
PRESENT: Clr Ray Lewis(Chair), Clr Victor Schmidt, Clr Peter Shinton, Kevin Tighe (Acting General Manager), John McHugh(A/Director Corporate Services), Jenny Lloyd, Helen Naef, Shirley Zalymer, Brenda Jenkis, Philip McCormack, Derek Lennox, Lesley Sauls, Mitchell Ribbons, Leonie Heslop, E Hennessey, Ellen Mahne, John Yeo, Lynette Yeo, David Ward

APOLOGIES: Rebecca Ryan (Director Community Services), Judy Henderson

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES – 20 APRIL 2010

MMTC 01 RECOMMENDATION that the minutes of the meeting held on 20 April 2010 are confirmed

Helen Naef / Jenny Lloyd

BUSINESS ARISING

The following matters were discussed;

- Waste transfer stations – there is evidence that trade waste is being dumped at the Mendooran waste transfer station.
- Loose gravel signs still in place.
- Flood damage on Forest Road still not repaired
- Overgrown vegetation along Forest Road in Dubbo City Council area. Contact to be made with Dubbo City.
- Speeding in Bandulla Street – still occurring
- Users of the Mechanics Institute Hall – Council to remind users of hire agreement, particularly in relation to loud music late at night.

AGENDA ITEMS

Telstra Coverage in Mendooran

The Development Group raised concerns about the lack of mobile phone coverage for Telstra phones. The coverage in Mendooran for Optus mobile phones appears to be satisfactory.

MMTC 02 RECOMMENDATION that Council formally approach Telstra Countrywide regarding lack of mobile phone coverage.

Lloyd / Naef

Alcohol Free Zones

It was noted that the period for Alcohol Free Zones has nearly expired. Council will be asked to renew the zones that currently exist for another three years.

Council's 2011/12 Budget Process

The Acting General Manager spoke about the process associated with preparation of the 2011/12 budget. In particular, the preparation is based upon the forward works programme and the many requests received throughout the year. It is expected that the draft management plan will be on display from 12 May 2011 and this will provide an opportunity for submissions from all in the community. Also explained was a revised approach to consideration of donations or financial assistance to community groups. Council recently updated its policy on financial assistance and a call for applications will now be made in August and February each year.

New General Manager Appointment

The Chairman outlined the process associated with appointment of the new General Manager. The new General Manager is Mr Steve Loane and he will commence duties on the 2 May 2011.

Warrumbungle Regional Council Proposal

The Acting General Manager outlined the reasons for a proposal by Council to rename itself as Warrumbungle Regional Council. In particular the change from 'Shire' to 'Regional' is expected to better promote Council and provide more emphasis to funding applications to State and Federal Governments.

Community Strategic Plan

The Acting General Manager spoke about development of a Community Strategic Plan and how it will be a visionary plan for the Shire for the next 10 to 20 years. Preparation of the plan cannot occur without extensive public consultation and this will occur between July and December 2011.

Roads – Flood Funding

The Acting General Manager spoke about the flood damaged roads and the claim for funding assistance that has been made to the State Government. The assessment of the claim is expected to be finalised by the RTA in the coming weeks.

GENERAL BUSINESS

Monitoring of Flood Levels in the Castlereagh River during the December 2010 Flood Event.

There was confusion about roles and responsibilities regarding the manual monitoring of flood levels during the flood event in December 2010. Also, some concern about of information being forwarded to SES. Follow up with Council's Emergency Coordinator – Phil Southwell.

General Appearance of Streets and Gardens in Mendooran

- Questions raised about the condition of garden beds and who is responsible for maintenance. Apparently, the Mendooran DDG is responsible however, there is concern that volunteers are not permitted to undertake maintenance work. The meeting was advised that the Development Group may register volunteers with Council. A letter of clarification to be made to the MDDG regarding this issue.
- A request was made for more maintenance of the camping ground and edge of roads. Concerns were raised about increase in potential fire risk due to lack of grass mowing on the edges of town.
- Fallen tree limb across from the pub not removed after a long period of time.
- The concept of using 'work for the dole' scheme to increase level of maintenance. Council to advise MDDG on possible options.
- Irrigation of the grass in Mendooran Park is now operational, however, the buildings and play equipment in the park now being stained by irrigation water.

- There are a number of overgrown blocks in Mendooran. The meeting was advised that overgrown block issues need to be reported to Council. However, the process of having them cleaned up takes a long time.
- The Cemetery is in need of a good clean up. In particular, packaging left over from funeral masons needs to be removed.
- There are several holes in the road following installation of the water pipeline to the Park – Council to follow up.

Next Meeting: Monday 7 November 2011

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Chairperson