 12-14 weeks in length and provide training for 10-12 people. It would be a full-time course, with one day per week spent in the workplaces, which

**MATTER WITHOUT NOTICE
NEILSON PARK TOILET BLOCK**

215 RESOLVED that construction of the new Neilson Park toilet block be commenced by Council staff and that other work be carried out by way of sub-contractors.

Sullivan/Atkinson

GENERAL BUSINESS

216 RESOLVED that Council examine the option of utilising treated effluent water for the truck wash area.

Shinton/Todd

217 RESOLVED that keys to the Truck Wash be given to the four commercial stock truck operators and that they be entitled to wash a truck once per week under the current water restriction regime.

Sullivan/Shinton

218 RESOLVED that the General Manager and Mayor obtain more information regarding recent requests for variations to water restrictions and make a decision after conferring with Councillors.

Atkinson/Bell

219 RESOLVED that

- 1 Council sign the Rural Fire Service Zone Agreement subject to the Service Level Agreement being satisfactory.
- 2 A Heads of Agreement document be drawn up setting out why the councils are members of the zone and requiring a shop-front presence in each centre within the zone.
- 3 That the Service Level Agreement not be signed off until a performance agreement is drawn up between the Rural Fire Service and councils in the Zone.

Sullivan/Egan

There being no further business the meeting closed at 10.00 pm.

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CHAIRMAN

7. There is evidence that all adjoining property owners have been consulted and there are no objections to the proposed road closure.
8. That closure of the road does not prevent legal and practical access to adjoining properties.

3.3 OVERNIGHT CAMPING AT MILLING PARK DUNEDOO

Background

Reports have been received of caravans and mobile homes parking overnight in the truck parking bay adjacent Milling Park in Dunedoo. In particular, the caravans and mobile homes are discharging waste into stormwater drains and connecting into power outlets at Milling Park.

Council's consideration is sought on a proposal to erect signs banning overnight camping in the truck area adjacent Milling Park

Issues

Clearly, Council wants to encourage tourists and travelers to stop and rest at Dunedoo, however, there does not appear to be any community benefit if caravans and mobile homes park overnight in the truck rest area. Further, the local caravan park is disadvantaged if overnight stays at the truck rest are not discouraged.

Caravans and mobile homes have the capacity to store significant quantities of effluent and if discharged improperly, may cause health problems and damage to the environment. Overnight access to power outlets in Milling Park is simply a cost burden to Council.

The erection of signs banning overnight camping, allows Council's Ranger to issue penalty notices in accordance with S 632(1) of the Local Government Act.

Options

Council has discretion in this matter

Financial Considerations

Existing budget allocations are sufficient to cover the cost of erecting signs banning overnight stay in the Milling Park truck rest area.

RECOMMENDATION

That overnight stay and camping by caravans and mobile homes in the Milling Park truck rest area is banned and appropriate signs are erected.

3.4 APPLICATION TO USE TRUCK WASH BAY

Background

A truck wash facility exists adjacent the Coonabarabran sewage treatment works. The facility has limited capacity and Council on the 17 December 2002 resolved that keys to the truck wash be provided to four local commercial operators only and that their use be limited to one wash per week.

An application has been received by a stock carrier, recently established in Coonabarabran, for access to the truck wash. A copy of the letter of application along with supporting reference has been forwarded to Councillors under separate cover.

Issues

Currently, the truck wash facility is informally managed by one of the existing key holders. The cost of water used is distributed by this manager amongst other users and cleaning of the facility is also managed by this person.

Restricted use of the facility is necessary because there is insufficient effluent treatment capacity. Commercial truck washing facilities exist in other centres such as Gunnedah, Tamworth and Dubbo, where there is pay for use system in place.

Options

Should Council decide to allow another operator to use the facility, restriction on use should be established and existing cooperative arrangements must continue. Restrictions on the use of the facility must remain as there have been other recent enquiries from truck drivers.

Financial Considerations

The cost of operating and maintaining the truck wash bay under current arrangements is minimal. The cost of establishing a licensed commercial operation including new effluent treatment processes has not been investigated.

RECOMMENDATION

That application by GM Scicluna for access to the truck washing facility be approved subject to compliance with existing management arrangements.

3.5 TENDERS FOR CASUAL HIRE OF TRUCKS AND VARIOUS ITEMS OF PLANT

Background

Council hires various items of plant and trucks throughout the year on numerous different types of projects. Plant is mostly hired on a 'wet' hire basis, which is with operator however, plant is also hired on a dry hire basis. Contract documentation was extensively re written around the following four schedules;

- Truck hourly rate schedule
- Truck quantity and distance schedule
- Plant hourly rate schedule
- Float transportation – hourly rate and distance schedule

Tenders closed on the 7 January 2008 for a 12 month contract period commencing 1 February 2008. Council is required to formally consider the tenders and make a resolution.

3.3 OVERNIGHT CAMPING AT MILLING PARK DUNEDOO

241 RESOLVED that overnight stay and camping by caravans and mobile homes in the Milling Park truck rest area be banned and appropriate signs erected. **FURTHER**, that Council take measures to secure the area by way of isolating the power supply and locking the taps, to prevent theft of power and water.

Coe/Hill

3.4 APPLICATION TO USE TRUCK WASH BAY

242 RESOLVED that application by GM Scicluna for access to the truck washing facility be approved subject to compliance with existing management arrangements.

Hill/Sullivan

3.52PM The General Manager left the room

3.56PM The General Manager returned to the meeting

3.5 TENDERS FOR CASUAL HIRE OF TRUCKS AND VARIOUS ITEMS OF PLANT

3.56PM Councillor Egan declared an interest in the following matter and left the meeting.

243 RESOLVED:

1. That tendered rates for casual plant hire for the period 1 February 2008 to 31 January 2009 under the hourly rate schedule be accepted as follows:

Sullivan/Todd