
PRESENT: Clr Anne-Louise Capel, Clr Gary Andrews, Clr Victor Schmidt, Steve Loane (General Manager), Rebecca Ryan (Director Corporate Services), Tony Meppem (Director Environmental and Community Services), Kevin Tighe (Director Technical Services), Fiona Luckhurst (Manager Warrumbungle Community Care), F Taleb, Judy Henderson, Lesley Sauls, Sydney Sauls, R Taleb, Alan Fleming, Mary Fleming, Jenny Lloyd, J Strachan, Philip McCormack, Mike Ascher, Elizabeth Ascher, L Elleroy, Val Dries, Pat Dries, Lisa Grady, Pam Archer, Betty Stanford, Barry McDonald, S Burns, J McDonald, M Southwell, D Fenwick

Chair: Steve Loane (General Manager)

APOLOGIES: Mayor Peter Shinton, Clr Chris Sullivan, Clr Denis Todd, Clr Ron Sullivan, Clr Fred Clancy, Clr Murray Coe, Kevin Lloyd, Paula

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

RECOMMENDED that the minutes of the Town Committee Meeting Mendooran, held on 6 November 2012 be accepted.

L Sauls/Meppem

BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

1. Boral Lease – Quarry operational, overburden removed and utilised in the Coonabarabran landfill to cover asbestos
2. Coolah Doctor Surgery purchase remains under negotiation
3. Coonabarabran Administration Building – Official opening 17 March and public open day 18 March
4. Cobbora Coal Project
 - Negotiations continuing regarding Voluntary Planning Agreement (VPA)
 - Slow progress
 - Mine may be deferred for 5 years
 - Impact on population and rates

DIRECTORATE PRESENTATIONS

General Manager (GM)

5. Section 44 fires in January/February
 - Mayors Bushfire Appeal Fund established
 - Programs developed to assist people affected by the fires
 - Donations from community groups much appreciated
6. Asbestos Management Plan nearing completion with assistance from Environmental Planning Authority, Workcover and Public Works

Question: Asbestos removal, is there an old mine that could be used?

Answer: Sites proposed are approved by the Environmental Planning Authority, another site in Mendooran could be used as an emergency site, however it is not required.

Director Environment and Community Services (DECS)

7. Cobbora Coal Project
 - 550 employees during operational phase
 - No onsite accommodation
 - Promoting Dunedoo and Mendooran and discouraging fly in/fly out
 - Council requesting sealing of Cobbora Road through VPA
8. Local Environmental Plan (LEP) governing zoning for town planning
 - Anticipated that final LEP will be adopted at next Council

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- Sent to Department of Planning for ministerial approval
9. Epuron Wind Farm located in between Cassilis and Coolah
- Large project with 417 wind turbines with 30m blades and employing 1200 construction workers
10. Solid Waste Services and Waste Management Strategy
- Survey to gather feedback on services and provision of waste options
11. Responsible for Youth, Family Support Services, Children's Services, Libraries and Warrumbungle Community Care

Director Corporate Services (DCS)

12. Responsible for Administration and Customer Service, Finance, Property and Risk, Communications and IT and Economic Development and Tourism

Director Technical Services (DTS)

13. Responsible for town streets, rural roads, Urban Services and Water and Sewerage
14. Gentle Annie Road sealing for 1km
15. Grandchester Bridge will be replaced in the next 6 months
16. Abbott Street and Benewa Street
17. Supervisor in Mendooran with 3 full time staff
18. Bundulla Street – Blisters to slow down traffic
19. Mendooran Water Pressure
- Conflicting reports
 - Consultant engaged to investigate issues and recommend options to resolve

Question: Yarrow Road

Answer: There are no plans for a permanent solution as it is a wide crossing. Council is removing the sand.

Question: Cobbora Road

Answer: Priority is for sealing first, then crossing

20. Sealing Bandulla Street from Yalcogrin Street to River Street and from the Bridge to Rest Area
- Access is difficult with the caravans and camper traffic
 - Dust issue
 - Requires improved signage
 - Submissions to be referred to DTS/Manager Urban Services budget
21. Toilet block in Mendooran Rest Area Requires Upgrade
- Submissions to be referred to DTS/Manager Urban Services budget

GENERAL BUSINESS

22. Recycling
- Last financial year figures:
 - \$158,000 income from glass, plastic, tin
 - \$251,000 collection
 - \$429,000 processing fee
 - Net cost to collect and process \$550,000
 - Income does not include rates income
 - Waste Management Strategy plans to increase recycling and decrease cost, distributing costs throughout the shire and ensuring fairness
23. Mendooran Park
- Daily cleaning of toilets
 - Budget submission from Mendooran District Development Group to increase cleaning and improve facilities, referred to Manager Urban Services
24. RV dump sites

25. Volunteers Policy
 - Original Policy has been amended however Volunteers need to sign off/sign on and be inducted by Council
26. Tree pushing fence down at back of shop/laneway. Advised to write to GM to start claim process
27. Rest Area/Truck Stop (Coonabarabran Road)
 - Bins in the area
 - Reports area is untidy/unclean state and used as a toilet
 - Referred to DTS/Manager Urban Services to investigate
28. Community Care transport vehicle garaged in Mendooran.
 - Report to March Council meeting regarding trial to garage vehicle in Baradine
 - No reduction of services for Mendooran
 - 2 cars per day travel through Mendooran to Dubbo
 - Query regarding clients needing to go to Dunedoo once per month
 - Time of appointments in Dubbo an issue
 - Medical services lacking as no community nurse in Mendooran.
 - No meetings or communication about the change
 - Volunteer drivers felt very under valued when told no longer required
 - Felt a lack of respect shown
 - A private driver transporting clients is meeting needs of community
29. Requested the defibrillator unit to be kept in a Rural Fire Service (RFS) Vehicle
 - Referred to Local Emergency Management Committee
30. Medical issue – Why did Dr Ferguson leave?
 - Some disparity regarding internet provision however Medicare offered capacity for non electronic bulk billing
31. Frequency of meetings – Next meeting to be held in November

Meeting Closed at 7.15 PM