

**MINUTES OF THE COONABARABRAN COMMUNITY CONSULTATION MEETING
HELD AT COUNCIL CHAMBERS, COONABARABRAN ON THURSDAY 22
OCTOBER 2020 COMMENCING AT 5:30PM**

PRESENT: Cr Ambrose Doolan (Mayor), Cr Aniello Iannuzzi (Deputy Mayor), Cr Denis Todd, Cr Peter Shinton, Cr Kodi Brady, Cr Fred Clancy, Roger Bailey (General Manager, GM), Kim Parker (Director Corporate and Community Services, DCCS), Leeanne Ryan (Director Environment & Development Services, DEDES), Kumar Satkumaran (Acting Director Technical Services, ADTS), Margaret Anderson (Manager Community Services, MComms), Saumik Chatterjee (Manager Road Operations, MRO), Claudia Westoby (COVID Safe Marshall), Shereena Tattersall (Minutes), Jane Judd, Abby Skinner, Julie Shinton, Judy Clancy, Terry Tighe, Jane Smith, Simon Tighe, Michelle Brady, Russ James, Lynda Row, Zoe Holcombe, Paula Brookfield, Rob Brookfield, Karen Wessel.

APOLOGIES: Cr Wendy Hill, Cr Anne-Louise Capel, Cr Ray Lewis, Sam Bragg.

INTRODUCTION

Mayor Ambrose Doolan welcomed attendees to the meeting and informed attendees that the meeting will be recorded however not streamed. Mayor Doolan explained that the recording was to assist with the streaming of monthly Council meetings. Mayor Doolan introduced General Manager (GM), the Director Corporate and Community Services (DCCS), Director Environment and Development Services (DEDES), Acting Director Technical Services (ADTS), Manager Community Services (MComms), Manager Road Operations (MRO), COVID Safe Marshall and Minute Taker and outlined how the meeting will be run.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING 28 OCTOBER 2019 BUSINESS ARISING

1. Council Meeting Recordings streaming capabilities cutting out

GM advised that the Action List Item 6 related to Council Meeting Recordings not live streaming.

DCCS advised that the issues Council are facing with streaming are trying to be resolved with resources in the current budget. Quotes will be organized to fix the issue in the future and delivered for consideration with the next budget.

2. New Warrumbungle Region Brochure maps update

DEDES advised that the brochure suggestions have not been forgotten about it is a matter of having a quorum for a meeting in order to discuss the issue further.

COMMUNITY MATTERS

COUNCIL UPDATES

1. Evacuation Centres

ADTS advised that the LEMC produced a report for the prevention and preparation for incident recovery centres in the Warrumbungle Shire Council. The report recommended evacuation centres be located at, depending on the severity, the Coonabarabran Bowling Club, Coonabarabran High School and the Coonabarabran Showground.

Cr Shinton stated that in the last emergency, the High School was not able to be contacted

Action: ADTS to speak with the Emergency Services Co-Ordinator and the LEMC to confirm access to all centres.

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2. Rural Addressing

ADTS advised that rural addressing has been streamlined. There were various street names with different localities and the previous addressing system caused some issues with emergency services attending the wrong addresses. Geography Information Services were utilized to rationalize town boundaries, road names and locality changes. Community members affected have been contacted and details updated.

3. Libraries

MCommS advised there is a report being produced on regional libraries. The report will explain how Council's Libraries are operated. There are three (3) options which are available being regional, independent and cooperative. MCommS encouraged the community to provide feedback on the above options as well as operating hours and activities they would like to see at the library.

GENERAL BUSINESS

1. Replacement of Community Care Vehicles

MCommS advised that it was written in the contract with the Minister for Transport that vehicles were to be removed after 300,000 km instead of every 2 years as part of a vehicle management process. Future contracts through Transport NSW will be based on a lease or brokerage program.

MCommS advised they are looking into a vehicle with eight (8) seats, that can cater for a wheel chair and the aging population. For each service location, Warrumbungle Shire Council are trying to source a local lease back option and the possibility of six (6) vehicles in the new fleet.

2. Water Rates Notices short payment timeframe

DCCS advised the water notices were delayed and date should have been adjusted. Water notices are to be posted as close to the issue date as possible and then four weeks before payment is due.

In the case of water rates, due to COVID-19 the State Government legislated that no interest will be incurred on any overdue amount until 31 December 2020 and the due date for the first instalment on land rates would be extended to 30 September 2020 if the rates were issued before the end of July.

Council recently changed the Debt Recovery and Hardship Policy in regards to debt follow up. These changes included that a Warrumbungle Shire Council employee attempting direct contact before legal action. The Debt Recovery and Hardship Policy is not restricted to only residential rates.

3. River and Weeds/Illegal Dumping of Rubbish at Sale yards

DEDS advised depending what part of the river the community member is referring to will depend on who he should contact. The weeds in the river are the responsibility the State Government. DEDS advised that a letter could be written by community members to the Local Member of Parliament.

DEDS advised that in relation to the illegal rubbish being dumped, depending on where the rubbish is dumped will depend on who is responsible. The land will either be owned by the Aboriginal Land Council or Crown Land.

4. Coal Seam Gas

Community Member spoke on the 2012 motion on Coal Seam Gas by Council that there is

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no evidence it is not good for the environment. Jane requested Council re-consider their original motion given the evidence available now on the effects on the CSG/Narrabri Project.

GM stated that at the time he was advised there would be minimal impact.

5. Shop Locally concern with Council seeking local quotes

GM advised that Council have been buying more locally than the previous few years, and these include the Meals on Wheel project, vehicle and uniforms. GM could not answer directly in relation to other projects as a number of the current projects are not only in the Coonabarabran township.

ADTS advised that Council policy is to give some preference to local businesses however, there are some projects that are outside the scope of local businesses, such as large roof fabrication. ADTS also advised that Council do try to engage as many local contractors for projects as possible.

6. Australia Day Awards

Mayor Doolan advised that the nominations for the Australia Day Awards are now open and close in November, he encouraged community members to nominate other community members. This year the Council has added a Young Sportsman of the Year Award.

Mayor Ambrose Doolan thanked everyone for attending and declared the meeting closed.

Meeting closed 6:16pm