

# LATE REPORT

## WEST WYALONG GOLF COURSE – REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE

*Our leadership*

*Setting a benchmark for community standards*

*Vision: A well run council acting as the voice of the community*

### *15.3 Assist and/or foster community events and initiatives through council sponsored grants/sponsorship opportunities*

**Author:** General Manager

#### **Officer's Recommendation:**

That Council determines the extent, if any, of the level of support to the West Wyalong Services and Citizens Club, for the ongoing maintenance of the West Wyalong Golf Course.

#### **Introduction**

Council will be aware of the representations from the West Wyalong Services and Citizens Club seeking support from Council towards the ongoing maintenance of the West Wyalong Golf Course. A delegation from the Club addressed the councillors in August and it was subsequently agreed that more information was required.

I presented a brief report to the September Council Workshop indicating that based on figures supplied by the Club that the net cost to maintain the golf course during 2012-2013 was in the vicinity of \$118,000.00.

The Club made an initial formal approach to Council requesting a financial contribution of \$20,000.00 on an annual basis. The Club strongly maintains that having an 18 hole golf course in West Wyalong has a significant tourism value which is of benefit to the entire Shire.

Since then a further written submission was made seeking between \$30,000.00 and \$50,000.00 per annum along with in-kind support and this was discussed at the November Council meeting at which it was resolved to defer consideration of the matter to the December Council meeting.

A further written submission was received on 28 November 2013, a copy of which is attached to this report, providing additional information on the operation of the Club and its support of the local community.

I also understand that the Club would like to undertake a 'strategic planning' approach to their future and that this may also be an area in which the Council could provide some assistance.

#### **Conclusion**

Council needs to make a determination on this matter, taking into account any precedent that might be set by financially assisting the Club and the implications to the Shire if the golf course was to close down.

## **Financial Implications**

There are no funds allocated for this purpose in the current budget, therefore, any financial assistance would need to be considered in conjunction with the preparation of the 20145 – 2015 budget.



# West Wyalong Services & Citizens' Club Ltd.



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28 November 2013

Mr Ray Smith  
General Manager  
Bland Shire Council  
PO Box 21  
WEST WYALONG NSW 2671

Dear Ray

**Re: Assistance for West Wyalong Golf Course**

I refer to your letter of 20 November and advise the following:

1. The Club would be happy with financial assistance to the value of \$20,000.00, whether this be a cash donation or a donation towards the cost of new plant and equipment, or an "in kind" donation of plant and labour to assist in mowing the course "rough".
2. The total number of temporary members (visitors) signed in to both Clubs during the 2013 financial year were 22465.
3. The Club has donated approximately \$89,508.00 to the community in the 2012/2013 financial year. This includes "in kind" donations of \$42,630.00. This is to local organisations providing the free use of our facilities for meetings, balls, weddings, charitable events, school concerts etc. We have also provided \$46,878.00 to sporting bodies, individuals and groups, charitable organisations, schools etc.

We understand that \$20,000.00 is not an insignificant amount but due to the financial impacts of maintaining the course, bowling greens and surrounds, it would go some way to help us maintain what is a vital community asset.

We thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Yours faithfully

N R Kelly  
General Manager

File:	FM-SPON-DON	Action	
Action Officer:	GM.		SAL
REC'D	28 NOV 2013		
Copy to:	ASSOC: 398097, 397909, AEA		
Bland Shire Council			