

PRESENT: Cr Peter Shinton (Chairman), Cr Coe, Cr Connelly, Cr Dawson, Cr Egan, Cr Hill, Cr Lewis, Cr Sullivan, Cr Todd, General Manager, Director Technical Services, Director Corporate Services, Director Environmental Services and Director of Community Services.

In attendance: S Morris (minutes)

FORUM

9.06AM

Mr Steve McCoy of Yaminbah Fire Brigade addressed Council expressing concerns that the hazard reduction certificates he has asked Council for have not been provided.

Mr McCoy explained that last year the Brigade undertook hazard reduction burns on the Newell and Oxley Highways which assisted in reducing the fire risk. He indicated that he had applied for the reissue of certificates to continue this work.

It was explained to Mr McCoy that Council does not have a person trained or appointed to undertake the assessment and issue of these certificates.

9.12AM

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF WARRUMBUNGL E SHIRE COUNCIL HELD ON 17 MAY 2007

374 RESOLVED that the minutes of the ordinary meeting of the Warrumbungle Shire Council held on 17 May 2007 be endorsed.

Dawson/Sullivan

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF WARRUMBUNGL E SHIRE COUNCIL HELD ON 1 MAY 2007

375 RESOLVED that the minutes of the special meeting of the Warrumbungle Shire Council held on 1 May 2007 be endorsed.

Coe/Todd

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF WARRUMBUNGL E SHIRE COUNCIL HELD ON 14 MAY 2007

376 RESOLVED that the minutes of the special meeting of the Warrumbungle Shire Council held on 14 May 2007 be endorsed.

Connelly/Coe

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF WARRUMBUNGL E SHIRE COUNCIL HELD ON 21 MAY 2007

377 RESOLVED that the minutes of the special meeting of the Warrumbungle Shire Council held on 21 May 2007 be endorsed.

Todd/Connelly

ADOPTION OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE TRAFFIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 24 MAY 2007

378 RESOLVED that the minutes of the Traffic Advisory Committee meeting held on 24 May 2007 be adopted subject to Recommendation 81 being amended to refer the matter back to the RTA.

Dawson/Sullivan

**MINUTES OF THE WARRUMBUNGL E SHIRE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 6 JUNE 2007**

Noted.

**MINUTES OF THE WARRUMBUNGL E SHIRE TOURISM ADVISORY
COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 6 JUNE 2007**

Noted.

9.33AM

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

1.1 COUNCIL CHAMBERS – CRANE BUILDING

379 RESOLVED that Council:

- i) Obtains quotations for the demolition of the remaining Crane building structure and proceed to demolish the structure
- ii) Take steps to secure the property in the interim and
- iii) That Council seeks the preparation of concept plans for the land.

Sullivan/Dawson

1.2 NOTICE OF MOTION

380 RESOLVED that Council formally approach the local members and the appropriate Minister to investigate the possibility of securing a cultural grant to house the current library when the lease expires and possibly a cultural centre.

Sullivan/Dawson

1.3 HALL CHARGES – MENDOORAN

A motion was moved by Councillor Dawson seconded by Councillor Hill that Council not accede to the request by Orana Arts Board for a donation of an amount equal to the hall fees to be charged

An amendment was moved by Councillor Sullivan that a 50% contribution be paid to Orana Arts Board and that Council's policy be extended to incorporate this contribution for the halls at Dunedoo, Mendooran and Coolah.

The amendment was withdrawn.

The motion was put and lost.

381 RESOLVED that a draft policy be prepared and submitted to Council incorporating the fifty percent (50%) contribution allowed for specified hirers of the Coonabarabran Shire Hall and extending that contribution to specified hirers of the Mendooran, Coolah and Dunedoo halls under the same terms and conditions.

Sullivan/Hill

1.4 DONATION – COONABARABRAN SHIRE HALL

382 RESOLVED that Council donate the amount of \$69.00 to the Coonabarabran Arts Council as a donation for the function known as "Baby Proms" held in the Coonabarabran Hall on 15 November 2006 with such donation to be provided from Donations – Other.

Sullivan/Hill

10.07AM

At this time Mr Ron VanKatwyk left the room

Mr Kevin Tighe, Director of Technical Services declared an interest in the matter next before Council and left the room.

1.5 TENNIS COURT LANDS

383 RESOLVED that the draft lease agreement as submitted to Council be adopted and that the General Manager finalise lease agreements for the Goolhi, Binnaway, Coolah, Merrygoen, Purlewaugh and Mendooran Tennis Courts. **FURTHER** that a report be prepared on the establishment of a Shire wide Sports Council.

Hill/Dawson

10.14AM

Mr Kevin Tighe rejoined the meeting.

10.15AM

Mr Ron VanKatwyk rejoined the meeting.

1.6 DUBBO AIRPORT ADVERTISING

384 RESOLVED that no action be taken in connection with the request by Gowest to participate in a general advertising campaign at Dubbo airport.

Dawson/Connelly

DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE SERVICES

2.1 DUE BY THE BANK TO THE FOLLOWING FUNDS AS AT 31 MAY 2007

Received.

2.2 WARRUMBUNGLA SHIRE COUNCIL GENERAL FUND BANK ACCOUNT FOR THE MONTH ENDING 31ST MAY, 2007

2.3 RATES AND CHARGES COLLECTION – UP TO and INCLUDING END MAY 2007

Received.

2.4 ALTERNATIVE PAYMENT OPTIONS FOR RATES

385 RESOLVED that Council provides both additional options for payments, being Australia Post Billpay and Bill Express, to ratepayers and provide a budget estimate of \$15,000. **FURTHER** that the costs for the use of such service be at the ratepayers expense with such charge to be up front at the time of payment. **FURTHER** that a brochure explaining the payment options be distributed with the rates notices.

Dawson/Coe

10.35AM

386 RESOLVED that standing orders be suspended to break for morning tea.

Dawson/Sullivan

10.58AM

387 RESOLVED that standing orders be resumed.

Sullivan/Todd

DIRECTOR OF TECHNICAL SERVICES REPORT

3.1 BARADINE WASTE DEPOT – CHANGES TO OPENING TIMES

A motion was moved by Councillor Dawson seconded by Councillor Hill that the following actions be taken in relation to operations at the Baradine Waste Depot

- For a period of eight weeks in 2007/2008 the waste depot be closed on Tuesday and Wednesday and supervised on Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday and Monday each week.
- When supervision of the depot is in place, a fee structure be in place in accordance with Council's fees and charges for disposal of waste.
- A media campaign be undertaken to explain Council's actions.

An amendment was moved by Councillor Sullivan that the Baradine Waste depot be opened only on Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays for six hours and that a notice be mailed out to each householder explaining the current situation and Council's actions.

This amendment was withdrawn.

A further amendment was moved by Councillor Lewis that none of the recommendations be endorsed and that existing regulations be enforced by Ordinance Officers and that an education campaign be undertaken.

This further amendment was withdrawn.

Councillor Sullivan foreshadowed an amendment.

388 The foreshadowed amendment was moved Councillor Sullivan seconded Councillor Hill that an education programme be prepared and information distributed to the Baradine, Dunedoo and Coolah communities. **FURTHER** that a notice be placed in the local paper advising the Baradine community that unless operations at the Baradine Waste Depot improve within three months that the depot will be closed from 1st October 2007 and only open three (3) half days per week being Wednesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays and that charges will be imposed on unsorted waste. **FURTHER** that Council consult with Gunnedah and Liverpool Plains Shire Councils to identify further options and that a further report and costings be submitted to Council identifying costs of opening the Baradine tip with supervision for 2 days, 3 days and 4 days.

The foreshadowed amendment was put and carried.

The amendment became the substantive motion and was put and carried.

11.42AM

3.2 REVIEW OF WASTE COLLECTION OPERATIONS IN THE SOUTHERN AREA OF THE SHIRE

389 RESOLVED:

1. That Council collect cost information on the following waste activities in Coolah, Dunedoo and Mendooran and surrounding rural areas through staff timesheets:
 - Collection of kerbside domestic wheelie bins
 - Collection of commercial wheelie bins
 - Collection of kerbside domestic recycling crates
 - Collection of commercial recycling product (wool packs)
 - Collection of recyclable products from waste depot
 - Transfer of recyclable products to Coonabarabran
 - Collection of bulk bin non recyclable waste from transfer stations
2. That Council investigate the cost of establishing a centre for processing of recyclable products in either Dunedoo or Coolah, including development costs and staffing costs.
3. That Council immediately calls tenders for collection of bulk waste from all waste transfer stations.

4. That Council undertake another round of media releases and education campaigns with the aim of increasing the volume of recycling undertaken by the residents of Coolah, Dunedoo and Mendooran.

Coe/Connelly

3.3 PROPOSED RIVERBANK RESTORATION PROJECT ON THE CASTLEREAGH RIVER IN COONABARABRAN

390 RESOLVED that Council supports the proposed partnership program between Council and the Central West Catchment Management Authority to undertake a revegetation project on the banks of the Castlereagh River for a distance 150 metres upstream of the Mary Jane Cain Bridge subject to:

- Satisfactory level of support being received from community groups towards the project
- That expected 3 year maintenance costs can be used by Council to offset its financial contribution towards the project.

Sullivan/Dawson

3.4 PROPOSED TOWN STREET NAME CHANGE – TIMOR STREET

391 RESOLVED:

1. That Council seek submissions on the proposal to rename Timor Street between Ulamambri Street and Neate Street and formally write to affected property owners in that section of Timor Street.
2. That submissions from the community be sought on an appropriate road name for Timor Street between Ulamambri Street and Neate Street.

Sullivan/Dawson

3.5 SALE OF ROAD TO ADJOINING LANDOWNER IN COBBORA

392 RESOLVED that Council accepts the revised offer from the owner of Lot 4 DP 758256 of \$10,085 as the purchase price of road which is generally described as road running diagonally across Section 15 DP 758256 and part of road area to the south of section 15.

Hill/Dawson

3.6 LAND ACQUISITION FOR NEW ALIGNMENT ON PIAMBRA ROAD

393 RESOLVED:

1. That the Council proceed to acquire land described as R1, R2, R3 and R4 of an unregistered plan for subdivision of Lot 13 DP 754973, town of Neilrex, Parish of Moorangoorang, County Napier, by compulsory acquisition under section 177 of the Roads Act 1993 for the purposes of dedicating it as public road. The procedure for acquiring the land must be in accordance with the Land Acquisition (Just Terms Compensation) Act 1991.
2. That authority be granted for an application to be made for the approval of the Minister pursuant to Section 178(2) of the Roads Act 1993
3. That authority be granted for an application to be made for the approval of the Governor to be obtained under Section 19 of the Land Acquisition (Just Terms Compensation) Act 1991 to the gazettal of an acquisition notice.
4. That the land be acquired for an improved alignment for Piambra Road.
5. That the Council confirm that all minerals are to be excluded from the compulsory acquisition.
6. That the land when acquired be classified as Public Road.

7. The Mayor and General Manager be authorised to sign and attach the council seal to any documents as required by this transaction.

Connelly/Todd

3.7 ROAD ACCESS THROUGH STANNIX PARK

394 RESOLVED that Council proceed to acquire the land being a strip of land 10m wide on the eastern boundary of Lot 10 in the Stannix Park subdivision through the compulsory acquisition process.

Sullivan/Egan

3.8 MINISTERS APPROVAL TO CALL TENDERS FOR CONSTRUCTION OF MENDOORAN WATER TREATMENT PLANT.

395 RESOLVED

1. That Council accepts the offer from the Minister for Water Utilities of funding to a rate of 49.8% for the project costs associated with construction of the Mendooran water treatment plant and associated works. Further, tenders are immediately called for construction of the Mendooran treatment plant and associated works.
2. That Council undertakes completion of policies and plans referred to as Best Practice Management of Water Supply and Sewerage Guidelines for Warrumbungle Shire and as referred to in the Ministers letter of approval for the Mendooran Water Supply project.

Sullivan/Lewis

3.9 REQUEST TO REMOVE PALM TREES FROM BARWON STREET BARADINE

396 RESOLVED that Council advise the applicant that Council will not remove and sell the four Centennial Palms in Barwon Street, between Wellington Street and Bligh Street, Baradine.

Egan/Hill

3.10 PROPOSED WATER QUALITY MONITORING AGREEMENT

397 RESOLVED that Council enter into a partnership with the Central West Catchment Management Authority for a project to monitor river water quality over a five year period.

Sullivan/Dawson

DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

4.1 RSPCA COMMUNITY ANIMAL WELFARE SCHEME AND SUBSIDISED DESEXING PROGRAM BACKGROUND

398 RESOLVED that Council supports the RSPCA initiative and provides a budget allocation to assist in conducting a subsidised desexing program for the Shire and that an amount of \$1,500 be included in Council's projected budget deficit for 2007/2008.

Dawson/Sullivan

4.2 WARRUMBUNGL E SHIRE COUNCIL APPLICATIONS RECEIVED AND HELD PENDING FOR THE MONTH OF MAY 2007

Received.

DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY SERVICES

5.1 RURAL FIRE SERVICE - NEILREX

399 RESOLVED:

1. That Council proceed to acquire land described as Lot 1 Section 5 in DP 758761, Town of Neilrex, Parish of Biamble, County of Napier, by compulsory acquisition under the Land Acquisition (Just Terms Compensation) Act 1991.
2. That the General Manager be granted authority for an application to be made for the approval of the Minister for Local Government pursuant to the Section 187 (2) of the Local Government Act.
3. That the General Manager be granted authority for an application to be made for the approval of the Governor to be obtained under Section 19 of the Land Acquisition (Just Terms Compensation) Act 1991 to the gazettal of an acquisition notice.
4. That the Council confirm that all minerals are to be excluded from the compulsory acquisition.
5. That the land when acquired be classified as operational land.
6. That the Mayor and General Manager be authorised to use the Warrumbungle Shire Council seal in the process of acquisition of this land.

Connelly/Hill

GENERAL BUSINESS

The General Manager outlined differences in rating structures for Rural Residential and Rural Business in both Northern and Southern parts of the Shire.

1.08PM

400 RESOLVED that standing orders be suspended to break for lunch.

Dawson/Sullivan

1.45PM

401 RESOLVED that standing orders be resumed.

Sullivan/Todd

At this time discussions continued regarding the rating structure.

402 RESOLVED that Council amalgamate the northern and southern rural residential rates to create one unit charge and the northern and southern rural business rates to create one unit charge with the adjustment to be provided over a three year period.

Sullivan/Dawson

403 RESOLVED that Warrumbungle Shire Council utilise the full rates catch up of \$41,744.

Connelly/Todd

The Director of Technical Services, Mr Kevin Tighe, advised Council of the recent significant rain event and outlined details of the flood damage sustained, particularly in the southern end of the Shire.

Mr Tighe also informed the meeting of the request by the Gunnedah Cycle Club for the provision of portable toilets for the cycling competition to be held in early July.

404 RESOLVED that Council provide portable toilets for use during the event organised by the Gunnedah Cycle Club in July 2007.

Hill/Sullivan

Mr Tighe also informed the meeting that the funding available under AusIndustry for identified tourism initiatives cannot be utilised for improvements to Pandora's Pass.

Cr Lewis raised the following matters:

Doctor visitation at the Binnaway Health Centre and the increased rental fees being charged.

405 RESOLVED that Council write to the Premier and relevant Minister seeking clarification of what health service can be guaranteed for rural areas. **FURTHER** that Council seek information from Greater Western Area Health Service concerning rental charges for use of their premises.

Lewis/Egan

Issuing of hazard reduction certificates – training for employee and possibility of sharing task with adjoining council.

406 RESOLVED that Council approach adjoining councils to determine whether they have a qualified employee who could issue hazard reduction certificates and seek agreement on shared resourcing on an as needs basis to permit issuing of hazard reduction certificates in Warrumbungle Shire.

Lewis/Sullivan

Stop sign at Baradine Road rail bridge – suggestion of placement of give way signs or different signs instead of stop sign to assist heavy vehicles.

407 RESOLVED that this matter be referred to the Traffic Committee for consideration.

Lewis/Todd

Improved signage for culvert at Renshaw Street intersection in Binnaway – noted that Council is investigating pictorial signage and markings on the road.
Portable heaters for staff working in sheds.

Cr Connelly raised the following matters:

Receipt of payment for work on rail bridge on the Baradine Road – still awaiting execution of agreement prior to receipt of funds

Questions regarding the recent road fatality in the southern end of the Shire

Questions regarding confusion caused by the new signage in Martin Street indicating Vietnam Memorial Avenue – this refers to the row of trees and Council is to investigate a different coloured sign denoting this Memorial Avenue.

Auslink funding deficiency for the completion of the Wellington to Mullaley via Coolah, Mullaley to Boggabri Road – MR55 – Federal funding provided however State Government does not have funds.

Distribution of interest earned on investments.

Cr Todd raised the following matters:

Status of geotechnical investigations regarding new bridges over Talbragar and Castlereagh Rivers

Thanks to staff who organised additional CountryLink bus service to Baradine – 6 month trial from 2 July 2007

Advising unable to attend July 2007 council meeting and extending apologies.

Cr Egan raised the following matters:

Advising unable to attend budget meeting to be held on 25th June and July council meeting and extending apologies

Reinstatement of \$14,000 to restricted asset for caravan park at Binnaway

408 RESOLVED that \$14,000 be transferred to restricted asset for the special purpose of the proposed caravan park at Binnaway.

Egan/Lewis

Access road into the Binnaway tip has been washed out.

Cr Coe raised the following matters:

Information sought regarding the road works on MR55 – bitumen lifted and road closed during significant rain event.

Wet weather reserve no longer in restricted asset – questions regarding funding of repairs to roads following storm damage

Congratulations to staff for work done on Lawson Park Road.

Cr Sullivan raised the following matters:

Stoney Point Road – advised that this road has been recently graded

Cr Dawson raised the following matters:

Request to explore recycling of old mobile phones and old computers

Ironwork on fence on Mary Jane Cain bridge is damaged and parts missing – needs repairs

Cr Hill raised the following matters:

Compliment staff on their helpful manner at the road closure on Golden Highway during storm

Request that Council discuss with the RTA the possibility of a bridge at the Uarbry Crossing on the Golden Highway as road was closed during the recent storm

Road at Hanna's Bridge needs work due to pot holes

Gutter and storm water drainage works required in Digilah Street, Dunedoo outside the MPS – Council to seek contribution towards the cost of these works once additional development application lodged for nursing and doctors' quarters.

Placement of 'No standing' signs between two trees in front of fire station to permit vehicular access in either direction when exiting or entering the fire station.

Site meeting being organised – Cr Hill to be included.

Cr Shinton raised the following matters:

Planning Panels being established – does this remove the development application process from councils.

General Manager raised the following matters:

At the meeting to be held on Monday, 25th June at Coolah commencing at 1.30pm, further discussions are needed on the rating structure.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 3.42pm.

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CHAIRMAN