

PRESENT: Cr Gary Andrews, Cr Anne-Louise Capel, Cr Chris Sullivan, Steve Loane (General Manager), Stefan Murru (Director Corporate & Community Services), Leeanne Ryan (Director Development Services), Kevin Tighe (Director Technical Services), Louise Johnston (Manager Children's & Community Services), Dennis Althofer, Michael Ascher, Christine Bayly, Bev Bush, Judy Henderson, Brenda Jenkins, Philip McCormack, Helen Naef, Lyndal O'Leary, Jenny Lloyd, Fred Sciberras, Sydney Sauls, June Underwood, Sydney Sauls, John Woodlock, Lynette Yeo, John Yeo,

Chair: Steve Loane (General Manager)

APOLOGIES: Cr Peter Shinton (Mayor), Cr Denis Todd, Cr Victor Schmidt, Cr Ron Sullivan, Snr Constable Kapke

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

RECOMMENDED that the minutes of the Town Community Consultation Meeting Mendooran, held on Wednesday 5 November 2014 be accepted.

Cr Capel/B Bush

BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

- **Emailing of Minutes**

Attendee advised meeting that they had not been receiving emails of minutes and agendas. Other attendees did confirm they had been receiving the emails containing Minutes and Agendas.

Action PA to Director Corporate and Community Services to verify individual in questions email address.

- **Water Pressure Issue**

The issue of water pressure was raised. Council's response was that Council will try to keep the reservoir full and if the reservoir is full people agree that the pressure issue would be resolved.

Concerns raised regarding water wastage in town by Council. Issue with valve between Mendooran and Coolabah Estate. Council is trying to get this fixed.

AGENDA ITEMS

- **Fit for the Future**
Presentation given to the meeting of Councils options and progress with the Fit for the Future program.
- **Budget 2015/16**
Budget process explained and Budget Submission forms provided to the meeting.
- **Abattoir**
Meeting advised latest update received was that new owners are working towards opening in April 2015.
- **Mendooran Water**
Discussion regarding water rates in Mendooran. Some residents wanted the extra charge for Mendooran distributed across the Shire. Meeting was informed that water services are user pays and not subsidized. Other residents understood why they were paying more.
- **Mendooran Showground and Mowing**
Question raised regarding why some showgrounds are mowed but not the Mendooran Showground. Director Technical Services explained any Showgrounds which are or have been mowed were completed under the Financial Assistance Grants awarded in August and February each financial year.
- **Street and Lane Maintenance**
Nothing has been done to fix Bundulla Street, Napier Street full of potholes as well.

- **Flushing of Storage**

Council is doing this.

- **Slashing of Castlereagh Highway**

Is this slashed? Has hardly been slashed recently. Is this road State funded? If so why is it not getting slashed every quarter. Slashing done under contract to the Roads and Maritime Services (RMS).

Napier Lane – Merrygoen Creek reserve also not getting slashed.

Forrest Road slashing when will this happen? Trees up to the edge. Trees were sprayed last week. It was mentioned that on the Dubbo end of the road the Dubbo Shire graded the verges and it works well.

- **Water Services (Bore)**

For the water services, would it be better to give up recent bore and put second reservoir on the top of the hill? General Manager advised the meeting would not have that much chance of getting rid of bore and put in reservoir at the top of the hill.

- **Council Clean Up Day**

Was supposed to be having a clean up day March 2015. No date allocated, residents to ring in to book clean up date.

Council is looking into holding clean up day in and around April/May.

Action: Development Services will contact resident.

Also mentioned that Council Administration staff were doing a fantastic job.

- **Seniors Week**

Does Council support seniors week with grants? Mendooran didn't get any funding. This is a State Government grant which is no longer available.

- **Australia Day Breakfast**

In Dubbo they advertise a free breakfast. Had to pay for Breakfast. VRA did fundraiser. Council provided \$500 per town and \$600 to Coonabarabran.

- **Mowing of Footpaths**

Cobbora and Bramble Streets to Naiper Streets haven't been mowed.

- **Bundulla Street Garden Maintenance**

State of garden beds is not good, Council needs to mow.

- **Water Pressure Issues**

(Previously discussed)

- **Flood Maps**

Issue of Flood doubling a ratepayer's insurance levy. This is apparently due to Shire changing flood boundaries according to insurance company. SES was contacted from Dubbo and told to evacuate people from properties that wouldn't even be affected by a flood.

Can Council do a new flood study? Our current one was completed 1996. (approx.). For Council to complete a new flood study it would be extremely expensive. Council has contacted public works to see if they have a flood study, they are looking for it now. Council will not ignore this issue.

The insurance companies statement that Council has changed flood boundaries is untrue.

- **Rural Addressing**

Was requested that the community/residents provide feedback to Council regarding Rural addressing. Want the community to have robust discussions with friends and community making sure the rural address number is displayed outside their properties.

Police depend on cross roads or bridge etc. So need to a location/reference point. It would be good to have reflective numbers, also need as much information as possible so emergency services can use GPS coordinates. This can be done with an App.

Action: Manager of Communications and IT to include App information in Councils publications.

- **Meeting Times**

Meeting advised that the 3:00pm meeting time is unsuitable.

GENERAL BUSINESS

- **Cemetery**

Front Gate area two (2) metres of fencing has fallen down, dead tree in the area, large potholes in the driveway.

Residents pick up sticks but Council should be taking away the branches that are piled up.

- **Signage for the Free Camping Area**

Could Council get a new sign for the free camping area and provide people to assist in putting it up?

- **Cobbora Road and Grading**

They grade one side and then the other and push everything into the centre, not removing the potholes etc. in the middle of the road. Can't grade rocks into the middle of the road and leave it there.

- **Gold Coin Donations for the Camping Area**

Can Council do something to collect gold coin donations? If an incorporated entity wants to run it then they should contact Council.

- **Heritage Grants**

Thanks to Council for Heritage grants and small grants (FAGS) grants system.

- **Issue with Rear to Kerb Sign**

Sign is not visible near craft store. Somebody parked there not rear to kerb and was booked.

Meeting Closed: 7:20pm