



Bland Shire Council
Business Paper
Ordinary Council Meeting
15 December 2015



OUR VISION, MISSION AND VALUES



ETHICAL DECISION MAKING AND CONFLICTS OF INTEREST
A guiding checklist for Councillors, Officers and Advisory Committees

Ethical Decision Making

- Is the decision or conduct legal?
- Is it consistent with Government policy, Council's objectives and Code of Conduct?
- What will the outcome be for you, your colleagues, the Council, anyone else?
- Does it raise a conflict of interest?
- Could your possible conflict of interest lead to private gain or loss at public expense?
- Can the decision be justified in terms of public interest?
- Would it withstand public scrutiny?

Conflict of Interest

- A conflict of interest is a clash between private interest and public duty. There are two types of conflict: Pecuniary – regulated by the Local Government Act and Office of Local Government and, Non-pecuniary – regulated by Codes of Conduct and policy. ICAC, Ombudsman, Office of Local Government (advice only).

The test for conflict of interest

- Is it likely I could be influenced by personal interest in carrying out my public duty?
- Would a fair and reasonable person believe I could be so influenced?
- Conflict of interest is closely tied to the layperson's definition of "corruption" – using public office for private gain.
- Important to consider public perceptions of whether you have a conflict of interest

Identifying Problems

1st - Do I have private interest affected by a matter I am officially involved in?

2nd - Is my official role one of influence or perceived influence over the matter?

3rd - Do my private interests conflict with my official role?

Whilst seeking advice is generally useful, the ultimate decision rests with the person concerned.

Agency Advice

Officers of the following agencies are available during office hours to discuss the obligations placed on Councillors, Officers and Advisory Committee members by various pieces of legislation, regulation and Codes.

Contact	Phone	Email	Website
Bland Shire Council	6972 2266	council@blandshire.nsw.gov.au	www.blandshire.nsw.gov.au
ICAC	8281 5999 Toll Free: 1800 463 909	icac@icac.nsw.gov.au	www.icac.nsw.gov.au
Office of Local Government	4428 4100	dlq@dlq.nsw.gov.au	www.dlg.nsw.gov.au
NSW Ombudsman	9286 1000 Toll Free: 1800 451 524	nswombo@ombo.nsw.gov.au	www.ombo.nsw.gov.au

Common Acronyms Used in Bland Shire Council Reports and Documents

ABS	Australian Bureau of Statistics
ACAT	Aged Care Assessment Team
AFZ	Alcohol Free Zone
AGM	Annual General Meeting
ALIA	Australian Library and Information Association
AMP	Asset Management Plan
BCA	Building Code of Australia
BFMC	Bush Fire Management Committee
BFMP	Bush Fire Management Plan
BSC	Bland Shire Council
BWW	Business West Wyalong
CASA	Civil Aviation Safety Authority
CBD	Central Business District
CDAT	Community Drug Action Team
CDO	Community Development Officer
CENTROC	Central West Regional Group of Councils
CEO	Chief Executive Officer
CLRS	Councillors
CPD	Continuing Professional Development
CPI	Consumer Price Index
CPP	Cowal Partnering Program
Cr	Councillor
CRO	Community Relations Officer
CSP	Community Strategic Plan
CSU	Childrens Services Unit
CT	Community Technology
CWA	Country Womens Association
DA	Development Application
DAES	Director Asset & Engineering Services
DCCDS	Director Corporate, Community & Development Services
DCP	Development Control Plan
DEMO	District Emergency Management Officer
DEOCON	District Emergency Controller
DisPlan	Disaster Plan (Local DisPlan, District DisPlan, State DisPlan)
DP	Delivery Program
DPI	Department of Primary Industries
EA	Executive Assistant
EAP	Employee Assistance Program
ED	Economic Development
EDVETACW	Economic Development, Visitor Economy & Tourism Advisory Committee of the Whole
EEO	Equal Employment Opportunity
EOI	Expression of Interest
EPAA	Environmental Planning & Assessment Act
ERA	Eastern Riverina Arts
EWSA	Educator Workplace Safety Audit
EWV	Events West Wyalong
FAG	Financial Assistance Grant
FDC	Family Day Care
FFTF	Fit for the Future
FRRR	Foundation for Rural and Regional Renewal
FYI	For your information
GIPA	Government Information (Public Access) Act
GM	General Manager
GTAN	Government Training & Assistance Network
GWCC	Goldenfields Water County Council
HACC	Home and Community Care
HR	Human Resources
ICAC	Independent Commission Against Corruption
IPART	Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal
IPR or IP&R	Integrated Planning and Reporting
ITAV	It Takes A Village Program
JO	Joint Organisation
K&G	Kerb and gutter
KPI	Key Performance Indicator
LALC	Local Aboriginal Lands Council
LBDC	Little Bangs Discovery Club
LCGMCAC	Lake Cowal Gold Mine Closure Advisory Committee
LEMC	Local Emergency Management Committee
LEMO	Local Emergency Management Officer
LEOC	Local Emergency Operations Centre
LEOCON	Local Emergency Operations Controller
LEP	Local Environmental Plan
LG	Local Government
LGA	Local Government Act or Local Government Area

LGNSW	Local Government New South Wales
LIAC	Legal Information Access Centre
LTFP	Long Term Financial Plan
M	Million
Manex	Management Executive
MHDA	Mental Health Drug & Alcohol
MLC	Member of the Legislative Council
MML	Murrumbidgee Medicare Local
MOW	Meals on Wheels
MP	Member of Parliament
MPR	Multi Purpose Room
MR	Main Road
MRU	Mobile Resource Unit
NAIDOC	National Aboriginal & Islander Observance Committee
NGO	Non-Government Organisation
NSRF	National Stronger Regions Fund
NSWEC	New South Wales Electoral Commission
NSWPLA	New South Wales Public Libraries Association
NSWRFS	NSW Rural Fire Service
OGM	Office of the General Manager
OLG	Office of Local Government
OP	Operational Plan
P&G	Parks & Gardens
PA	Per Annum
PC	Personal Computer
PCBU	Person Conducting a Business or Undertaking
PHaMs	Personal Helpers and Mentors
PLA	Public Library Association
POEO	Protection of the Environment Operations Act & Regulations
PSITAB	NSW Public Sector Industry Advisory Board
PSSA	NSW Primary Schools Sports Association
R2R	Roads to Recovery
Rd	Road
RDA	Regional Development Australia
RDO	Rostered Day Off
Rec	Recreation
REROC	Riverina Eastern Regional Organisation of Councils
RFS	Rural Fire Service
RMAP	Risk Management Action Plan
RMS	Roads & Maritime Services
RRL	Riverina Regional Library
RTO	Registered Training Organisation
RV	Recreational Vehicle
SEDTA	Senior Economic Development & Tourism Advisor
SEPP	State Environmental Planning Policy
SES	State Emergency Service
SH	State Highway
SRC	Summer Reading Club
SRV	Special Rate Variation
St	Street
STW	Sewerage Treatment Works
TASAC	Tourist Attraction Signposting Assessment Committee
TVET	TAFE Delivered Vocational Education & Training
USU	United Services Union
VC	Victoria Cross
VIC	Visitor Information Centre
WAPS	Workforce Assessment Plan & Strategy
WHS	Work Health & Safety
WWBC	West Wyalong Bowling Club
WWFHG	West Wyalong Family History Group
WWRL	West Wyalong Rugby League



Council Meeting Agenda

15 December 2015

commencing at 6:30PM

1.0 INTRODUCTION

Let us acknowledge the Wiradjuri people, their elders past and present, traditional custodians of the land we now share.

Let us be inspired by the resilience, innovation and perseverance of past generations.

Let us honour those who protect this great land, may you draw strength from your God or Faith so that we may, here today, on behalf of our community, - build a vibrant future together.

("Pause for Reflection").

2.0 ATTENDANCE

2.1 Councillors

Cr P Grellman

Cr L Hampton

Cr K Keatley

Cr T Lord

Cr L McGlynn

Cr B Monaghan

Cr L Pike

Cr N Pokoney

2.2 Staff

General Manager – Ray Smith

Director Asset & Engineering Services – Will Marsh

Director Corporate, Community & Development Services – Adele Casey

Executive Assistant – Julie Sharpe

2.3 Apologies

Cr P Templeton

3.0 CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES

3.1 Ordinary Meeting held on 17 November 2015

- **Confirmation**

That the minutes of the Ordinary Council meeting held on 17 November 2015 be confirmed as a correct record of proceedings.

- **Corrections**

- **Business Arising**

4.0 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

A pecuniary interest is an interest that a person has in a matter because of a reasonable likelihood or expectation of appreciable financial gain or loss the person or another person with whom the person is associated.

A person does not have a pecuniary interest in a matter if the interest is so remote or insignificant that it could not reasonably be regarded as likely to influence any decision a person might make in relation to a matter.

Councillor/Officer	Item	Nature of Interest

5.0 PUBLIC FORUM

6.0 MAYORAL MINUTE

7.0 NOTICES OF MOTION

8.0 DELEGATES & ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORTS

Section 1 – Delegates & Advisory Committee Reports & Minutes *(for information)*

9.0 STAFF REPORTS

That the Council receive the staff reports.

Section 2 – Office of the General Manager *(reports for decision)*

9.1	Integrated Planning and Reporting – Adoption of Draft Delivery Program	15
9.2	Special Rate Variation	19
9.3	Capital Expenditure Works & Projects Progress Update	29
9.4	Investigation into Locations for a Visitor Information Centre	34
9.5	West Wyalong Visitor Radio – Request for Support	38
9.6	Proposed Lease of Council Car Park Adjacent to Bernardi’s IGA Supermarket	42
9.7	Refurbishment of the Perseverance Street Sports Complex Stadium – Consideration of Expressions of Interest for Construction Services	43
9.8	Central West Lifestyle Magazine – Council Promotional Opportunity	45
9.9	Review of Council’s Services and Organisational Structure	48

Section 3 – Corporate, Community & Development Services *(reports for decision)*

9.10	Financial Statements – November 2015	50
9.11	Reg Rattey VC Memorial Update	56

Section 4 – Asset & Engineering Services *(reports for decision)*

9.12	Consultant Review of Engineering Services and Works Efficiency	58
9.13	Water Street Car Park	60
9.14	West Wyalong Caravan Park	62
9.15	New Proposed Rural Fire Serve Shed – Deed of Agreement with Property Owners	63
9.16	Bland Shire Traffic Advisory Committee	64
9.17	Disabled Parking Spot in Dumaresq Street at the West Wyalong Public School	66
9.18	“No Stopping” Sign East of Grenfell Street	67

Section 5 – Reports for Information

9.19	Asset & Engineering Services Report	69
9.20	Community Services Report	71
9.21	Bland Shire Library Monthly Update	74
9.22	Children Services Monthly Update	77
9.23	Bland HACC Services Update	79
9.24	Development Services Activities/Statistics for November 2015	80
9.25	Economic Development & Tourism Report – December	85

10.0 URGENT BUSINESS WITHOUT NOTICE

11.0 QUESTIONS AND STATEMENTS

- Matters to be dealt with arising out of the proceedings of former meetings of the Council
- Other Matters

12.0 CLOSURE OF THE MEETING TO DISCUSS CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF SECTION 10A(2) OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT

12.1 Investigation into Locations for a Visitor Information Centre

Local Government Act 1993 (section 10A (2) (d) (i)

The matters and information are commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed, prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it.

12.2 Residential Development Proposal

Local Government Act 1993 (section 10A (2) (d) (i)

The matters and information are commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed, prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it.

12.3 West Wyalong Medical Centre Business Assistance Funding

Local Government Act 1993 (section 10A (2) (d) (i)

The matters and information are commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed, prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it.

12.4 Heart and Sole Business Assistance Funding

Local Government Act 1993 (section 10A (2) (d) (i)

The matters and information are commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed, prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it.

12.5 Precise Truck Repairs & Engineering Business Assistance Funding

Local Government Act 1993 (section 10A (2) (d) (i)

The matters and information are commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed, prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it.

13.0 RESUMPTION OF THE MEETING AND CONSIDERATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE CLOSED SECTION OF THE MEETING

14.0 CLOSE OF THE MEETING

SECTION 1 – DELEGATES & ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORTS

Our leadership

Setting a benchmark for community standards

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

DP15.2 Working in partnership with community groups, advisory committees, Government Departments, businesses and Council staff

Officer's Recommendation:

That the Council receive and note the delegate and advisory committee reports from Councillors and Advisory Committee meeting minutes as presented.

Section 1 – Delegates & Advisory Committee Reports & Minutes *(for information)*

Committee	Date/s	Minutes attached
Access Advisory Committee <i>(Cr Grellman)</i>		
Australia Day Awards Committee of the Whole <i>(Whole of Council)</i>	1 st December 2015	
Australian Rural Roads Group Inc <i>(Cr Grellman)</i>	16th June 2015	
Bland Rural Fire District Zone Liaison Committee <i>(Cr Keatley, Cr Grellman - alternate)</i>		
Bland – Temora RFS Zone Bushfire Management Committee <i>(Cr Keatley, Cr Grellman - alternate)</i>		
Country Mayors Association of NSW <i>(Mayor & General Manager)</i>	5 th November 2015	✓
Cowal Gold Project Community Environmental Monitoring & Consultative Committee (CEMCC) <i>(Mayor Pokoney, Deputy Mayor Cr McGlynn - alternate, Cr Hampton - observer)</i>	2 nd December 2015	
Cultural Advisory Committee <i>(Cr McGlynn, Cr Keatley)</i>		
Goldenfields Water County Council Board <i>(Cr Templeton)</i>	18 th December 2015	
Heritage Advisory Committee <i>(Cr McGlynn, Cr Grellman)</i>	9 th December 2015	

Lake Cowal Gold Mine Closure Advisory Committee <i>(Mayor Pokoney, Deputy Mayor Cr McGlynn, GM)</i>		
Internal Audit Committee <i>(Cr Templeton, Cr Monaghan)</i>		
Local Traffic Advisory Committee <i>(Mayor Pokoney, Cr Grellman - alternate)</i>	1 st December 2015	✓
Murrumbidgee Primary Health Network <i>(Cr Monaghan)</i>	8 th October 2015 17 th December 2015	
Museums Advisory Committee <i>(Cr Lord, Cr Keatley)</i>		
Newell Highway Taskforce <i>(Cr Lord)</i>		
NSW Association of Mining Related Councils <i>(Cr McGlynn, Cr Hampton)</i>	13 th November 2015	
Plant Committee <i>(Cr Grellman, Cr Templeton, Cr Lord)</i>		
Public Libraries NSW South-West Zone		
Riverina Eastern Regional Organisation of Councils (REROC) <i>(Mayor Pokoney)</i>	8 th December 2015	
Riverina Regional Library Advisory Committee <i>(Cr Lord, Cr Monaghan - alternate)</i>	28 th October 2015	
Riverina Regional Tourism <i>(Cr Lord)</i>		



Country Mayors Association of NEW SOUTH WALES

Chairman: Cr Rod Kendall
PO Box 20 Wagga Wagga NSW 2650
02 69269111
ABN 92 803 490 533

AGM MINUTES

GENERAL MEETING

FRIDAY, 5 NOVEMBER 2015, COUNTRY EMBASSY, SYDNEY

The meeting opened at 11.18 a.m.

1. ATTENDANCE:

Albury City Council, Cr Hank Van de Ven, Mayor
Albury City Council, Mr Frank Zaknich, General Manager
Armidale Dumaresq Council, Cr Herman Beyersdorf, Mayor
Armidale Dumaresq Council, Mr Glen Wilcox, General Manager
Bathurst Regional Council, Cr Gary Rush, Mayor
Bathurst Regional Council, Mr David Sherley, General Manager
Bega Valley Shire Council, Cr Michael Britten, Mayor
Bellingen Shire Council, Cr Mark Troy, Mayor
Berrigan Shire Council, Cr Bernard Curtin, Mayor
Berrigan Shire Council, Mr Rowan Perkins, General Manager
Bland Shire Council, Cr Neil Pokoney, Mayor
Boorowa Council, Cr Wendy Tuckerman, Mayor
Boorowa Council, Ms Anthony McMahon, General Manager
Carrathool Shire Council, Cr Peter Laird, Mayor
Carrathool Shire Council, Mr Ken Murphy, Acting General manager
Clarence Valley Council, Mr Scott Greensill, General Manager
Coffs Harbour City Council, Mr Stephen McGrath, General Manager
Coonamble Shire Council, Cr Michael Webb, Mayor
Deniliquin Shire Council, Cr Ashley Hall, Mayor
Deniliquin Shire Council, Mr Des Bilske, General Manager
Dubbo City Council, Cr Mathew Dickenson, Mayor
Dubbo City Council, Mr Mark Riley, General Manager
Eurobodalla Shire Council, Cr Lindsay Brown, Mayor
Griffith City Council, Cr John Dal Broi, Mayor
Griffith City Council, Mr Brett Stonestreet, General Manager
Harden Shire Council, Cr John Horton, Mayor
Harden Shire Council, Mr Trevor Drowley, General Manager
Jerilderie Shire Council, Cr Ruth McRae, Mayor
Jerilderie Shire Council, Mr Craig Moffitt, General Manager

Leeton Shire Council, Cr Paul Maytom , Mayor
Leeton Shire Council, Ms Jackie Kruger, General Manager
Lithgow City Council, Cr Maree Stratham, Mayor
Lithgow City Council, Mr Roger Bailey, General Manager
Lockhart Shire Council, Cr Peter Yates, Mayor
Lockhart Shire Council, Cr Roger Schirmer Deputy Mayor
Moree Plains Shire Council, Cr Katrina Humphries, Mayor
Murray Shire Council, Cr John Pocklington, Mayor
Murray Shire Council, Ms Margot Stork, General Manager
Narrabri Shire Council, Cr Cathy Redding, Deputy Mayor
Shoalhaven City Council, Cr Allan Baptise, Assistant Deputy Mayor
Tamworth Regional Council, Cr Col Murray, Mayor
Tamworth Regional Council, Mr Paul Bennett, General Manager
Tumbarumba Shire Council, Cr Ian Chaffey, Mayor
Uralla Shire Council, Cr Michael Pearce, Mayor
Urana Shire Council, Cr Patrick Burke, Mayor
Urana Shire Council, Mr Adrian Butler, General Manager
Wagga Wagga City Council, Cr Rod Kendall, Mayor
Wakool Shire Council, Cr Neil Gorey, Mayor
Wakool Shire Council, Cr Ann Crowe, Deputy Mayor
Wakool Shire Council, Mr Bruce Graham, General Manager
Walcha Shire Council, Cr Janelle Archdale, Mayor
Walcha shire Council, Mr Jack O'Hara, General Manager
Warrumbungle Shire Council, Cr Peter Shinton, Mayor
Warrumbungle Shire Council, Mr Steve Loane, General Manager
Yass Valley Council, Cr Rowena Abbey, Mayor
Yass Valley Council, Mr David Rowe, General Manager

Guests

LGNSW, Cr Keith Rhoades, President
LGNSW, Cr Greg Matthews, Vice President Rural
RAMROC, Cr Terry Hogan, Chairman
RAMROC, Mr Ray Stubbs, Secretary
Corowa Shire Council, Cr Paul Miegec, Mayor
Corowa Shire Council, Mr Chris Gillard, General Manager
Oberon Shire Council, Cr Kerry Gibbons, Deputy Mayor
Oberon Shire Council, Mr Gary Wallace, Acting General Manager

APOLOGIES:

As submitted

2. ADOPTION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 14 November 2014 be accepted as a true and accurate record (Dubbo City Council / Bellingen Shire Council).

3. Chairman's Report

Cr Rod Kendall read his Chairman's report to the meeting (Copy Attached)

RESOLVED That the Chairman's report be received and noted (Wagga Wagga City Council / Armidale Dumaresq Council)

4. FINANCIAL REPORT

RESOLVED That the financial reports for the 2014/15 year as tabled be accepted (Armidale Dumaresq Council / Harden Shire Council)

5. Election of Office Bearers

5.1 Returning Officer

RESOLVED That the returning Officer for the conduct of the elections be Mr Allan Burgess (Harden Shire Council / Warrumbungle Shire Council)

5.2 Chairman

The Returning Officer advised that he had received one nomination in writing, Cr Rod Kendall being nominated by Tumburumba Shire Council and Bathurst Regional Council. Cr Kendall has served two terms as Chairman. Section 26 of the Constitution states that the Chairperson, Vice Chairperson and Secretary shall hold office for a period no greater than two consecutive years unless the Association otherwise determines by ordinary resolution

RESOLVED That Cr Rod Kendall, Mayor, Wagga Wagga City Council, be authorized to stand for the position of Chairman in accordance with clause 26 of the Constitution (Harden Shire Council / Yass Valley Council)

The Returning Officer called for any further nominations for the position of Chairperson. As no other nominations were received the Returning Officer declared Cr Kendall elected as Chairman for the 2015/16 year

5.3 Vice Chairman

The Returning Officer advised that he had received one nomination in writing, Cr Lindsay Brown being nominated by Wagga Wagga City Council and Tumburumba Shire Council. Cr Brown has served two terms as Chairman. Section 26 of the Constitution states that the Chairperson, Vice Chairperson and Secretary shall hold office for a period no greater than two consecutive years unless the Association otherwise determines by ordinary resolution

RESOLVED That Cr Lindsay Brown, Mayor, Eurobodalla Shire Council, be authorized to stand for the position of Vice Chairman in accordance with clause 26 of the Constitution (Moree Plains Shire Council / Harden Shire Council)

The Returning Officer called for any further nominations for the position of Vice Chairperson. As no other nominations were received the Returning Officer declared Cr Brown elected as Vice Chairman for the 2015/16 year

5.4 Secretary/Public Officer

RESOLVED That Mr Alan Eldridge General Manager, Wagga Wagga City Council, be appointed Secretary/Public Officer (Warrumbungle Shire Council / Tumburumba Shire Council)

5.5 Executive

RESOLVED That the Mayors of the following Councils form the Executive of the Association for the 2014/15 year

- Albury City Council
- Armidale Dumaresq Council
- Coonamble Shire Council
- Dubbo City Council
- Eurobodalla Shire Council
- Harden Shire Council
- Moree Plains Shire Council
- Wagga Wagga City Council

(Warrumbungle Shire Council / Bellingen Shire Council)

7. SETTING OF ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP FEES

A MOTION WAS MOVED by Dubbo City Council That the membership fees for the 2016 year be \$750 plus CPI for the last 12 months for Councils with a population of 10,000 and over, and Councils with a population of less than 10,000 pay 75% \$562.50 plus CPI for the last 12 months

The motion lapsed for want of a seconder

RESOLVED That the membership fees for the 2016 year remain at \$750 for Councils with a population of 10,000 and over, and Councils with a population of less than 10,000 pay 75% \$562.50 with the Executive examining any changes that may need to be made as a result of the change in venue and Fit for the Future and report back to the March meeting (Eurobodalla Shire Council Council / Lockhart Shire Council)

8. Secretariat

RESOLVED That Allan Burgess trading as Alkanat Consulting be appointed the Secretariat (Harden Shire Council / Bellingen Shire Council)

8. Meeting dates for 2016

RESOLVED that the meeting dates for 2016 be 11 March, 10 June, 12 August and 4 November (Warrumbungle Shire Council / Tamworth Regional Council)

There being no further business the meeting closed at 11.45 am.

Cr Rod Kendall
Chair – Country Mayor's Association of NSW

Chairmans Report

Country Mayors Association of NSW

Firstly I would like to acknowledge all of the members of the association and their continued support.

This association aims

To further the interests of Country Councils by being an advocate on state wide issues and to act as an information sharing forum.

I believe we continue to meet these objectives and have been an extremely successful forum this year.

Our meetings continue to attract the attendance of state ministers and representatives from many organisations who affect local government and our communities on a daily basis.

Our resolutions are taken direct to LG NSW and directly to relevant stakeholders.

It is our view that now we have one peak body representing LG in NSW it is critical that the combined views of country and regional councils has a forum to be expressed and debated prior to making representation to LG NSW and directly to others.

We have had the attendance of the following guest speakers at our meetings over the last 12 months

Hon Niall Blair, MLC, Parliamentary Sec for Police and emergency Services

Hon Kevin Humphries MP, Minister for Natural Resources, Lands & Water, and Minister for western NSW.

RFS Assist Commissioner Bruce McDonald, Exec Director of
Infrastructure Services

Kelly Forans, CEO, Friendly faces Helping Hands.

Damian Mannix, Policy Advisor, Regional capitals Australia.

Mr Jim Betts, CEO, Infrastructure NSW

Ms Marcia Doheny, CEO, Office of Local Government.

Cr Keith Rhoades, President, Local Government NSW

Hon Paul Toole, MP, Minister for LG

Hon Rob Stokes MP, Minister for Planning.

Hon Duncan Gaye MLC, Minister for Roads, Maritime and Freight

These are in addition to today's special guests.

I believe that the issues discussed, the highly influential standing of our
quest speakers and the policy positions taken have been instrumental in
this association remaining relevant and an important forum for our
members, which is reflecting in the increased membership.

Given the recent announcements of the NSW government in relation to
the FFTF it will be very important that we have an opportunity to come
together in regular open forums such as this to ensure that LG continues
as a strong level of government representing local communities and
providing the services and infrastructure required by those communities.
It has been an honour serving as your chair again this year and I would
like to acknowledge Dep Chair Mayor Lindsay Brown and the executive
for their support.

Cr Rod Kendall

Mayor WWCC



Country Mayors Association of NEW SOUTH WALES

Chairman: Cr Rod Kendall
PO Box 20 Wagga Wagga NSW 2650
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MINUTES

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Deniliquin Shire Council, Mr Des Bilske, General Manager
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Dubbo City Council, Mr Mark Riley, General Manager
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Oberon Shire Council, Cr Kerry Gibbons, Deputy Mayor
Oberon Shire Council, Mr Gary Wallace, Acting General Manager

APOLOGIES:

As submitted

SPECIAL GUESTS:

Hon Peter Primrose MLC, Shadow Minister for Local Government, Shadow Minister for Innovation and Better Regulation
Hon Paul Green MLC, Christian Democratic Party
Hon Niall Blair MLC, Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Land and Water

2. ADOPTION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:

RESOLVED that the minutes of the General Meeting held on 6 August 2015 be accepted as a true and accurate record (Harden Shire Council Council / Moree Plains Shire Council).

3. Matters Arising from the Minutes

NIL

4. Presentation

Hon Peter Primrose MLC, Shadow Minister for Local Government, Shadow Minister for Innovation and Better Regulation

Rather than talk about matters that he may think interested the meeting Peter threw the meeting over to questions from the floor. The Oppositions stand on Fit for the Future is that you need to look at financial viability of local Government such as Rating, Cost Shifting, freezing FAGs etc before you look at structures. Nobody knows what the Fit for the Future process is or what the next step is going to be. The 18th December is the last sitting day for Parliament so debate has been gagged until next year. Any Legislative change has to be passed by the Legislative Council and presumably any amalgamation proposals will be referred to the Boundaries Commission. The Hands of Treasury and TCorp are very much evident in the Fit for the Future process. The question needs to be asked as to whether IPART has the right to make assessments. The Oppositions preferred option is voluntary amalgamations. There is no evidence that bigger is better.

5. Presentation

Hon Paul Green MLC

Paul is a member of the Christian Democratic Party which holds the balance of power in the Legislative Council. He is temporary Chair of Committees, Chairman of General Purpose Standing Committee No 6, Vice Chairman of General Purpose Standing Committee No 2 and a member of the Standing Committee on State Development. He has been involved in a number of Inquiries across the State. Holding the balance of power does not give you the right to be obstructionist but you have a duty to ensure good government by influencing legislation. The general Purpose Standing Committee No 6 has held an inquiry into Local Government in NSW and the Fit for the Future program. The inquiry looked into financial management of Local Government, rate pegging, rate exemptions, freezing of FAGs, cost shifting, the contribution that water makes to financial stability and boundary changes. The report has 17 recommendations and 9 findings. The Christian Democrats will be meeting with Ministers and doing all in their power to have the recommendations adopted.

6. Membership

RESOLVED That Bega Valley Shire Council and Lockhart Shire Council be admitted as members of the Association (Moree Plains Shire Council / Eurobodalla Shire Council)

7. CORRESPONDENCE

Outward

- (a) Hon Anthony Roberts MP, Minister for Industry, Resources and Energy, Hon Troy Grant MP, Deputy Premier, Minister for Justice and Police, Minister for the Arts and Minister for Racing, Hon John Barilaro MP, Minister for Regional Development, Minister for Skills and Minister for

Small Business, and Mr David Harris MP, Shadow Minister for Regional Development requesting reconsideration of the closure of the “Country Embassy” Trade and Investment Centre

- (b) The Hon Rob Stokes MP, Minister for Planning, The Hon Duncan Gay MLC, Minister for Roads, Maritime and Freight, and The Hon Paul Toole MP, Minister for Local Government thanking them for their presentations to the meeting held on 6 August 2015
- (c) Mr Andrew Penn, CEO, Telstra Corporation Ltd, Mr Inaki Berroeta, CEO, Vodafone Hutchison Australia, Australian Competition and Consumer Commission, The Hon Paul Fletcher MP, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Communications, Marine Rescue NSW, NSW Police Force, NSW Rural Fire Service, and NSW State Emergency Services requesting that Telstra and Vodafone be required to support rural and regional Australia, by confirming that they will include new and updated base stations/towers, funded under all rounds of the Australian Government Mobile Blackspot Programme, in the Wholesale Products they offer to all mobile service providers.
- (d) The Hon Joe Hockey MP, Treasurer, and The Hon David Elliott, Minister for Corrections, Minister for Emergency Services and Minister for Veterans Affairs seeking more funding for mitigation and not supporting cutbacks in federal funding for restoration of flood damaged assets after natural disasters.
- (e) The Hon Tony Abbott, Prime Minister expressing support for the Inland Rail project.

Inward

- (a) Mr Inaki Berroeta, CEO, Vodafone Hutchison Australia Pty Limited Re Mobile Black Spot Programme (Copy Attached)
- (b) Mr Andrew Penn, CEO, Telstra Corporation Limited, Re Mobile Blackspot Programme (Copy Attached)
- (c) The Hon Michael Keenan MP, Minister Assisting the Prime Minister on Counter Terrorism, Re Natural Disaster Funding (Copy Attached)
- (d) The Hon Anthony Roberts MP, Minister for Industry, Resources and Energy Re Country Embassy (Copy Attached)
- (e) Senator The Hon James McGrath Assistant Minister to the Prime Minister Re Inland Rail (Copy Attached)

NOTED

8. FINANCIAL REPORT

RESOLVED That the financial reports for the last quarter were tabled and accepted (Shoalhaven City Council / Carrathool Shire Council)

Adjournment of Meeting 11.18am

RESOLVED That the General Meeting be adjourned to allow the Annual General Meeting to be held (Dubbo City Council / Tamworth Regional Council)

Recommencement of General Meeting 11.45am

RESOLVED That the General Meeting be reconvened (Armidale Dumaresq Council / Carrathool Shire Council)

9. General Business

(a) Discussion Paper Natural Disaster Funding

RESOLVED That the Association write to the Federal and State Ministers for the Environment requesting that all costs approved for claimed emergencies for plant, equipment and personnel be fully compensated (Warrumbungle Shire Council / Harden Shire Council)

(b) Murray Darling Basin Plan

RESOLVED That the RAMROC submission be circulated to members and then referred to the Executive to determine the support of the Association (Moree Plains Shire Council / Tamworth Regional Council)

(c) Future Meeting Venue

The "Country Embassy" Trade and Investment Centre will close in May 2016 and an alternate meeting venue needs to be found. The Chairman is to be at a meeting with the Premier this afternoon and will seek to have the Jubilee Room at Parliament House made available to us at favourable terms

10. Presentation

Hon Niall Blair MLC, Minister for primary Industries, Minister for Lands and Water

Poles and Wires legislation has provided additional investment opportunities in water which will benefit the Country Towns Water Supply scheme. A blueprint for water projects across NSW is being developed. The State Government has made a written submission on the Murray Darling Basin Plan. Regional Weeds Committees are to be reduced to eleven by Local Lands Services. The Crown Lands Review will result in eight pieces of legislation being rolled into one. A Local Land Pilot is to assess what is Local and State land and how to manage them in the future. If Councils object to taking over management of land it will not be transferred. The Department of Primary Industries Strategic Plan was released last week. It is driven by economic growth and contains a \$300 million drought package.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 1.00pm.

Cr Rod Kendall

Chair – Country Mayor's Association of NSW

SECTION 2 – OFFICE OF THE GENERAL MANAGER

9.1 Integrated Planning and Reporting – Adoption of Draft Delivery Program

Our leadership

Setting a benchmark for community standards

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

DP14.3 Ensure the long term financial sustainability of Council through effective and prudent financial management

Author: General Manager

Officer's Recommendation:

That Council endorses the changes as shown on the attached amended pages of the Delivery Program to reflect the inclusion of the option to apply for a Special Rate Variation.

Introduction

At the October Council meeting, Council resolved (04102015):

- 1. That the proposed Review of the Delivery Program 2013-2016 be considered at the November 2015 Council meeting*
- 2. That the review includes the option to apply for a Special Rate Variation to IPART and that the Program be placed on public exhibition.*

Following this, the November meeting resolved (06112015) that Council consider the proposed changes to the Delivery Program and that community responses be presented to the December 2015 Council meeting for consideration.

At the time of writing, nil (o) responses have been received regarding the changes to the delivery program.

The proposed changes are attached and highlighted for information.

As referred at both the October and November meetings, reviewing the Delivery Program to include the option to install a special rate variation does not commit Council to applying for the special rate variation; however it does give council the option to do so if resolved by the Council.

Regardless of whether Council applies for a SRV or not, during the preparation of the draft budget for 2016/17 there will need to be attention given to the benchmarks that council does not currently meet as some tough decisions will need to be made in respect to future budgets, with a review of Council's current functions and service levels, with the result of less expenditure across the organisation as a whole and increased expenditure on asset renewal and maintenance.

Conclusion

That Council endorses the changes to the Delivery Program and in doing so acknowledges the need to consider the long term financial sustainability of the Shire rather than focusing on the short term election cycle for the elected representatives.

Financial Implications

Nil for this recommendation.

FINANCIAL ESTIMATES SUMMARY

Overview

The delivery program presents the key priorities of Council over the remaining term of this Council. Further detail and analysis of the 2013/14 budgets can be found in the operational plan document.

The budget summary for 2013/14 presents a surplus of \$327,848 excluding depreciation and a surplus budget for the 2014/15 financial year of \$204,869 excluding depreciation.

A key challenge for Council is to ensure it remains financially sustainable over the medium and longer term, particularly in striving to shorten the funding Gap for asset maintenance and renewal.

Long term Financial Plan

As with any organisation Councils can experience sustainability challenges if they do not have sound financial planning, management and governance. This should include a 10 year Long Term Financial Plan (LTFP) consistent annual budgets and detailed quarterly financial reviews. The management quality and financial discipline needs support via effective governance from a Council who can clearly establish what outcomes a Community expects and then monitors and guides the General Manager to deliver these outcomes.

The long term financial plan is a decision making and problem solving tool. It is not intended that the LTFP is set in concrete rather it is merely a guide for future action. It provides an opportunity for Council to identify financial issues at an earlier stage and gauge the effect of these issues in the longer term. As decisions are made, for example Council resolutions, more detail can be added to the Long Term Financial Plan.

The Long Term Financial Plan will seek to answer these questions:

- Financial Sustainability – Can we afford it in the long term?
- Can we afford what the Community wants
- How will we fund our future infrastructure requirements?
- Borrowing & Financial Position – When should we borrow? How much should we borrow?
- What are the opportunities for future income?
- How do we go about achieving these outcomes?
- **Should Council consider applying for a Special Rate Variation?**

One of the scenarios presented within the LTFP is based upon a Special Rate Variation. If a variation is applied for, it will require a resolution from Council.

A key indicator of Councils overall health considered in this plan is the maintenance of adequate liquidity measures (Working funds and unrestricted current ratio) This will result from balancing expenditures with revenues (a balanced budget) over the period of the LTFP.

Council's future financial position has been forecast on the basis of the continuance of "normal" operations. This is very difficult to define but can be regarded as the level of services to stakeholders they have come to expect on a regular basis. It excludes 'one-off' and extraordinary items such as non-operational asset sales and acquisitions.

Special Rate Variation

A Special Rate Variation can only be introduced if approved by IPART. For IPART to approve such a variation, it is a requirement for the community to be consulted and for Council to make a formal resolution.

The LTFFP, Delivery Program and Operational Plan highlights the difficulties in trying to achieve a balanced budget while ensuring Council's assets and infrastructure, particularly the road network, are maintained and renewed to satisfactory levels as indicated within the Asset Management Plan and road hierarchy documentation.

To assist Council to meet the expectations of the community, the decision has been made to focus on asset renewal and maintenance. In addition to this Council has, and continues to, review many functional areas resulting in reformed and streamlined operations. The continuation of this review process and exploring alternative income options is imperative to ensure Bland Shire Council continues to be financially sustainable.

9.2 Special Rate Variation

Our leadership

Setting a benchmark for community standards

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

DP14.3 Ensure the long term financial sustainability of Council through effective and prudent financial management

Author: General Manager

Officer's Recommendation:

- 1. That Council decide if an application for a Special Rate Variation is to be submitted to IPART.**
- 2. If a Special Rate Variation is to be applied for, Council determine the % rate (including rate pegging) and length in years of the variation.**
- 3. If a Special Rate variation is to be applied for, Council determine whether the SRV remain permanently in the rate base or the rate base is adjusted to meet the rate peg path.**

Introduction

To inform the community regarding the option to apply for a Special Rate Variation (SRV), Council prepared and distributed an information package to every rate payer within the shire, discussed the SRV at community meetings, provided media releases to the various media outlets and councils email list, conducted both radio and television interviews and commissioned a community survey to be conducted.

As a result, Council received a number of responses to the information disseminated regarding the Special Rate variation. 3012 packages were posted to the rate payers in the Shire and 189 responses received. This represents a 6.27% response rate.

The survey commissioned by Micromex completed 301 resident interviews. This sample size was based on population and gave the company a maximum sample error of 5.5% with a 95% confidence rate. This means that 19 times out of 20 one would expect to see the same results. The sample was weighted by age and gender to reflect the 2011 ABS census data ensuring an accurate representation across the Shire.

Awareness of Special Rate Variation

Those community members called to complete the survey were asked the following questions:

Q9a. Prior to this call, were you aware that Council was exploring community sentiment towards options for balancing the budget in the future?

Q9b. How were you informed that Council was exploring options for balancing the budget?

From the results, 75% of residents indicated they were aware that Council was exploring community sentiment towards options for balancing the budget. This response was similar across all demographics.

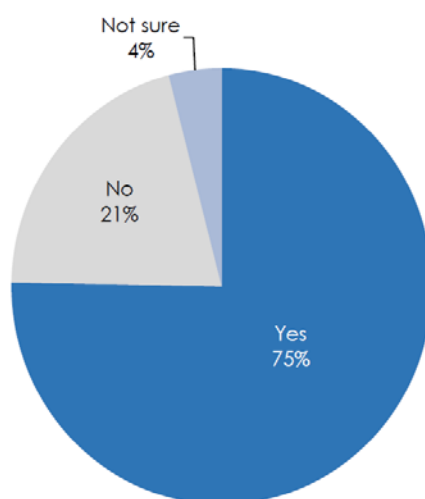
Of those who indicated they were aware:

- 69% stated they became informed via 'mail out from Council'
- followed by 58% who were informed about the special rate variation via 'newspaper advertisement'.

Residents aged 18-34 were significantly less likely to have become aware via 'newspaper advertisement' (15%) but were significantly more likely to have become aware through 'word of mouth' (51%)

Those aged 35-49 were significantly more likely to become aware by the former (newspaper advertisement).

The results as illustrated above and below, have made it very clear that the direct mail out option has been very successful in disseminating information to our community. This high level of community knowledge was commented on by Micromex as being an outstanding result.



Base: N=301

Survey Results

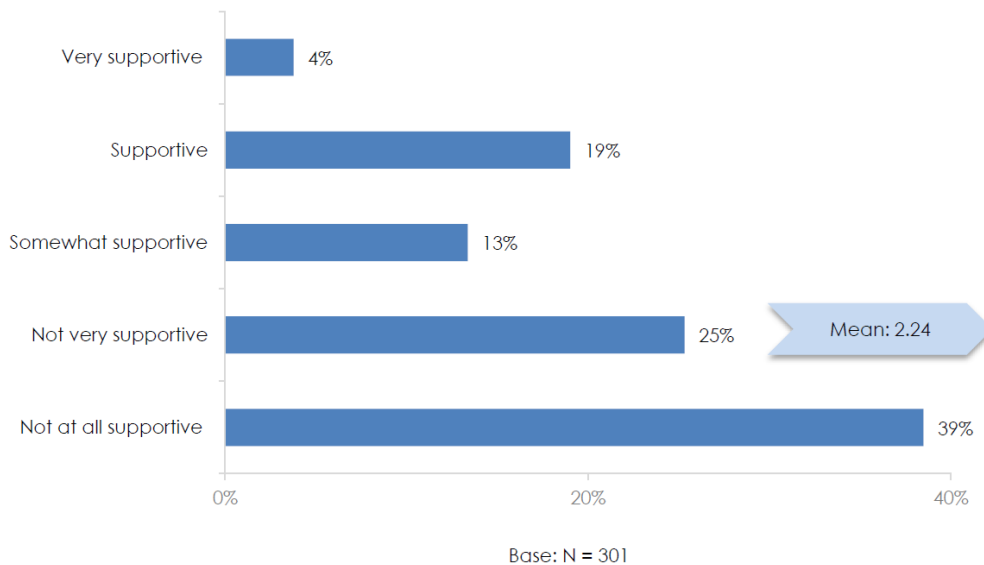
Option 1 - Normal Rate Peg and Special Rate Variation

There was a low level of support for 'Option 1 – 10% increase above rate pegging per year (approximately 12.5%) for five years', with only 4% of residents committing to the 'very supportive' code and just over a third giving support for this option.

Q8a. How supportive are you of Council proceeding with this option? Option 1 – 10% increase above rate pegging per year (approximately 12.5%) for five years

	Overall 2015	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Male	Female
Mean ratings	2.24	2.45	2.28	2.05	2.23	2.38	2.11

Scale: 1 = not at all supportive, 5 = very supportive



The results realised by Micromex were reflected in the results received by Council directly via the reply paid option.

Option 1

Normal Rate Peg
and Special Rate
Variation

42 22%

189 Responses
received.

The main concerns from residents in relation to Option 1 were:

- Too expensive for residents, farmers, elderly
- Council needs to be smarter with the funds they have

Option 2 - Normal Rate Peg Only

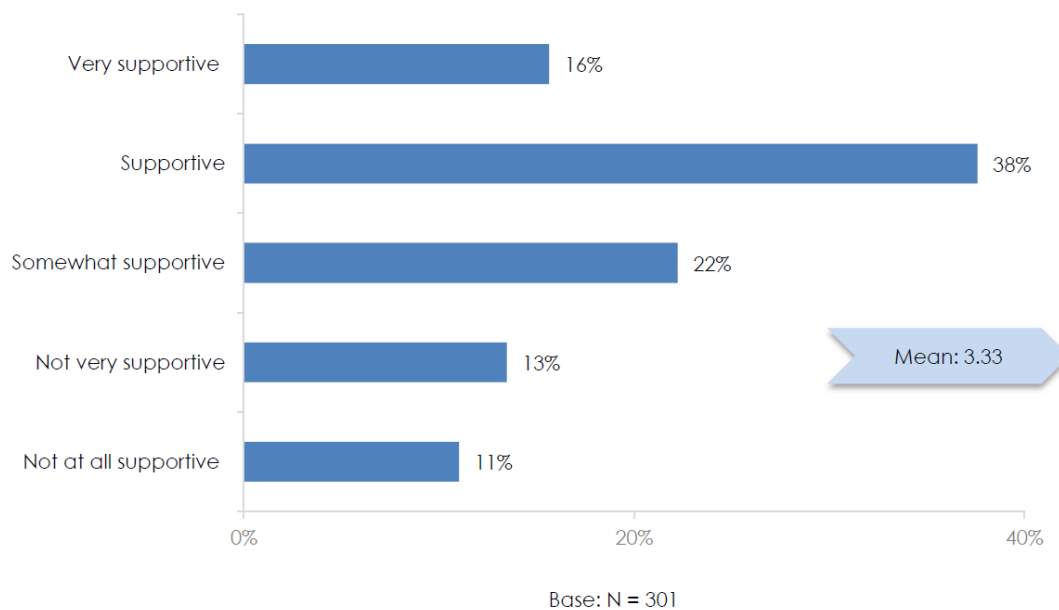
76% of residents indicated they were at least 'somewhat supportive' for 'Option 2 – Increase by rate pegging limit only'.

Support across the demographics was similar for 'Option 2'.

Q8b. How supportive are you of Council proceeding with this option? Option 2 – Increase by rate pegging limit only

	Overall 2015	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Male	Female
Mean ratings	3.33	3.61	3.31	3.38	3.07	3.36	3.31

Scale: 1 = not at all supportive, 5 = very supportive



As with option 1, these results were reflected in the results received by Council directly via the reply paid option.

Option 2

Normal Rate
Peg Only

130 69%

189 responses
received

Survey Summary

The majority of residents were supportive of 'Option 2 – increase by rate pegging limit only' (77%).

On analysing the preference of option by support for Council investing more money into the maintenance and upgrades of roads across the Shire, it revealed that even amongst those residents who indicated they were supportive of Council investing more money into roads, the vast majority still prefer 'Option 2 – increase by rate pegging limit only'.

The most mentioned reason for residents selecting 'Option 1' was 'roads need to be improved' (17%).

'Option 1 is too expensive for residents/farmers/elderly' (59%) was the primary reason for residents who selected 'Option 2'.

Anecdotal evidence from comments suggests that the main reasons for rejecting the 10% SRV option were that it was too expensive (particularly the elderly, farmers etc), that a smaller increase would be more appropriate, and that Council should be smarter in how it uses its funds.

Special Rate Variation (SRV) Options

There are several options available to Council, as outlined below, however Council is not limited to these. These options need to take into consideration a Rate Peg of 1.8% in 2016/17.

SRV Option 1

Council can resolve not to apply for a special rate variation. This outcome would result in Council making some very tough financial decisions across all areas of the organisation due to an estimated \$4M - \$4.5m deficit every year.

If this option was chosen, the cuts would be dramatic, would have a very noticeable effect on service delivery and would include options such as sale of assets, reduced service delivery across all non funded areas and increased user fees and charges.

The following table indicates the increase in rates at \$1,200, \$1600, \$2,000 and \$2,500 with a 1.8% rate increase (rate pegging only), the total amount of rates received (\$6,148,266.58 2015/16)) and the total increase over the five years. The orange line indicates the deficit predicted in the budget and the savings that would be required across the organisation as a whole to achieve a balanced budget.

Rate Rise Only (1.8%)	2016/2017	2017/2018	20018/2019	2019/2020	2020/2021
Current Rate					
\$ 1,200.00	\$ 1,221.60	\$ 1,243.59	\$ 1,265.97	\$ 1,288.76	\$ 1,311.96
\$ 1,600.00	\$ 1,628.80	\$ 1,658.12	\$ 1,687.96	\$ 1,718.35	\$ 1,749.28
\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,036.00	\$ 2,072.65	\$ 2,109.96	\$ 2,147.93	\$ 2,186.60
\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,545.00	\$ 2,590.81	\$ 2,637.44	\$ 2,684.92	\$ 2,733.25
\$ 6,148,266.58	\$6,258,935.38	\$ 6,371,596.22	\$ 6,486,284.95	\$ 6,603,038.08	\$ 6,721,892.76
Budgeted Deficit	\$4,342,263.87	\$ 4,414,793.87	\$ 4,743,197.87	\$ 4,580,814.87	\$ 4,592,639.87
Additional Rate Income	\$ 110,668.80	\$ 112,660.84	\$ 114,688.73	\$ 116,753.13	\$ 118,854.69

SRV Option 2

If Council were to apply for a 5% SRV, the following would be an indication of the effect on the rate payer and the potential deficit's that Council's long Term Financial Plan has estimated.

This option would allow a combination of additional rates and reduced service levels (yet to be determined) to achieve a balanced budget. As is shown in the table below, the Rates income increases from \$6,148,266 currently to approximately \$7,846,919 in 2020/21 providing an additional \$3,229,960 (compounding) over 5 year period. The breakdown below shows the additional funding (above rate pegging) that will be received each year.

2016/17	\$196,745
2017/18	\$406,868
2018/19	\$631,102
2019/20	\$870,218
2020/21	\$1,125,026

5% SRV	2016/2017	2017/2018	2018/2019	2019/2020	2020/2021
Current Rate					
\$ 1,200.00	\$ 1,260.00	\$ 1,323.00	\$ 1,389.15	\$ 1,458.61	\$ 1,531.54
\$ 1,600.00	\$ 1,680.00	\$ 1,764.00	\$ 1,852.20	\$ 1,944.81	\$ 2,042.05
\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,100.00	\$ 2,205.00	\$ 2,315.25	\$ 2,431.01	\$ 2,552.56
\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,625.00	\$ 2,756.25	\$ 2,894.06	\$ 3,038.77	\$ 3,190.70
\$ 6,148,266.58	\$6,455,679.91	\$ 6,778,463.90	\$ 7,117,387.10	\$ 7,473,256.45	\$ 7,846,919.28
Budgeted Deficit (No SRV)	\$4,342,263.87	\$ 4,371,756.00	\$ 4,700,160.00	\$ 4,580,814.87	\$ 4,592,639.87
Budgeted Deficit (5% SRV)	\$4,145,519.34	\$ 4,048,968.00	\$ 391,672.00	\$ 3,825,625.00	\$ 3,614,373.00

This scenario would result in services across all areas being placed under review. If this option was chosen, the cuts would be fairly dramatic and would have a noticeable effect on service delivery and would also include options such as sale of assets, reduced service delivery across all non funded areas and increased user fees and charges as above.

SRV Option 3

If Council were to apply for a 7.5% SRV, the following would be an indication of the effect on the rate payers and the potential deficit that Council would carry.

7.5% SRV	2016/2017	2017/2018	20018/2019	2019/2020	2020/2021
Current Rate					
\$ 1,200.00	\$ 1,290.00	\$ 1,386.75	\$ 1,490.76	\$ 1,602.56	\$ 1,722.76
\$ 1,600.00	\$ 1,720.00	\$ 1,849.00	\$ 1,987.68	\$ 2,136.75	\$ 2,297.01
\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,150.00	\$ 2,311.25	\$ 2,484.59	\$ 2,670.94	\$ 2,871.26
\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,687.50	\$ 2,889.06	\$ 3,105.74	\$ 3,338.67	\$ 3,589.07
\$ 6,148,266.58	\$6,609,386.57	\$ 7,105,090.57	\$ 7,637,972.36	\$ 8,210,820.29	\$ 8,826,631.81
Budgeted Deficit (NO SRV)	\$4,342,263.87	\$ 4,414,793.87	\$ 4,743,197.87	\$ 4,580,814.87	\$ 4,592,639.87
Budgeted Deficit (7.5% SRV)	\$3,991,809.00	\$ 3,726,179.00	\$ 3,183,184.00	\$ 3,113,473.00	\$ 2,679,144.00

This option would allow a combination of additional rates and reduced service to achieve a balanced budget. As is shown above, the rate income increases from \$6,148,266 currently (2015/16) to approximately \$8,826,631 in 2020/21 providing an additional \$5,948,154 (compounding) over 5 year period.

2016/17	\$350,451
2017/18	\$733,494
2018/19	\$1,151,687
2019/20	\$1,607,783
2020/21	\$2,104,739

Services across the board would be reviewed. It would be envisaged that reductions would be across the organisation as a whole to negate the deficit to a nil result. If this option was chosen, the cuts would be less dramatic than option 1 and 2, however would still have an effect on service delivery.

SRV Option 4

If Council were to apply for a 10% SRV, the following would be an indication of the effect on the rate payer and the potential deficit that Council would carry.

10% SRV		2016/2017	2017/2018	20018/2019	2019/2020	2020/2021
Current Rate						
\$	1,200.00	\$ 1,320.00	\$ 1,452.00	\$ 1,597.20	\$ 1,756.92	\$ 1,932.61
\$	1,600.00	\$ 1,760.00	\$ 1,936.00	\$ 2,129.60	\$ 2,342.56	\$ 2,576.82
\$	2,000.00	\$ 2,200.00	\$ 2,420.00	\$ 2,662.00	\$ 2,928.20	\$ 3,221.02
\$	2,500.00	\$ 2,750.00	\$ 3,025.00	\$ 3,327.50	\$ 3,660.25	\$ 4,026.28
\$	6,148,266.58	\$6,763,093.24	\$ 7,439,402.56	\$ 8,183,342.82	\$ 9,001,677.10	\$ 9,901,844.81
Budgeted Deficit (No SRV)		\$4,342,263.87	\$ 4,414,793.87	\$ 4,743,197.87	\$ 4,580,814.87	\$ 4,592,639.87
Budgeted Deficit (10% SRV)		\$3,838,106.01	\$ 3,346,987.52	\$ 3,046,140.00	\$ 2,182,175.85	\$ 1,412,687.82

This option would allow a combination of additional rates and less of a reduction in service levels to achieve a balanced budget. As is shown above, the rates income increases from \$6,148,266 currently (2015/16) to approximately \$9,901,845 in 2020/21 providing an additional \$8,847,613 over 5 year period.

2016/17	\$504,158
2017/18	\$1,067,806
2018/19	\$1,697,058
2019/20	\$2,398,639
2020/21	\$3,179,952

This option would result in services across the board being under review to ensure the budget balances. It is envisaged that reductions would be across the organisation as a whole. If this option was chosen, the cuts would be less dramatic and would have a less noticeable effect on service delivery.

SRV Option 5

If Council were to apply for a 12.5% SRV, the following would be an indication of the effect on the rate payer and the potential deficit that Council would carry.

12.5% SRV		2016/2017	2017/2018	20018/2019	2019/2020	2020/2021
Current Rate						
\$	1,200.00	\$ 1,350.00	\$ 1,518.75	\$ 1,708.59	\$ 1,922.17	\$ 2,162.44
\$	1,600.00	\$ 1,800.00	\$ 2,025.00	\$ 2,278.13	\$ 2,562.89	\$ 2,883.25
\$	2,000.00	\$ 2,250.00	\$ 2,531.25	\$ 2,847.66	\$ 3,203.61	\$ 3,604.06
\$	2,500.00	\$ 2,812.50	\$ 3,164.06	\$ 3,559.57	\$ 4,004.52	\$ 4,505.08
\$	6,148,266.58	\$6,916,799.90	\$ 7,781,399.89	\$ 8,754,074.88	\$ 9,848,334.24	\$ 11,079,376.02
Budgeted Deficit		\$4,342,263.87	\$ 4,414,793.87	\$ 4,743,197.87	\$ 4,580,814.87	\$ 4,592,639.87
Budgeted Deficit (12.5%)		\$3,454,366.00	\$ 2,819,025.00	\$ 1,835,305.00	\$ 1,243,223.00	\$ 192,673.00

This option would allow a combination of additional rates and less of a reduction in service levels to achieve a balanced budget. As is shown above, the rates income increases from \$6,148,266 currently (2015/16) to approximately \$11,079,376 in 2020/21 providing an additional \$11,938,237 over 5 year period.

2016/17	\$657,865
2017/18	\$1,409,804
2018/19	\$2,267,790
2019/20	\$3,245,296
2020/21	\$4,357,483

Services across the board would be under review. It is envisaged that reductions would be across the organisation as a whole. If this option was chosen, the cuts would be less dramatic and would have a least noticeable effect on service delivery.

Conclusion

For Council to ensure its long term financial sustainability serious consideration needs to be given to the option of introducing a Special Rate Variation along with a reduction in expenditure across the organisation. The long term future of Council needs to be considered when making a decision regarding the SRV.

Financial Implications

The financial implications will be dependent on the decision made by Council. Currently Council is deemed to be financially fit under the Fit for the Future reforms, however this predication is based on the introduction of a SRV of 12.5% each year for 5 years. If the decision Council makes vary from that, reductions will need to be made to offset the reduced income. Regardless of the SRV outcome, Council will have to make some difficult decisions regarding expenditure across the organisation taking the long term future of the Bland Shire into consideration.

9.3 Capital Expenditure Works & Projects Progress Update

Our leadership

Setting a benchmark for community standards

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

DP14.3 Ensure the General Manager takes on a high level role in implementing the Community Strategic Plan and associated documents

Author: Executive Assistant

Officer's Recommendation:

That the information detailing the progress of Council's 2015/16 capital expenditure projects, as at 1 December 2015 be received and noted.

Introduction

Included as an attachment to this report is a list of the capital expenditure items agreed to by Council in conjunction with the adoption of the 2015/16 annual budget.

The list has been updated to 1 December 2015.

Financial Implications

Any expenditure related to the projects detailed in the list has been included in the current 2015/16 budget and where it is a project of significance it is the subject of a separate report to council.

LIST OF CAPITAL WORKS PROJECTS

CAPITAL PROJECT	ESTIMATE	ACTION
2015/16		
<i>Tourism</i>		
Visitor Information Centre	\$150,000.00	1/12: report to be presented to December Council meeting
<i>Environmental Planning</i>		
Heritage Panels – Main Street	\$10,000.00	1/12: Commenced, information being gathered
<i>Road Works & Transport</i>		
Main Street Concrete Strips	\$22,000.00	5/11: not commenced
Extra Seats – Main Street	\$3,000.00	5/11: will commence when location is established
<i>Public Services</i>		
Screen for Aberline Toilets	\$1,500.00	5/11: not commenced 1/12: underway
Playground equipment – Tallimba Park	\$10,000.00	5/11: negotiations underway
<i>Waste Management</i>		
Internal Infrastructure – West Wyalong	\$50,000.00	5/11: not commenced 1/12: underway

LIST OF CAPITAL WORKS PROJECTS

PROJECT	BUDGET	PROGRESS
CARRY FORWARD ITEMS - as determined by Council on 15 September 2015		
Dump Point – Cooinda Park	\$ 15,000	18/11/14: investigations commenced 21/4: Liaison underway and access to system being investigated 19/5: carry over to 2015/16 5/11: On order will be placed when final parking design is settled
Increase Capacity of Airport Dam – reticulation	\$ 30,000	16/2/2015: pending airport lease, new month/month arrangement 21/4: in progress 19/5: report to Council, water rights to be acquired. Carry over to 2015/16 5/11: not yet progressed 1/12: working on capacity purchase
Indoor Sporting Facilities	\$ 2,000,000 \$ 42,000 (CF)	19/8/14: Legal advice received, Steering Committee meeting scheduled for September 9 9/10: second Steering Committee meeting scheduled for October 14 16/2/15: in hand, EOIs and tenders called, report to the February Council meeting 21/4: concept plans and timelines to be provided by the end of April 19/5: report to May Council meeting 21/7: further report to July council meeting 5/11: DA submitted for assessment, EOIs for construction services advertised, further report to the December Council meeting
Refurbish Toppo Hall / Soldiers	\$ 50,000	9/10/14: meeting arranged with Hall Committee regarding priority of works 17/3: carry forward 19/5: carry over to 2015/16 1/12: works taken back internally, DCCDS to follow up

LIST OF CAPITAL WORKS PROJECTS

CARRY FORWARD ITEMS - as determined by Council on 28 October 2014		
Land Development Costs	\$ 709,000	16/2/15: pending acquisition 3/3: Claim to be granted however not expected to be signed off prior to election. Valuation to be obtained and further dealings made directly with the Lands Council 21/4: to be carried over to 2015/16 19/5: valuation to be followed up 1/12: letter sent seeking updated
Legal Expenses	\$ 49,200	16/2/15: to be transferred to Reserves 1/12: NFAR
Library Revitalising Project	\$ 10,891	3/3: carpet options being considered 1/12: NFAR
Council Building Maintenance	\$ 20,298	16/2/15: to be transferred to Reserves 1/12: NFAR
Council Buildings Project	\$ 45,667	16/2/15: to be transferred to Reserves 1/12: NFAR
Heritage Plaques	\$ 7,162	19/5: to be transferred into Heritage Reserves 1/12: NFAR
Main St Illumination	\$ 40,000	16/2/15: scheme submitted for consideration 17/3: concept investigated, aiming for end of 2014/15 21/4: investigations continuing 19/5: to be carried over to 2015/16 5/11: designs being considered 1/12: inspection of council structures underway, expect completion by July 2016
Gravesite Identification (Repair old unattended grave sites)	\$ 20,000	18/11/14: being completed as needed 3/3: Heritage Group assisting 21/4: ongoing, carry over to 2015/16 19/5: balance to be carried over to 2015/16 5/11: used when needed 1/12: ongoing as required
Reg Rathey Monument	\$ 80,000	16/2/15: EOI to be issued for artist 19/5: EOI shortlisted 21/7: report to July council meeting 5/11: Works underway, on track for April opening 1/12: Report to be presented to the December Council meeting

LIST OF CAPITAL WORKS PROJECTS

Perseverance Street Rec Ground Development	\$ 150,000	18/11/14: part of current grant application 3/2/15: unsuccessful Clubs grant application submitted 21/4: carry over, subject to a report to Council 19/5: pending completion of WWRL grant for Ron Pilon Kiosk 21/7: grant successful, WWRL Club issued with letter, Council to approve all works 1/12: Council to manage works, target for new entry complete prior to knockout, Ron Pilon Kiosk improvements
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9.4 Investigation into Locations for a Visitor Information Centre (Revised – December 2015)

Our prosperity

Ensuring a vibrant and sustainable future

Vision: Growing our population and jobs

DP 16.0 Community satisfaction with the quantity and quality of tourist information and resources provided by Council

Author: General Manager

Officer's Recommendation:

- 1. That Council determine if it wishes to consider the three (3) Expressions of Interest received in relation to the operation of a Visitor Information Centre.**
- 2. That if council so resolves that this report be dealt with in conjunction with the report to the confidential section of this meeting.**

Introduction

Council at its meeting held on 18 August 2015 resolved to refer the following three (3) locations to the VIC Working Group for consideration. Unfortunately, this group was disbanded after the first meeting which occurred on 8 September 2015 and Council at its meeting held on 15 September 2015 resolved that the general manager further investigate the three (3) locations and report to the December 2015 meeting of council.

- McCann Park – as part of the Cafe Peckish complex
- 184 Main Street – the former Elder's building
- Bland Shire Library – where the 12 month trial is currently operating.

Council will be well aware that the issue of identifying a suitable location for a VIC has been on the agenda of many meetings without any real progress being made. Council undertook a community survey which has complicated the situation given the varying interpretations of the survey results. However, the majority of survey responses indicated that the best location for a VIC was at the western end of town.

Council has also requested a call for Expressions of Interest from local business operators interested in managing a VIC from their premises or at one of the above locations. A total of three EOI's have been received but for commercial in-confidence reasons a further report has been included in the confidential section of this business paper.

The first determination is if council wishes to consider the EOI's in conjunction with the three (3) identified locations?

This has created an awkward reporting format due to the confidential nature of some of the information being made available to council, but at the same time, I am well aware of the significant community interest in this project. If council is to go down the path of accepting one of the EOI's then the matter will need to be considered in committee in the first instance.

McCann Park – Cafe Peckish

There is potential to extend the existing facility in McCann Park.

The current structure is on council owned land and therefore is in council ownership. The current tenants, Kurrajong Waratah, have indicated an interest in co- managing a VIC in conjunction with the existing cafe.

The location has the advantage of being adjacent to an existing park with a quality playground and public amenities and is also highly visible from the main road.



There are issues to be addressed in relation to suitable parking and future road works planned by the RMS. The estimated costs associated with this option are detailed under Financial Implications.

The existing cafe has public conveniences and suitable disabled access.

The proposed changes to the intersection at the junction of the Mid Western and Newell Highways may affect the passing traffic.

184 Main Street (Old Elders Building)

This building is already in council's ownership, is located on the main road thus having high visibility and is in close proximity to many main street businesses.

There are issues to be addressed in relation to suitable parking.

The estimated costs associated with this option are detailed under Financial Implications.

The existing building has public conveniences that require upgrading as will require the provision of disabled access.



Bland Shire Library

This has been the location of the existing visitor information centre for the past few years following its relocation from the CT building at the corner of Main and Monash Streets. Up until just recently the VIC has only been opened during normal library hours but is now operating on a 7 day per week trial basis for 12 months.

The current space within the Library, allocated to the VIC, is considered too small and does not allow for the display or sale of any ancillary products.

Some statistics that have been gathered since the VIC opened on a 7 day per week basis have been attached to this report.

Conclusion

This has been a difficult task for council and given the mixed results of the survey and the fact that there are differing views within the community, it is obvious that whatever decision council makes will not please all of the stakeholders.

Financial Implications

It is appropriate to identify the initial set up costs of each of the above options, however, to identify at this stage, the annual running costs may jeopardise any future negotiations council may have with potential private operators and for this reason those details are contained in the confidential report.

The initial set up costs includes the fit out and any ancillary expenditure necessary to create a viable VIC.

184 Main Street

Initial first 12 months = \$375,000.00

McCann Park – Cafe Peckish

Initial first 12 months = \$495,000.00

Bland Shire Library

Initial first 12 months = \$105,000.00

**VISITOR INFORMATION CENTRE
SUMMARY OF ENQUIRIES
NOVEMBER 2015**

Age Group	
<18	0
18-35	6
36-50	14
51>	32
Enquiry	
Other	12
Toilets	12
Food and Bev. etc	10
Brochures	11
Wetlands	8
Accommodation	5
Museum	6
Directions	5
Internet	3
Parks	4
Souvenirs	3
Camping	2
Plane	2
WW Brochure	0
LCCC	0
Pools	0
Services	0
What to see/do	17
Weekend Dates only	
Saturday, 7 November 2015	3
Sunday, 8 November 2015	5
Saturday, 14 November 2015	5
Sunday, 15 November 2015	3
Saturday, 21 November 2015	6
Sunday, 22 November 2015	7
Saturday, 28 November 2015	6
Sunday, 29 November 2015	4

9.5 West Wyalong Visitor Radio – Request for Support

Our prosperity

Ensuring a vibrant and sustainable future

Vision: Growing our population and jobs

DP19.3 Visitor information is kept relevant and up to date.

Author: General Manager

Officer's Recommendation:

That council not support the request from the Visitor Information Radio FM88 network for renewal of the relevant signage within the Shire until such time as the operator complies with the criteria established by the Tourist Attraction Signposting Assessment Committee.

Introduction

Council is in receipt of a request from Mr. Ian Munro, the operator of the West Wyalong Visitor Radio Service for a letter of support for the renewal of the **Radio FM88** signage within the Shire.

This signage requires the approval of the Tourist Attraction Signposting Assessment Committee (TASAC) but only with the support of the local council.

A copy of the correspondence from Mr. Munro is included as an attachment to this report.

There has been a significant history with this company over the past few years. Back in April 2012 council resolved to withdraw its participation in Radio FM88, which at the time was a cost to council of around \$4,000.00 p.a. Council ceased hosting the facility from 1 January 2013. Council had been hosting this site since 1994.

Since then, the radio equipment was located within the West Wyalong Services and Citizen's Club and maintained by the restaurant operators. Since leaving the club and relocating to the main street the radio equipment was switched off and remained this way for nearly two years in which time there were no complaints received regarding this service not being available. The equipment consists of an AWA DVD player and a transmitter.

Just recently this equipment was again relocated, this time to the local community radio station building in Wyalong and has been switched back on. I was travelling to Dubbo recently and I managed to pick up a small part of the broadcast about 10 kms east of West Wyalong. The reception was quite poor but I did hear an interview with a lady named June who spoke about the West Wyalong Museum at 18 Main Street followed by a promotion of the Barmedman Tractor Pull which is held on the first Saturday in March. Both pieces of information were wrong and very out of date. I am also led to believe that a Cowra business is being promoted on the West Wyalong frequency.

Conclusion

If Council is to support the retention or renewal of the Visitor Radio FM88 signage it must be on the provision that the information being broadcast is up to date and relevant. The approval of the signage by TASAC involves the following:

Visitor Radio may be approved in principle by TASAC subject to the Visitor Radio being established in accordance with the criteria. This would allow for the manufacture of the signposting so that it can be installed as close as possible to the service being approved and operational. For approval in principle to be given the Visitor Radio operator would need to supply written:

- ***Support from the local council and local tourism industry.***
- ***Notification regarding the person to sign-off on the broadcast content and that such content is up to date and relevant.***
- ***Agreement to pay all costs for the sign manufacture and installation as they occur.***

When the service is operational TASAC can assess the service to ensure all the criteria have been met and notify the RMS that the product is eligible for signposting.

Financial Implications

There is no cost associated with the letter of support and council no longer meets the cost of hosting this radio information station.

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



Tuesday, November 10, 2015.

Dear Sir,

I am the operator of West Wyalong Visitor Radio which has been successfully promoting West Wyalong and the Shire for more than 20 years.

The station was established in 1994 after an approach from Council which erected road signage to alert visitors to the station's presence.

Such tourism signage is now managed and approved by the Tourist Attraction Signposting Assessment Committee (TASAC) using criteria which, I am proud to say, was developed following consultation with myself, Australian Visitor Radio being the nation's largest tourist radio network delivering accurate and relevant tourist information 24/7..

As part of its management function TASAC ensures compliance, reviewing approvals each five years and, as part of that process, we have been requested to make a fresh signage application.

TASAC will not approve signage without consent of the local Council and we have been asked to submit with our application a letter of support from Council and a letter of support from the nearest accredited visitor information centre. As Council runs the local VIC one letter covering both entities will be sufficient.

As accuracy and relevance are paramount the letter must also identify Council's nominated person to sign off on the broadcast content.

TASAC sees Visitor Radio as enhancing the provision of visitor information especially as it operates on a 24 hour a day basis, providing up-to-date information to visitors outside the hours of visitor information centres.

As part of our re-application we will supply TASAC with a copy of the approved broadcast – which will contain numerous segments directing listeners to your VIC - and look forward to working with your nominee to continue to provide West Wyalong and the Shire with an excellent promotional tool to increase tourist spending and visitation locally and to promote the Shire as an excellent place to live and to invest.



*Australia's Largest
Information Radio Network*

Unit 3/33 Macquarie Street
PO Box 913, Dubbo NSW 283
PH: (02) 6884 246
Fax: (02) 6884 480
Email: sales@countrymix.net.au

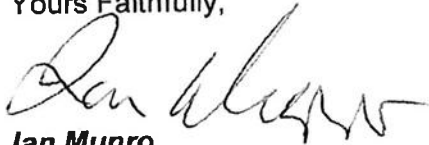
And the service will be provided absolutely free of charge to Council . . . as it has been for the past five years.

Council's sponsorship of the station concluded in 2010 and since that time we have continued to provide the service for the community having also formed an association with West Wyalong Community Radio and now broadcast from their site.

West Wyalong is one of 41 stations in our network covering 23 highways in three States and joins stations at Jerilderie, Forbes, Parkes, Dubbo, Gilgandra, Coonabarabran & Moree on the Newell.

As TASAC believes a Visitor Radio service is 'desirable to meet the information needs of tourists' I therefore request Council to provide a letter of support for our signage application.

Yours Faithfully,



Ian Munro,
General Manager

9.6 Proposed Lease of Council Car Park Adjacent to Bernardi's IGA Supermarket

Our infrastructure

Reviewing, renewing & improving our core community assets

Vision: Maintaining and improving the Shire's assets and infrastructure in a changing climate

DP8.4 Maintain and improve general vehicle and pedestrian access within the shire.

Author: General Manager

Officer's Recommendation:

That the mayor and general manager be delegated authority to execute the lease between council and the Bernardi Group, for the car park, bounded by Church Street, Barnardo Street and White Tank Lane, to the Bernardi Group, on the terms and conditions detailed in this report.

Introduction

Council will be aware that the Bernardi Group have been interested in leasing the council car park, bounded by Church Street, Barnardo Street and White Tank Lane, for quite some time and that council would consider such a lease if the Bernardi Group were to consider the installation of a shade structure over the majority of parking spaces.

That shade structure has now been successfully installed and all of the other minor works have been now completed by council.

In view of this it is reasonable for council to now consider entering into an appropriate lease for this facility based on the following:

- The car park is to remain a 'public' car park
- The lease fee to be \$1500.00 p.a with annual CPI adjustments
- There be a clear delineation of maintenance responsibilities
- The length of the lease to be 10 years with a 10 year option
- The lessee to take out adequate Public Liability Insurance
- The lessee to be responsible for all signage within the car park boundaries
- Both parties to meet their own legal costs.
- Commencement date of the lease will be 1 January 2016

Conclusion

The lease by council of this car park will have a positive financial outcome, a reduction in staff time allocated to the maintenance of the facility while still providing public access at all times. The Bernardi Group have been faithful to their undertaking to provide shade cover and overall the community now has a much improved facility

Financial Implications

The recommended lease fee of \$1500.00 per annum, with annual CPI adjustments, is considered fair and reasonable.

9.7 Refurbishment of the Perseverance Street Sports Complex Stadium – Consideration of Expressions of Interest for Construction Services

Our infrastructure *Reviewing, renewing & improving our core community assets*

Vision: Maintaining and improving the Shire's assets and infrastructure in a changing climate

11.2. In collaboration with users and budgetary constraints provide facilities that are maintained to acceptable standards.

Author: General Manager

Officer's Recommendation:

Option 1

- 1. That council formally resolve to call for tenders for the construction services for the refurbishment of the West Wyalong Sports Stadium;**
- 2. That at the same time council resolves to delete the proposed multipurpose room from the scope of works;**
- 3. That a report be submitted to the February 2016 meeting with details of the tenders received for the construction services phase of this project.**

Option 2

That council defer further action on this project until February 2016.

Introduction

Expressions of Interest

A total of six (6) formal Expressions of Interest were received in respect to the provision of 'construction services' which is the next phase in this project

An assessment of the six (6) EOI's was undertaken by council's General Manager, council's Executive Assistant and council's Senior Coordinator – Urban. The assessment was based on a number of factors including previous experience in and construction of sporting facilities and evidence of the applicant's ability and understanding of how to achieve council's desired outcome.

Different weightings were applied to:

- Relevant Experience – 50%
- Key Personnel – 35%
- Applicants Resources – 10%
- Demonstrated Understanding – 5%

It was determined that five (5) out of the six (6) applicants were suitable to request from them the submission of tenders. If council decides to change the scope of works for this project then the EOI applicants will be advised accordingly but it is not expected that this would alter, in any way, their EOI as this was simply to determine if they were capable of such a construction project.

Fire Fighting Requirements

This project has been complicated by a requirement of the Building Code of Australia to provide suitable fire fighting safety facilities. While there was an expectation of such a requirement the unknown factor was the lack of sufficient head pressure in the reticulated water system until tested just recently.

Goldenfields Water was approached and their response was that they could not guarantee the proposed main extension and hydrant will be able to supply adequate pressure and flow for fire fighting purposes and that our planning should allow for onsite water storage.

The initial solution was to provide on-site water storage facilities, including pumps, at an estimated cost of around \$100,000.00 and the most logical location was at the rear of the existing structure which would then not allow for any future expansion of this facility.

However, we are now currently investigating the possibility of utilising existing underground water storage tanks just several hundred meters from the existing stadium. We are waiting on an estimate on the cost of the installation of pumps that would allow sufficient pressure and water flow to meet the BCA requirement. This could prove a much more economical outcome to supplying on-site water storage and pumping facilities.

Project Budget and Council Options

Council at its workshop held on 1 December 2015 was provided with a number of options for consideration with the most feasible being the following:

1. Proceed to the tender stage but agree now to the deletion of the multipurpose room due to the expected increased costs associated with the fire fighting requirements under the Building Code of Australia.
2. Defer the project to 2016 and await the outcome of the NSRF grant application, which if successful, could be a solution to the additional costs and which may allow for the retention of the multipurpose room.

Submission from the Stadium Committee

The Stadium Committee have lodged a written request, that if possible, the stadium remain available for their use until the end of May 2016.

If council resolves to proceed to tender now then it is most unlikely that the stadium would be available as requested as I would expect that council would accept a tender in February 2016 with the expectation that works would commence soon thereafter.

Conclusion

I am well aware that council is keen for this project to proceed; it is just unfortunate that the timing of issues such as the NSRF Grant announcement and the additional fire fighting requirements have complicated the process.

Financial Implications

Nil to this report

9.8 Central West Lifestyle Magazine – Council Promotional Opportunity

Our prosperity

Ensuring a vibrant and sustainable future

Vision: Growing our population and jobs

DP.19.3 Visitor information is kept relevant and up to date.

Author: General Manager

Officer's Recommendation:

That council agree to participate in a feature in the Spring 2016 edition of the Central West Lifestyle Magazine at a cost of \$6,000.00 +GST with funds being allocated from the tourism promotion budget.

Introduction

Council has been approached by the owners and editors of the Central West Lifestyle Magazine with a proposal for Bland Shire Council to combine with Lachlan Shire Council to feature in the Spring 2016 edition of this stylish magazine.

A copy of the proposal is included as an attachment to this report and a copy of the most recent magazine, featuring a story on our own John Pellow, will be available on the evening of the meeting for perusal by interested councillors.

Conclusion

This magazine has become a very well respected and well read publication with an estimated readership of between 25,000 and 30,000 per edition.

There may be an opportunity, depending on copyright, to retain the feature on West Wyalong and the Bland Shire as a separate publication for future promotion of the Shire.

The professional production of photos, story lines and aerial photography along with four quarter page advertisements for a full year would give the Shire extensive coverage.

If council does agree to participate in this promotion we could also look at a special launch of the publication to highlight its existence and to take advantage of additional promotional opportunities.

Financial Implications

The cost of participation is \$6,000.00 + GST and sufficient funds exist within the current tourism promotion budget to allow council's involvement in this promotion.

Attention: Mayor of West Wyalong, Council General Manager, Communications Manager, Economic and Business Development Manager, Head of Tourism

Re: Central West Lifestyle Shared Town Feature for West Wyalong/Condobolin/

Lake Cargelligo in 2016 Spring magazine

The Town Feature occupies almost half of the magazine (approx 100 pages). Our Spring magazine will be 212 pages. We print 6500 copies 4 times a year, totalling 26000 magazines annually. We estimate a readership of 25,000-30,000 per edition.

Distribution covers the majority of the state, selected suburbs of Sydney as well as Canberra and the Southern Highlands. See details of all stockists on our website www.centralwestmagazine.com.au

CWL now goes interstate to all states of Australia through a growing number of subscriptions. We have recently taken our magazine ONLINE.

We are very proud of our Town Features and feel they have enormous benefits to the town in relation to tourism and assisting to grow a wonderful community spirit.

We gather stories with your help and the help of our existing network in West Wyalong (major local events, iconic buildings, heritage home, country character, young achiever, Central West treasure, success stories, innovative businesses etc).

CWL would aim for Jake Lindsay (CWL chief writer/ photographer) to be in West Wyalong for at least two weeks to research and photograph.

THE OFFER:

CWL is willing to promote your town by dedicating 50 pages of the Spring 2016 magazine to West Wyalong.

For \$6000 (+GST) your Council will receive:

A front cover reflecting West Wyalong OR Condobolin/ Lake Cargelligo

Mayoral Introduction

(500 words with image of Mayor, submitted by Council)

Double page aerial photography of town included in feature (value \$500)

Four quarter page ads for a year (value \$2200)

A page of editorial submitted by Council- total 500 words, 2-3 images (value \$1750)

50 Spring '16 magazines (value \$550)

FEEDBACK FROM CR BILL WEST, COWRA MAYOR

*I write to offer my congratulations on the Summer 2014 edition of Central West Lifestyle magazine, and to thank you for the wonderful coverage of Cowra. It was a pleasure to see the final product of all your hard work – from the glorious opening photograph of our town to the in-depth and personal stories of some of Cowra's locals. It was indeed a reminder of the special community that we call home. I commend you on the presentation of your magazine. I have received many positive comments that reflect on the time, dedication and hard work that goes into such a first-rate publication. While it was not only gratifying to see the great result of the Cowra edition, **I also congratulate you on your commitment to the region as a whole.** I wish you every success with future publications, **and look forward to seeing the next wonderful portrayal of our regional communities.***

FEEDBACK FROM CR KEN KEITH OAM, MAYOR OF PARKES

As Mayor of Parkes Shire Council, I was delighted with the expansive feature highlighting the many icons and attractions of the Parkes Shire within the Winter Edition of the *Central West Lifestyle* magazine.

I pay tribute to the publishers, Alex and Elizabeth Tickle, and staff for the high quality and professional production values on display throughout the magazine. My compliments to chief writer and photographer Jake Lindsay, who became one of Parkes's favourite visiting sons during his research and photography trips to the region.

The magazine has lived up to its reputation as one of Australia's pre-eminent publications, one that continues to grow in circulation and increase its number of avid readers.

I know that the Parkes focus will provide numerous and tangible benefits to the region and **I commend a relationship with the magazine to any aspiring, progressive regional centre.**

I convey the gratitude of my fellow councillors and the community of the Parkes Shire for a job well done.

Thank you for your consideration
Kind regards
Elizabeth and Alex Tickle (CWL Publishers)

9.9 Review of Council's Services and Organisational Structure

Our leadership

Setting a benchmark for community standards

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

DP14.4 Ensure the long term financial sustainability of council through effective and prudent financial management.

Author: General Manager

Officer's Recommendation:

- 1. That the information regarding a review of council's services or of the organisation structure, due to the impending announcement on the outcomes of the Fit for the Future reforms, be received and noted.**
- 2. That a further report be submitted to this meeting once Bland Shire Council's future has been determined.**

Introduction

Council at its meeting held on 17 November 2015 resolved that I re-examine council's organisational structure with a focus on noncore services and that such report be submitted to the December 2015 meeting.

I understood the urgency at the time as if there were to be any major changes to council's organisational structure; such changes would need to be implemented in conjunction with the preparation of the 2016/17 budget which will commence in February 2016.

However, since the November meeting, every council in NSW has received a letter from the United Service Union (USU) with a endorsement by the NSW Minister for Local Government, warning councils not to use the Fit for the Future reform process as an excuse to instil fear and uncertainty in employees regarding their entitlements or future employment.

Given this advice and the impending decision on the future of Bland Shire Council, which if it is to be a forced amalgamation, any organisational review would become redundant.

However, I would expect that if Bland Shire Council is to stand alone then council would have every right to review its current structure and to undertake a review of service levels and the effectiveness of the delivery of those services.

Consequently, I am preparing a report that should be available on Monday 14 December, for consideration at the December council meeting based on both of the above scenarios.

Conclusion

Council, at this same meeting, will also be considering its options in relation to the introduction of a Special Rate Variation (SRV) which is aimed at increasing council's rate revenue with the associated increase being expended on the Shire's road network.

If a SRV does not proceed then there will be increasing pressure to seriously consider reducing actual existing services, whether they be core or noncore services.

Financial Implications

Nil to this report.

SECTION 3 – CORPORATE, COMMUNITY & DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

9.10 Financial Statements – November 2015

Our leadership

Setting a benchmark for community standards

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

DP14.4 Ensure the long term financial sustainability of Council through effective and prudent financial management.

Author Director Corporate, Community & Development Services

Officer's Recommendation

1. That Council receive and note the statement of Bank Balances, Rates Collections and Investments for the month of November, 2015
2. That Council confirms the payment of accounts, for the period 01 November to 30 November 2015, summarised in the accounts summary totalling \$1,766,494.60

STATEMENT OF BANK BALANCES, RATES COLLECTIONS AND INVESTMENTS FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER, 2015.

BANK BALANCES AS AT 30 NOVEMBER, 2015

ACCOUNT	BALANCE
General Fund	\$2,014,312.74
BCard	\$ 10,145.51
	\$2,024,458.25
Invested Funds	
Fixed Deposits	\$15,200,000.00
Deposits at Call	\$ 983,768.70
	\$16,183,768.70
Net Balance	\$18,208,226.95
Percentage of investment to Net Balance	88.88%

STATEMENT OF BANK BALANCES AS AT 30.11.15
SUBMITTED TO THE ORDINARY MEETING DECEMBER 15, 2015

Balance as at 01.11.15 \$-12,651.56

Add Receipts

For month of November 2015 \$ 3,793,458.90

Includes

Receipt Date.	Receipt Name	Received Total
17/11/2015	Financial Assistance Grant 2 nd Quarter 15/16	\$880,052.50
06/11/2015	RMS Block Grant	\$253,500.00
06/11/2015	Transfer from Cash at Call	\$600,000.00

Less Payments

For month of November 2015 \$1,766.494.60

Includes

Payment Date.	Payee Name	Payment Total
06/11/2015	CJD Equipment – Volvo Grader	\$337.700.00

Cash Balance \$ 2,014,312.74

Limit of Overdraft Arranged with Bank \$ 350,000.00

ACCOUNTS SUMMARY

The following is a summary of accounts paid for the period November 01, 2015 to November 30, 2015.

I CERTIFY,

That the accounts included in the accounts summary and totalling as detailed under:-

Fund		Voucher No.s	Total
Cheques		024708 - 024737	\$ 31,680.28
Auto-pay	Creditors	E006125 – E006386	\$1,299,244.57
Auto-pay	Payroll	08/11 - 22/11	\$ 424,946.20
November Bank Charges & Commission etc			\$3,507.92
Direct Debits		Repayments & Vehicle Lease	\$ 7,115.63
			\$ 1,766,494.60

1. Are fully supported by vouchers and invoices and have been fully registered.
2. The responsible officer concerned has certified that the goods for which respective accounts are submitted have been rendered to order and/or that the services for which respective accounts are submitted have been rendered according to order.
3. Official orders have been issued for the supply of such goods and services. The goods for which respective accounts are submitted have been checked with the entries in the goods order book.
4. The prices and computations of every account are correct.
5. The prices for the goods supplied or services rendered under the contract or quotation in accordance therewith and in all cases the prices charged are according to order and as far as I am able to ascertain fair and reasonable.
6. The provisions of the Local Government Act, 1993 and Regulations in connection therewith have been complied with.

Further I also certify that the Ledger has been reconciled with the bank statements for the last preceding monthly period.

.....
Director of Corporate, Community & Development Services

CERTIFICATE OF GENERAL MANAGER

This accounts summary, a copy of which was submitted to each member of Council on the 15 December 2015, has been checked and is fully supported by vouchers and invoices. These vouchers have been duly certified as to receipt of goods, the rendition of services, to prices and computations, and to costings.

.....
General Manager

CERTIFICATE OF CHAIRMAN OF ORDINARY MEETING

I certify that this accounts summary, covering amounts totalling \$1,766,494.60 was submitted to the Ordinary Meeting on the 15 December 2015 and that the amounts are presented to Council for confirmation of payment.

.....
Chairman of Ordinary Meeting

INVESTMENTS

The following table gives details of Council's Funds invested at 30th November 2015. The funds consist of monies from the Bank Accounts of the Trust Funds, Reserve Accounts, Sewerage Fund and Combined General Account.

DATE	INVESTED WITH WHOM	INVESTED AMOUNT	TERM	YIELD	DATE DUE
05-August-2014	Bank of QLD (Floating Rate Note)	1,000,000.00	731 days	0.95% + BBSW	05-August-2016
02-July-2015	Bank of QLD (Term Deposit)	1,000,000.00	201 days	2.95%	19-January-2016
04-June-2015	NAB (Term Deposit)	1,000,000.00	182 Days	2.95%	03-December-2015
02-November-2015	NAB (Term Deposit)	1,000,000.00	91	2.85%	01-February-2016
23-July-2015	NAB (Term Deposit)	1,000,000.00	183 days	2.97%	22-January-2016
16-November-2015	NAB (Term Deposit)	1,500,000.00	182	2.89%	16-May-2016
01-August-2015	Westpac (Term Deposit)	1,000,000.00	184 days	3.43%	01-February-2016
14-October-2015	Bank of QLD (Term Deposit)	1,000,000.00	154	2.85%	16-March-2016
01-October-2015	NAB (Term Deposit)	1,000,000.00	183	3.00%	01-April-2016
23-October-2015	Bankwest (Term Deposit)	2,000,000.00	123	2.85%	23-February-2016
08-September-2015	Bendigo Bank (Term Deposit)	400,000.00	366 days	2.95%	08-September-2016
08-September-2015	Bendigo Bank (Term Deposit)	400,000.00	366 days	2.95%	08-September-2016
08-September-2015	Bendigo Bank (Term Deposit)	400,000.00	366 days	2.95%	08-September-2016
15-September-2015	Bankwest (Term Deposit)	1,000,000.00	91 days	2.85%	15-December-2015
15-September-2015	Bankwest (Term Deposit)	1,000,000.00	182 days	2.85%	15-March-2016
25-September-2015	People's Choice (Term Deposit)	500,000.00	180 days	2.95%	23-March-2016
	ANZ Deposit at Call	50,724.37	Cash at Call		
	CBA Deposit at Call	933,044.33	Cash at Call		
	TOTAL:	16,183,768.70			

I certify that the above investments have been made in accordance with Section 625 of the Local Government Act 1993, the Regulation and Council's Investment Policies.

I certify that the above investment has been reconciled with Council's General Ledger Accounts.

Director Corporate Community & Development Services

Rating Year From
1/07/2015

Rates Financial Transaction Summary

Period Ending
30/11/2015

	Period To Date					Year To Date				
	Arr. Levy	Arr. Int	Cur. Levy	Cur. Int	Total	Arr. Levy	Arr. Int	Cur. Levy	Cur. Int	Total
Council Total										
** DEBIT **										
	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$554,225.78	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$554,225.78
Credit/Debit Allocation	\$134.40	\$0.00	\$1,538.98	\$393.37	\$2,066.75	\$92,859.09	\$0.00	\$51,736.59	\$1,132.39	\$145,728.07
Fees (i.e. Legal or Dishonour)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,527.20	\$0.00	\$2,527.20	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$19,466.32	\$0.00	\$19,466.32
Interest	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,817.96	\$3,817.96	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,442.23	\$18,361.43	\$21,803.66
Advalorum Levy	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$5,711,969.25	\$0.00	\$5,711,969.25
Base Levy	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$441,106.53	\$0.00	\$441,106.53
Service Levy	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,167,658.00	\$0.00	\$2,167,658.00
Supplementary Levy	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,606.17	\$0.00	\$1,606.17	\$249.49	\$0.00	\$23,995.17	\$0.00	\$24,244.66
Pensioner Rebate Government	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$499.99	\$0.00	\$499.99	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,167.04	\$0.00	\$1,167.04
Pension Rebate Sewer	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$131.25	\$0.00	\$131.25	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$306.24	\$0.00	\$306.24
Receipt via other Agencies	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,052.55	\$0.00	\$804.44	\$15.01	\$1,872.00
Receipt via BPay	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$455.00	\$0.00	\$4,563.29	\$0.00	\$5,018.29
Refund	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$200.00	\$0.00	\$2,272.00	\$0.00	\$2,472.00
Transfer within Module	\$916.86	\$0.00	\$3,019.75	\$0.00	\$3,936.61	\$4,074.65	\$0.00	\$4,383.12	\$0.00	\$8,457.77
Total	\$1,051.26	\$0.00	\$9,323.34	\$4,211.33	\$14,585.93	\$653,116.56	\$0.00	\$8,432,870.22	\$19,508.83	\$9,105,495.61
** CREDIT **										
Credit/Debit Allocation	-\$28.35	\$0.00	-\$2,031.67	-\$6.73	-\$2,066.75	-\$546.16	\$0.00	-\$145,096.31	-\$85.60	-\$145,728.07
Supplementary Levy	\$0.00	\$0.00	-\$396.97	\$0.00	-\$396.97	-\$589.80	\$0.00	-\$30,596.34	\$0.00	-\$31,186.14
Pensioner Rebate Government	\$0.00	\$0.00	-\$499.99	\$0.00	-\$499.99	\$0.00	\$0.00	-\$126,909.31	\$0.00	-\$126,909.31
Pension Rebate Sewer	\$0.00	\$0.00	-\$175.00	\$0.00	-\$175.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	-\$37,391.55	\$0.00	-\$37,391.55
Receipt via other Agencies	-\$2,642.42	\$0.00	-\$3,421.91	-\$53.29	-\$6,117.62	-\$17,875.99	\$0.00	-\$101,482.22	-\$98.02	-\$119,456.23
Receipt via Australia Post	-\$575.05	\$0.00	-\$268,757.35	-\$179.05	-\$269,511.45	-\$26,939.50	\$0.00	-\$821,726.69	-\$413.80	-\$849,079.99
Receipt via BPay	-\$8,623.97	\$0.00	-\$604,208.73	-\$560.40	-\$613,393.10	-\$87,712.27	\$0.00	-\$1,616,902.50	-\$1,162.46	-\$1,705,777.23
Receipt via Direct Deposit	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	-\$150.00	\$0.00	-\$825.00	\$0.00	-\$975.00
Receipt	-\$4,307.36	\$0.00	-\$235,503.29	-\$176.90	-\$239,987.55	-\$82,966.47	\$0.00	-\$1,904,811.15	-\$496.29	-\$1,988,273.91
Receipt via Payroll	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	-\$436.07	\$0.00	-\$19,148.78	-\$5.15	-\$19,590.00
Transfer external to Module	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	-\$478.50	\$0.00	-\$478.50
Transfer within Module	\$0.00	\$0.00	-\$3,542.00	-\$394.61	-\$3,936.61	-\$1,189.13	\$0.00	-\$6,166.87	-\$1,101.77	-\$8,457.77
Write Off Balance	\$0.00	\$0.00	-\$0.28	-\$29.23	-\$29.51	-\$5.03	\$0.00	-\$9.17	-\$80.72	-\$94.92
Total	-\$16,177.15	\$0.00	-\$1,118,537.19	-\$1,400.21	-\$1,136,114.55	-\$218,410.42	\$0.00	-\$4,811,544.39	-\$3,443.81	-\$5,033,398.62
Group Total	-\$15,125.89	\$0.00	-\$1,109,213.85	\$2,811.12	-\$1,121,528.62	\$434,706.14	\$0.00	\$3,621,325.83	\$16,065.02	\$4,072,096.99

9.11 Reg Rattey VC Memorial Update

Our people

Our greatest and most important asset

Vision: A strong, healthy, connected and cohesive community

DP3. – Nurture a strong sense of community and enrich the cultural life for the residents of the Bland Shire

Author: Personal Assistant

Officer's Recommendation:

That the information regarding the progress with the Reg Rattey VC Memorial be received and noted.

Introduction

Based on the Council resolution Brett Garling be appointed as the successful artist for the Reg Rattey VC memorial, the appointment was made and Mr Garling has commenced work to achieve the stated timeframes.

Mr Garling's proposal of a life size bronze, showing Mr Rattey in action, Bren gun at the hip while poised to throw the grenade has been developed in clay utilising Rob Rattey as a model in addition to the photographic information Mr Garling is utilising.

The project is progressing well as evidence in the photographs below provided by Mr Garling.





Preparations for the public launch have begun, with official invitations being sent to the Governor General and Prime Minister of Australia along with the Minister of Defence, state and regional leaders, and heads of the Australian Army, Royal Australian Navy and Australian Air Force.

Save the date cards have been sent to appropriate organisations, community groups and schools within the Shire.

Contact has been made with the Australian Army Band Kapooka to perform at the public launch with confirmation yet to be received.

Conclusion

The Reg Ratty VC Memorial project is progressing well and as the project progresses, further information will be provided to Council.

Financial Implications

Nil to this report.

SECTION 4 – ASSET & ENGINEERING SERVICES

9.12 Consultant Review of Engineering Services and Works Efficiency

Our infrastructure

Reviewing, renewing & improving our core community assets

Vision: Maintaining and improving the Shire's assets and infrastructure in a changing climate

11. Ensure that public places and facilities are well maintained and easily accessible to foster community pride in their infrastructure

Author: Director Assets and Engineering Services

Officer's Recommendation

That the report be received and noted.

Background

Bland Shire Council recently commissioned an investigation by Jeff Roorda and Associates into a review of Engineering Services and Works Efficiency.

The interim report has now been submitted (the report is yet to include the Appendix data) and the key findings are:

- 1 Council's unit costs for renewal activities (resheeting and resealing) are at the lower end of comparable benchmark rates for REROC:RAMROC and similar rural councils indicating unit service costs are effective and efficient comparable with similar Councils.
- 2 Plant utilisation costs and plant management practises are good compared to similar councils.
- 3 Allocation of expenditure and work practises are comparable with similar councils.
- 4 There is a perception from what appears to be a small section of the community that council service levels and efficiency is not satisfactory. This does not align with available evidence.

Therefore the Engineering Services effectiveness and efficiency is equal or better than the surrounding and similar councils.

The consultant also indicated opportunities for improvement

A Quarterly plant utilisation and plant life cycle unit costs – Regular reporting to works staff on comparative utilisation rates and unit costs can provide feedback on service costs and set targets for improving efficiency in unit service costs.

Comment – Utilisation rates are already used and reported to staff and in this way we gauge the amount of use. If rates continue to be low, we discuss the issue to determine the benefit of keeping the plant compared with the costs. In this way we have got rid of some plant in the past and have identified plant to purchase. The method of putting these rates together is not sophisticated and could be finetuned, but it is considered that there would be little advantage in the outcomes for the money spent to do the fine tuning. Unit costs – The Workshop and Plant Coordinator puts these together every year in order to set the internal hire rates, which is then reported to each user. It could be done quarterly but it is time consuming and the benefit of doing it is not considered worth the cost of staff time.

B Current data is not sufficiently accurate to enable reporting on unit life cycle costs (\$/unit/year).

Comment – This is understood and we have been working to make them more accurate, but in the current economic climate this is difficult. It is based on \$/sq metre for roadwork (resealing, resheeting, etc); useful life; risk levels; and service levels. All these factors are currently in a state of flux, for instance Councils are challenging the standard useful life used by the industry for roads because of how it effects depreciation and how many of the roads last a lot longer than previously forecasted. In this current climate, the current benchmarks used will have to suffice for forecasting.

C Quarterly reporting on customer service requests – council has good systems but these are still not fully implemented and sufficient resources need to be provided to fully implement asset management and customer request systems.

Comment – This is understood, but, at this time, it is considered the expense of putting on more resources is not economically viable.

D Adverse backlog results can be improved by community consultation on acceptable service levels.

Comment - Bland Shire Council is currently doing this through its Integrated Planning and Reporting engagement.

E Benefit cost analysis should be done on the lifecycle costs of the use of polycom or equivalent stabilisation compared with gravel resheeting.

Comment – The Asset and Engineering Services started to do this but soon came to the realisation we did not know the fundamental fact of “where does polycom work”. In some areas the roads are still in good condition and in some areas they broke up fairly quickly. It seemed to be a combination of the soil in the area; the type of base material already there; the amount of water needed for each material; and some other unknown factors. The asset and engineering section has been trying to find out the answers and from this predict where it works and the best predicted life value. From this a benefit cost analysis can be put together and compared to the benefit cost analysis for gravel resheeting.

Conclusion

It be noted that the report indicates that Bland Shire Council is currently working efficiently and effectively. The Asset and Engineering Department will continue to explore all avenues to increase both efficiency and effectiveness into the future.

Financial Implications

None.

9.13 Water Street Car Park

Our infrastructure *Reviewing, renewing & improving our core community assets*

Vision: Maintaining and improving the Shire's assets and infrastructure in a changing climate

11. Ensure that public places and facilities are well maintained and easily accessible to foster community pride in their infrastructure

Author: Director Assets and Engineering Services

Officer's Recommendation:

That the refurbishment of the Water street car park be part of the 2016 - 2017 funding determinations.

Background

On the 17 November, 2015, council adopted a new layout for the Water Street car park. In general the new layout consists of:

- Removal of the entry/exit in Water Street, the entry exit will now be via the laneway;
- The re-location of the trees in the centre of the car park.
- Removal of approximately 3 m of the garden bed adjacent to the lane to widen the lane entry to the car park.

The new layout gives 7 caravan/trailer parking spots; 23 car parking spots; and 3 disabled spots

Works to be undertaken are: The removal of the Water Street entry /exit which is to be replaced by a garden edge strip with garden; the removal of approximately three metres of garden bed adjacent to the laneway; the resurfacing of the car park; new line marking; and some concrete grinding at the exit to Shire Street to stop some of the caravans scrapping.

The cost of these works is estimated at \$35,300.

Council has allocated \$10,000 to car parks for the 2015 – 2016 financial year. \$4,000 of this is for paying leases and most of the rest has been used for works on the IGA car park to make it suitable for lease.

The options to fund these works are:

To postpone the works to the 2016 – 2017 financial year or to provide funds from the 2015 -2016 budget.

The current 2015 – 2016 budget is in a balanced condition with no extra funds built in. If the Council want to complete the car park works in the 2015 – 2016 then the funds will have to be generated by reducing works elsewhere. From the Asset and Engineering budget it would be recommended that the monies be funded from the \$50,000 allocated to the Main Street works. Otherwise Council would have to allocate elsewhere from the budget it would like the funds to come from.

Conclusion

The Council determine whether these works are to be funded in 2016 – 2017 or 2015 – 2016. If the works are to be funded in 2015 – 2016 then the Council are to determine the source of funds within the current budget.

Financial Implications

None

9.14 West Wyalong Caravan Park

Our infrastructure *Reviewing, renewing & improving our core community assets*

Vision: Maintaining and improving the Shire's assets and infrastructure in a changing climate

11. Ensure that public places and facilities are well maintained and easily accessible to foster community pride in their infrastructure

Author: Director Assets and Engineering Services

Officer's Recommendation:

- 1. That Bland Shire Council grant Jamie Shane Adams and Jodi Maree Martin a five (5) year extension of their lease for the West Wyalong Caravan park so that the lease termination date will be 30 June, 2025.**
- 2. That the lease be market reviewed in 2015 and every two years thereafter.**

Background

On 1 July, 2010, Bland Shire Council signed a ten year lease with Gordon Richard Hughes and Joan May Hughes for the operation of the West Wyalong Caravan Park. The main financial terms were for a set agreed fee which was (is) payable quarterly in advance and market reviewed every two years from the commencing date.

On 8 February, 2012, the lease was taken over by Jamie Shane Adams and Jodi Maree Martin.

Jamie Shane Adams and Jodi Maree Martin have now requested on 16 November, 2015, that the lease be further extended by 30 years from the termination date. This they state "Would bring them in line with other accommodation leases and will give us security of Tenure with regard to our business". If granted, this would mean that the lease that was due to terminate on 30 June, 2020, would now terminate on 30 June, 2050.

In the past Bland Shire Council has granted leases that are too long to capitalise on commercial advantage and market movements. It is considered that Bland Shire Council should not extend the lease by 30 years. Since Jamie Shane Adams and Jodi Maree Martin took over the lease in 2012 this gave them eight (8) years before the end of the lease. It would seem more appropriate to extend the lease by 5 years after the termination date so that they would have a ten year lease from 2015.

Since no market rate review was done in 2014, a market rate appraisal should be done in 2015 and applied to the lease, and this market rate appraisal be done every two years from 2015.

Conclusion

It would seem most appropriate to extend the termination date of the lease by five (5) years.

Financial Implications

None

9.15 New Proposed Rural Fire Service Shed – Deed of Agreement with Property Owners

Our infrastructure

Reviewing, renewing & improving our core community assets

Vision: Maintaining and improving the Shire's assets and infrastructure in a changing climate

11.1 "Ensure users of Council facilities enter into agreements"

Author: Senior Asset Management Officer

Officer's Recommendation:

That Council authorise the General Manager to sign and seal the following Deeds made in relation to the erection of a Rural Fire Service Sheds on private lands:

- 1. Clear Ridge Station– Lot 46 DP 753084 Portion 1 and 2 (Owner Dan Mangelsdorf)**
- 2. Blow Clear Station– Lot 14 DP 753072 Portion 1 and 2 (Owner Jeff Gould)**

Introduction

The Rural Fire Service (RFS) have negotiated agreements with individual property owners to erect purpose built sheds to house RFS fire tankers. The Rural Fires Act 1997 and subsequent regulations laden the responsibility of RFS buildings onto Council, therefore Council is required to enter any Deed of agreement on behalf of the RFS.

Deeds have been prepared and the portion for each leased area is clearly defined in these individual documents. Right of carriageways have been created to gain legal access to the leased area. Details of the proposed Deeds are shown in Table 1 below:

Table 1

Station Name	Property Owner	Lot and DP	Portion
Clear Ridge Station	Dan Mangelsdorf	Lot 46 DP 753084	1 & 2
Blow Clear Station	Jeff Gould	Lot 14 DP 753072	1 & 2

The RFS have indicated that this will be an ongoing program to be implemented when funding becomes available. All costs associated with the construction of the sheds will be borne by the RFS.

Conclusion

At this stage Council is still responsible for RFS buildings although a review of this responsibility is ongoing in State Government. The General Manager needs to have authorisation to sign and seal the prepared deeds on behalf of Council.

Financial Implications

The agreed lease terms are \$1.00 per annum for a period of 25 years. There is also a requirement for Council to 'make good' the site if either party rescinds this Deed, which may borne additional funds onto Council.

9.16 Bland Shire Traffic Advisory Committee

Our infrastructure

Reviewing, renewing & improving our core community assets

Vision: Maintaining and improving the Shire's assets and infrastructure in a changing climate

11. Ensure that public places and facilities are well maintained and easily accessible to foster community pride in their infrastructure

Author: Director Asset & Engineering Services

Officer's Recommendation:

That Council adopt the attached Bland Shire Traffic Advisory Committee minutes for the meeting held on 1 December 2015.

Introduction

As per the Roads and Maritime Services guidelines the Bland Shire Traffic Advisory Committee meets on a regular basis to recommend to Council actions regarding road matters. The minutes of the meeting held on 1 December 2015 are attached and individual matters requiring determination by Council are provided as separate reports.

MINUTES OF THE BLAND SHIRE TRAFFIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 1 DECEMBER, 2015 COMMENCING AT 10.30 AM.

Present Neil Pokoney – Mayor and Chairperson – Bland Shire Council, Will Marsh, Director Engineering - Bland Shire Council, Fazlul Hoque - Roads and Maritime Services, Liz McGlynn - Local Member representative, Peter Grellman – Council alternate, Michelle Doolan – Road Safety Officer and Colleen Dore – minutes.

Neil welcomed all in attendance especially Faz and Michelle.

1. Local Traffic Committee Powers

The Committee noted the attachment to the agenda in relation to the powers of the Traffic Committee – Faz also spoke on the powers in relation to RMS approvals. It was noted that both related RMS'S "A Guide to the Delegation to Councils for Regulation of Traffic".

2. Disabled Parking Spot in Dumaresq Street at West Wyalong Public School

The Committee adopted that a new disabled parking spot be created in Dumaresq Street at the location shown on the attached plans.

Neil submitted a non-pecuniary interest in the matter.

Michelle spoke about painting on the road and to make sure that the correct paint is used as a class action against Aldi had taken place in relation to this.

3. White Tank – Kurrajong Street

The Committee decided to leave the speed zone as is and that Council monitor the area.

4. Sight Distance at Corner of Grenfell and Main Streets

The Committee discussed the signage and the site distance on the corner of Grenfell and Main Streets, and it was decided that a formal request be made to the RMS to place a "No Stopping" sign 20 metres up from the Grenfell Street intersection in front of the White Tank Hotel.

At this stage 10.40 pm Neil left the meeting and the chair was taken over by Liz.

Neil stated before leaving that he supported both resolutions as stated in Items 4 and

5.

5. 2 Hour Parking Neeld Street, Wyalong

The Committee discussed the request and it was decided that there was no need for any change at the present time.

6. General Business

a) 50 kph at Barmedman on the Temora side

Liz asked the Faz if there was any way that the 50 kph sign could be moved closer to Barmedman, Faz said that there was a need to check how far from the railway line the sign needs to be. He asked that a formal request be sent to the RMS for consideration. Will said that he will attend to this.

b) Gophers

Michelle said that she would be running a Motorised Scooters Workshop in the New Year. She also spoke about gopher rules. A letter drop was discussed in relation to getting information about gopher regulations.

Termination of Meeting

There being no further business the meeting then terminated...

N.B. Police representative has agreed with resolutions.

9.17 Disabled Parking Spot in Dumaresq Street at the West Wyalong Public School

Our infrastructure *Reviewing, renewing & improving our core community assets*

Vision: Maintaining and improving the Shire's assets and infrastructure in a changing climate

11. Ensure that public places and facilities are well maintained and easily accessible to foster community pride in their infrastructure

Author: Director Assets and Engineering Services

Local Traffic Advisory Committee Recommendation:

That a new disabled parking spot be created in Dumaresq Street at the location shown on the plan.

Officer's Recommendation to the Local Traffic Advisory Committee

That a new disabled parking spot be created in Dumaresq Street at the location shown on the attached plan.

Background

Council has received representations from the principle of the West Wyalong Public School regarding the placement of a designated disabled spot.

The Principle states, in part, “—it has come to our attention that we will be enrolling a special needs student into Kindergarten in 2016. --- The student is blind and has very limited mobility and will require the use of a wheelchair. --- “

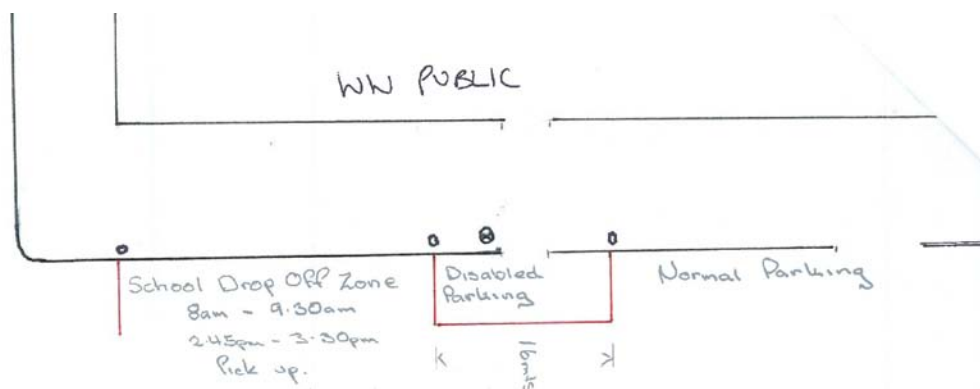
Meetings were held on site with the Principle and an appropriate location was selected for the proposed disabled spot. The location is shown on the attached plan.

Conclusion

The Council construct new disabled parking spot adjacent to the school in Dumaresq Street

Financial Implications

None



9.18 “No Stopping” Sign East of Grenfell Street

Our infrastructure *Reviewing, renewing & improving our core community assets*

Vision: Maintaining and improving the Shire's assets and infrastructure in a changing climate

11. Ensure that public places and facilities are well maintained and easily accessible to foster community pride in their infrastructure

Author: Director Assets and Engineering Services

Officer's Recommendation:

That representations be made to the Road and Maritime Services to allow Council to erect a “No Stopping” sign in front of the White Tank Hotel which would preclude stopping within 20 metres of the Grenfell Street intersection.

Background

Council has received representations regarding the sight distance when exiting Grenfell Street at Main Street. The assertion was that due to the large trucks parking in front of White Tank Hotel, traffic travelling in a westerly direction could not be seen. It was stated that even though Main Street has a centre line, if a vehicle pulled out turning east out of Grenfell Street and another vehicle was travelling west and over the centre line there would be an accident and this could not be avoided due to the lack of sight distance.

The matter was investigated. Firstly it was noticed that on occasions trucks travelling east along Main Street in this area are indeed on or over the centre line. It was also confirmed that, if a truck was parked close to the corner in front of the White Tank Hotel, a vehicle turning west into Main Street had limited sight distance.

Since this is located on a State Road the matter has to be referred to the RMS for approval. The matter was discussed at the Local Traffic Advisory Committee and it was recommended that Bland Shire Council request the RMS to give approval to erect a “No Stopping” sign in front of the White Tank Hotel which would preclude stopping within 20 metres of the Grenfell Street intersection.

Conclusion

A “No Stopping” sign be erected in front of the White Tank Hotel to the east of Grenfell Street and representations be made to the RMS to this effect.

Financial Implications

None.

SECTION 5 – REPORTS FOR INFORMATION

Officer's Recommendation:

That the following reports, provided for information only, be received and noted:

- **9.19 Asset & Engineering Services Report**
- **9.20 Community Services Report**
- **9.21 Bland Shire Library Monthly Update**
- **9.22 Children Services Monthly Update**
- **9.23 Bland HACC Services Update**
- **9.24 Development Services Activities/Statistics for November 2015**
- **9.25 Economic Development & Tourism Report – December**

9.19 Asset & Engineering Services Report

Our infrastructure *Reviewing, renewing & improving our core community assets*

Vision: Maintaining and improving the Shire's assets and infrastructure in a changing climate

13. Ensure that public places and facilities are well maintained and easily accessible.

Author: Director – Engineering Services

Introduction

The following work was carried out:-

1. NATIONAL AND STATE ROAD MAINTENANCE

- Routine maintenance as per single invitation contract carried out on MR57 South and SH17.
- Bitumen patching carried out on SH17.

2. REGIONAL ROADS MAINTENANCE

- Bitumen patching carried out on MR231 and MR57 north
- Heavy patching carried out on MR231.

3. SHIRE ROADS MAINTENANCE

- Bitumen patching carried out on the following;
 - Blow Clear Road
 - Quandialla Road
 - Gubbatta Road
 - Kikoira Road
 - Clear Ridge Road
 - Dundas Road
- Gravel Patching
 - Clear Ridge Road
- Gravel Resheeting
 - Lewes Road
 - Euratha Road
- Kirpy Programme
 - Gunn Road
- The rehabilitation of the washed out causeway on Clear Ridge Road has been completed.
- Guide posting has been done on a number of rural sealed roads, minor gravel patching and drainage works has been done on a number of unsealed roads within the shire.
- Fire breaks are being graded in all towns and villages.

4. VILLAGE MAINTENANCE

- All parks mown and tidied
- Village main streets swept and rubbish removed
- Trees trimmed and fallen branches picked up
- Village entrances and streets mown and trimmed
- All village park play grounds inspected for safety
- Irrigation checks carried out at Barmedman, Tallimba, Ungarie and Mirrool
- Tallimba park irrigation repairs completed

5. PARK MAINTENANCE

- McCann park, Barnado park and small parks and areas mown, trimmed and maintained
- Council chambers and H.A.C.C Maintenance carried out
- Aero drome slashing and Maintenance work carried out
- Barnado park has had water pipe line repairs carried out
- Clean up at Parks and gardens depot
- McCann park prepared for Saturday markets

6. OVALS MAINTENANCE

- Maintenance to sporting ovals and surrounds
- Maintenance to lawn and monument cemetery
- Maintenance to Herridge park, Cooinda park, Rotary park and Wyalong court house
- Cooinda park tree watering carried out
- Line marking for athletics, Cricket and touch football
- Ovals and pump sheds irrigation checks carried out

7. TOWN MAINTENANCE

- Main street gardens tidied, watered and replanted
- Star lane cleaned and tidied
- Town areas mown and trimmed
- Town trees trimmed and watered when needed
- Small pot holes repaired in roads
- Clean out town drains
- West Wyalong and Wyalong spraying on nature strips carried out
- Water street car park maintenance
- Supplied traffic control for funerals and road works in town

8. NOXIOUS WEEDS/ENVIRONMENTAL

- Inspections were carried out on private property, Rail corridors and Grain handling sites for the presence of Spiny Burr Grass, and St John's Wort.
- Contract hazard reduction work was carried out on Crown Land blocks.
- Staff undertook First Aid Training.
- The following noxious weeds and other controls were undertaken:
 - Spiny Burr Grass – West Wyalong town area, Clear Ridge Road.
 - St John's Wort – Lake Road, Monument Flats, Hatelys Lane.
 - Roadside vegetation control of shoulders (Mow) – West Wyalong-Condobolin Road, Bygoo Road, Aria Park Road, Mary Gilmore Way, Kildary Road, Williams Crossing, Warbilla Road, Greens Lane, Blow Clear Road, Bonehams Road,
 - General Weed Control – Wyalong Lanes.
 - Bushfire Hazard Reduction work – Tallimba, West Wyalong, and Wyalong.
 - Site distance work carried out on intersections on: Wamboyne Road, Hatelys Lane, Girral Road.

9.20 Community Services Report

Our people

Our greatest and most important asset

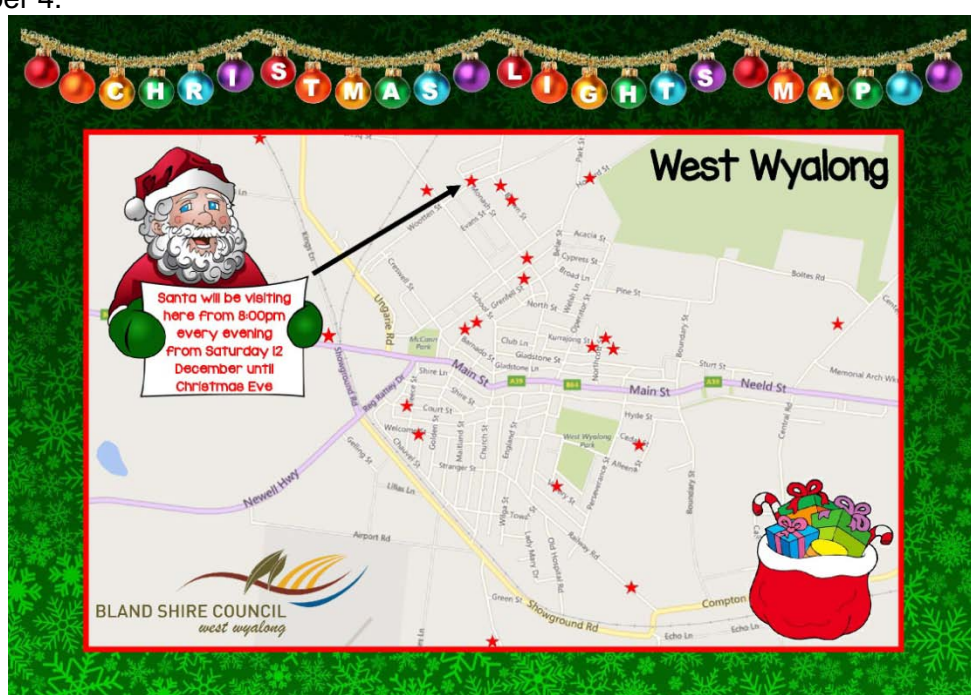
Vision: A strong, healthy, connected and cohesive community

DP3. Nurture a strong sense of community and enrich the cultural life for the residents of the Bland Shire

Author: Community Development Officer and Community Relations Officer

Christmas lights map

Bland Shire Council once again compiled a Christmas lights map this year depicting many of the spectacular Christmas lights displays in Wyalong and West Wyalong. At the request of Business West Wyalong, the map was launched and distributed at the Christmas carnival on December 4.



Christmas lights tour

Bland Shire Council has revived an old local Christmas tradition in 2015 by arranging a community bus tour to view the Christmas lights displays throughout West Wyalong and Wyalong. Buses will leave McCann Park at 8.30pm on Tuesday 22 December. Kelly's Coaches have donated the use of their buses and drivers at no cost for the night which has allowed Council to offer the service free of charge.

Southern Phone Grants

A total of six submissions were received from within the Bland Shire community for the Southern Phone Grants Scheme. Southern phone has made \$25,000 in grants available to fund community based projects within the Bland Shire. The successful applicants will be announced in January.

The objective of the Southern Phone Grants Scheme is to provide funding for projects which provide a direct benefit to the community within the Council area and projects which would not usually be funded by Council in its normal course of business. Southern Phone is owned entirely by 41 local Council shareholders, including Bland Shire Council.

International Day of People with Disability

Bland Shire Council held a morning tea to celebrate International Day of People with a Disability at Café Peckish on 3 December. Guest speaker for the event was Sarah Gillett who shared her plans to establish a Riding for the Disabled Centre in West Wyalong. A public meeting will be held in February to gauge community support. The event also featured the presentation of Access Awards to House of Fashion and the West Wyalong Medical Centre in recognition of recent initiatives to improve access to their Main Street premises. The day was well attended by a cross section of the community and delivered an important community message.



Australia Day

Nominations for the Bland Shire Australia Day Awards closed on 27 November. This year's awards attracted an increased number of nominations including eight high quality nominees for Citizen of the Year. The Australia Day Council has announced Paralympic swimmer Matthew Levy as the Bland Shire's 2016 Australia Day Ambassador. Mr Levy will deliver his Ambassador address at the Lions Club Australia Day breakfast in McCann Park on 26 January. Pending his schedule and availability, he will also attend celebrations in at least one of the Bland Shire villages.

Elite Athlete grant

Weethalle Public School student Samantha Rutledge is the latest recipient of a Bland Shire Council Elite Athlete grant. After blitzing the opposition at regional, zone and state level, Samantha travelled to Canberra earlier this month to represent New South Wales in high jump at the Australia PSSA athletics championships.

Altina Wildlife Park adventure

Following the huge popularity of the previous trip to Altina Wildlife Life Park, Bland Shire Council is planning another trip to the park in Darlington Point on Friday 22 January for a jam packed safari adventure. Numerous native and exotic animals can be observed roaming open styled enclosures situated on the banks of the Murray River. Following the safari adventure we are making a detour to Griffith for lunch at McDonalds and some time at Griffith City Water Park for a much needed cool off.

9.21 Bland Shire Library Monthly Update

Our people

Our greatest and most important asset

Vision: A strong, healthy, connected and cohesive community

DP 3.4 Monitor and provide up to date and relevant resources and programs within the library

DP 4.4 Provide and monitor quality library services to the aged, people with disability, young people and families

Author: Senior Library Assistant

Summer Reading Club

The Library recently launched its 2015-16 Summer Reading Club program which officially runs from December 1 – January 31.

The program which is FREE to school children aged 5 – 16 years aims to encourage a continued love of reading and ongoing multi-literacy skills development in children and young people during the summer holidays.

The theme this year is Lost Worlds and a variety of activities has been planned for registered members to enjoy. There are weekly draws, a lolly guessing competition, craft and games, cooking, a themed night-time event and much, much more!

Participants receive prizes along the way as an incentive for reading. The more books they read, the more prizes they win!

Thus far over 100 children have registered for the SRC program with more registrations anticipated. This year the Library is very pleased to have received sponsorship from the L & R Group, NewsXpress West Wyalong and Melbourne based company Sound Text Media.



Collection Maintenance

Weeding of the collection was recently undertaken by RRL staff. The process is a critical part of collection maintenance to ensure that the RRL regional collection is kept fresh, relevant and up-to-date. Robert Knight, Executive Director, Riverina Regional Library extended his gratitude to Bland Shire Library staff for being welcoming, positive and helpful.

Additional Outreach Service

Bland Shire library is currently looking at setting up on a trial basis a Pop Up library at Holland Park Pool which would operate over the summer months. Pop Ups are an increasing trend. By definition, a Pop Up is when a business, government, university, community group, individual or brand temporarily activates a place or space for the promotion and sharing of resources. The key element for Pop Ups is discovery. Ultimately, it helps communities discover new ways to engage, interact and progress.

Storytime

The final Storytime for 2015 will be held on Thursday 10th December @ 10 am with the highlight being a visit by Santa. Storytime will resume in February 2016.

In the meantime, the library has been extremely busy spreading Christmas cheer!



Baby Bounce

The final Baby Bounce for 2015 will be held on Friday 11th December 2015 @ 10.30 am. Baby Bounce will resume in February 2016.

Knit and Natter

A Christmas afternoon tea will be held in the library on Tuesday 15th December 2015 @ 2 pm for Knit and Natter members and their invited guests. Library staff will take the opportunity to thank the group for another wonderful year of creative knitting and for their charitable work. The group will meet again in January 2016.

Other Programs and Services

- The library's Day Book Club which meets the first Monday of each month @ 10.30 am will hold its last meeting for 2015 in December and reconvene next year in February.
- The library's resident writers group Words Work will hold its last meeting for 2015 on Friday 18th December @ 10.30 am and reconvene in January.
- All regular services will continue as normal up to 24th December 2015 when the library will close for the Christmas/New Year period. All regular services will resume on opening 4th January 2016.

Conclusion

The Library team continue to provide quality services meeting both the requirements under the NSW Library Act, Council's policies and procedures and Integrated Planning and Reporting outcomes.

Financial Implications

Nil

9.22 Children Services Monthly Update

Our people

Our greatest and most important asset

Vision: A strong, healthy, connected and cohesive community

DP 4.5 - Provide quality and affordable Family Day Care, Mobile Resource Unit, Vacation Care and Preschool services

Author: CSU Coordinators

Mobile Resource Unit, Playgroup & Ungarie Preschool

Playgroup is finishing up for the year with preparations for end of year Christmas parties for all of the mobile venues.

All families will be provided with a copy of their photos from the year as well as a photo calendar.

Ungarie Preschool children are looking forward to a visit from Santa, who will be bringing them a small gift and a portfolio of learning stories observed by staff throughout the year.

Vacation Care

Christmas and January Vacation Care programs are currently being advertised.

Bland/Temora Family Day Care

Meetings have been held with the Temora Council to discuss the retention and recruitment of educators in the Temora Shire, with an agreement to collaborate to establish a proposal on recruitment strategy in Temora being made.

Staff visited some alternate venues to hold play sessions in Temora next year following Temora Shire Council's decision to close Baker Street premises in January 2016. Meetings have been held with the educators to inform them of the changes and to include their input in the decision making process of the service.

All policies are currently under review with a new 'Safe sleep and rest' policy under development.

Christmas themed crafts have proved very popular this month. Both the West Wyalong and Temora play sessions will finish next month with a playgroup in the park planned for Temora children and a CSU playgroup at West Wyalong. Santa has planned on visiting both sessions.

It takes a village (ITAV)

This month the families that attend the ITAV programs were offered a variety of activities including a Meditation workshop -by Vicki O'Leary and soap and reed diffuser making.

Harvest is still currently affecting attendance numbers.

Preschool

Term four is quickly coming to an end and what a fantastic and busy term it has been. All the children have completed their school orientation days and will be having their end of year Christmas parties with a visit from Santa in the coming weeks. This is a bitter sweet time for preschool educators it has been a pleasure and a privilege to see the children's personalities unfold day by day and watching how they have developed in their learning.

Three staff attended an environments workshop on Saturday 14 November. The workshop was held by a training organisation called 'The Puzzles Connection'. The vision of The Puzzles Connection is to empower educators through sharing ideas, resources, professional development and anything else found that may be of use.

The children recently attended HACC services to perform a number of songs which included singing and dancing, this was extremely well done and the children enjoyed getting out in the community and they definitely like to perform. Thank you to D Hardwick and staff for hosting such a wonderful event.

Our 2016 enrolments are on track with vacancies still available in both 3 year old and 4 year old classes. All acceptance letters for 2016 enrolments have been sent out to families.

Our enrolments for term four, 2015 continue to be at 100%. All five preschool classes are very full and healthy this term.

Preschool will finish for the year on Thursday 17 December. Preschool staff will resume on Monday 25 January 2016, with Term one classes commencing Wednesday 27 January 2016.



9.23 Bland HACC Services Update

Our people

Our greatest and most important asset

Vision: A strong, healthy, connected and cohesive community

DP 1 – Ensure health and support services and facilities address the physical, mental and general health needs of the community

Author: Community Care Coordinator

Bland Shire Council held a very successful Aged Care Expo at the Community Care Centre on Ungarie Road on Friday 13 November 2015. Feedback from community members attending was positive and all who attended seemed to get something from the day. Positive feedback was received from all stall holders with limited need for improvement.

The biennial event is due again in 2017 however some stall holders requested we host another expo again next year.

Bland Shire Council hosted a mini expo earlier in the year, in conjunction with Seniors Week and we will investigate the need to hold another mini expo again next year, giving stall holders the opportunity to showcase their services. During this expo Bland Community Care Centre invite and promote services within the shire, however will investigate the need to showcase services further afield.



My Aged Care

With the introduction of the My Aged Care website we are receiving more referrals and services are increasing in most areas. The new Occupational Therapist for Bland Shire has commenced and this will help to improve services in the area.

Christmas

Wednesday Activity Day held a great Christmas party for clients on Wednesday 2 December 2015 with the children from the preschool performing a number of songs for the group. We invited members from all Bland Community Care Services groups to attend and the day was very successful with all clients commenting on what a wonderful day they had. Christmas celebrations are continuing for the other groups throughout December.

Christmas Shut Down

Bland Home and Community Care Service will only be closed for the public holidays as clients continue to need service over this period.

9.24 Development Services Activities/Statistics for November 2015

Our leadership

Setting a benchmark for community standards

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

DP17. Lead the community by example with sustainable, effective, efficient and customer focused practices

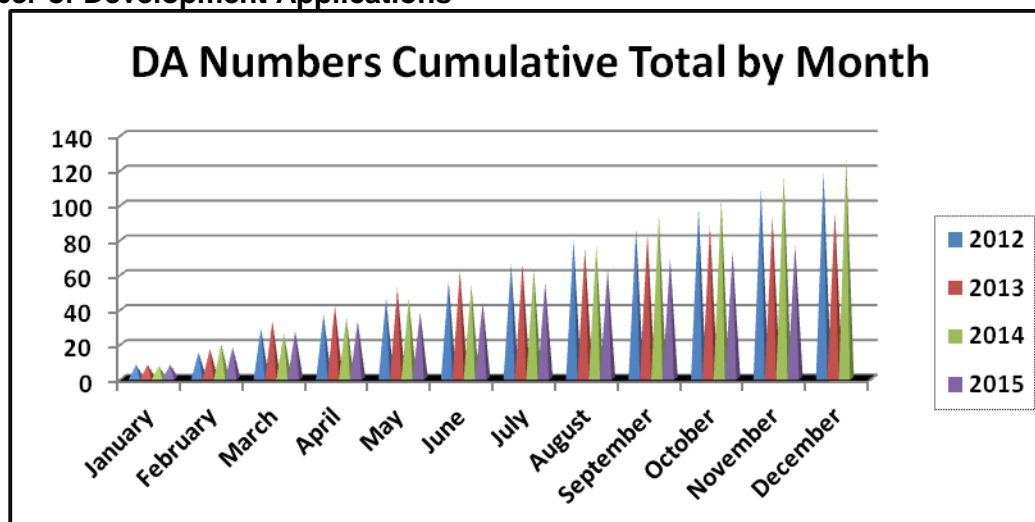
Author: Manager Development Services

Development Applications

The value of development applications received by Council during November 2015 is detailed in the following table.

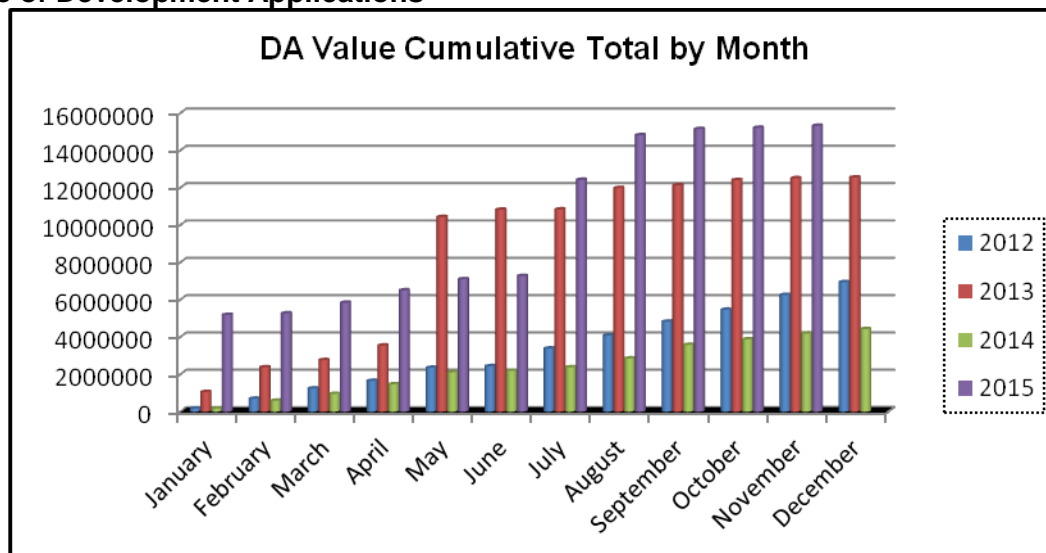
Development Type	Current Year			
	November 2015		Year to Date 1.01.15 30.11.15	
	Number	Value \$	Number	Value \$
Residential	3	110,000	38	2,341,750
Industrial	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Commercial	Nil	Nil	25	12,833,100
Rural Residential	Nil	Nil	1	150,000
Subdivisions	Nil	Nil	3	Nil
Other	1	0	10	Nil
TOTAL	4	110,000	77	15,324,850

Number of Development Applications



This graph details the cumulative number of development applications received by month comparing 2012 to 2015.

Value of Development Applications



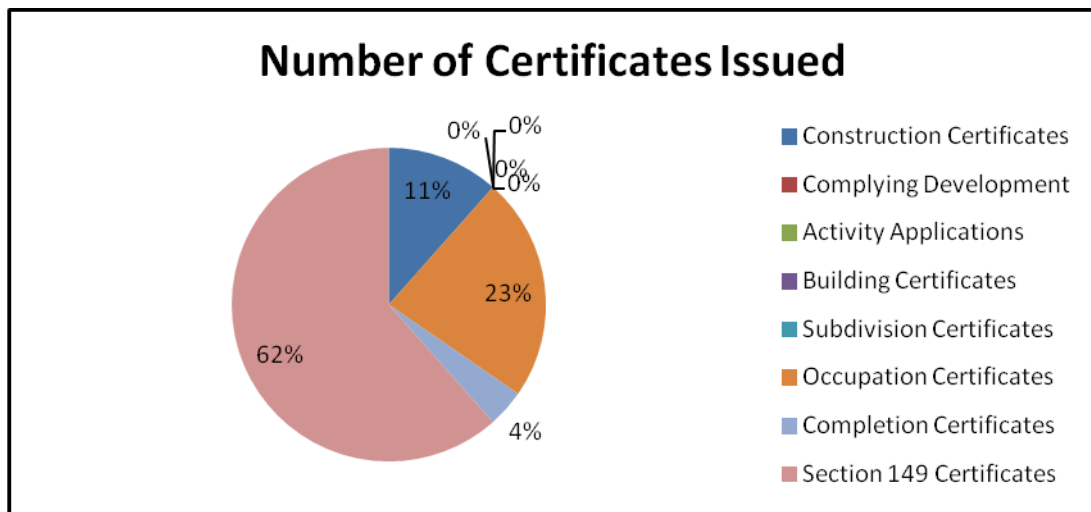
This graph details the cumulative value of development applications received by month comparing 2012 to 2015.

The following Development Applications were determined all by approval during November 2015:

App No.	Property	Development
DA2015/0124	13594 Newell Highway, West Wyalong	Storage shed
DA2015/0134	124 Main Street, West Wyalong	Change of use from commercial to a dental practice
DA2015/0135	34 Court Street, West Wyalong	Storage shed
DA2015/0136	17 Wilga Street, West Wyalong	Pergola
DA2015/0138	38 Maitland Street, West Wyalong	Enclose verandah and a new deck

Certificates issued during November 2015:

Certificate Type	Number Issued
Construction Certificates	3
Complying Development Certificates	Nil
Activity Applications	Nil
Building Certificates	Nil
Subdivision Certificates	Nil
Occupation Certificates	6
Completion Certificates	1
Section 149 Certificates	16



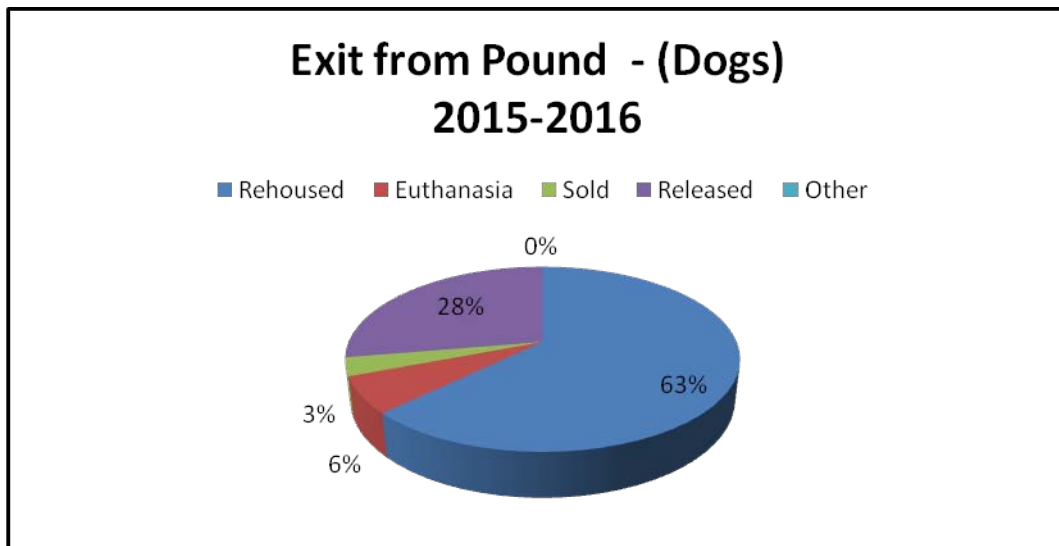
Companion Animal Activities

The following table summarises the management of companion animals during November 2015:

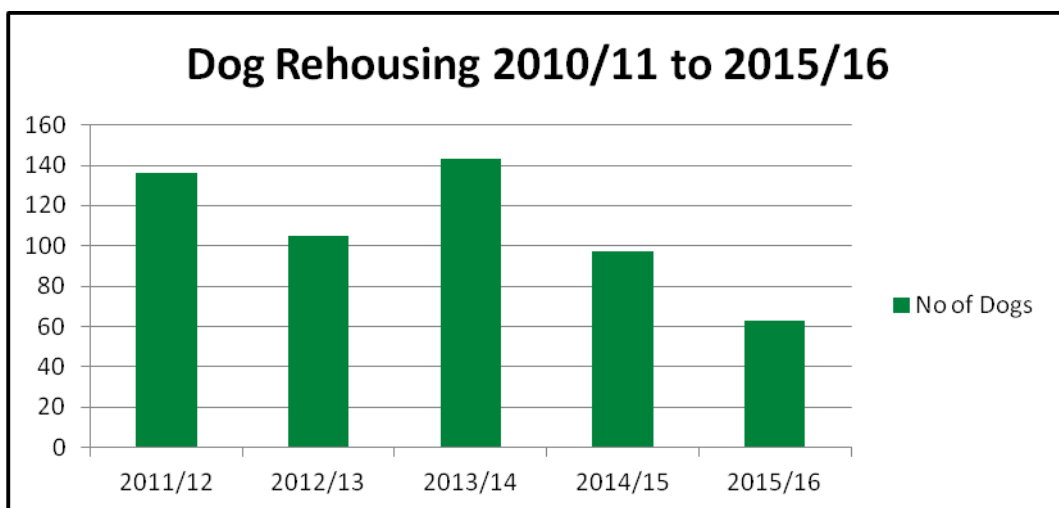
	Dogs	Cats
Seizure Activities:		
Seized	3	2
Returned to Owner	0	0
Transferred to Pound from Seizure Activities	3	2
Animals in Pound at start of Month	1	5
Dumped	7	5
Surrendered	3	1
Total Animals in Pound	14	13
Released to Owner	3	0
Euthanased	0	4
Sold	1	0
Stolen from Pound	0	0
Escaped	0	0
Died at Pound	0	0
Rehoused	5	9
Total Animals Leaving Pound	9	13
Animals in Pound at end of Month	5	0

Animals into Pound - Monthly Cumulative Totals

Month	Dogs	Cats
July	20	12
August	35	15
September	55	23
October	95	36
November	108	44
December		
January		
February		
March		
April		
May		
June		



This chart summarises the methods in which companion animals (dogs) exited the pound for the period 1 July 2015 to 30 November 2015.



This chart summarises the annual rehousing statistics from 2011/12 to 30 November 2015:

Conclusion

For information

Financial Implications

Nil

9.25 Economic Development & Tourism Report - December

Our prosperity

Ensuring a vibrant and sustainable future

Vision: Growing our population and jobs

DP15.0 The proportion of residents satisfied with the level of economic development support Council provides to the business community

DP 16.0 Community satisfaction with the quantity and quality of tourist information and resources provided by Council

19.0 Visitors and tourists are welcomed and make a positive contribution to the community economy

DP19.1 Work with business and property owners to rejuvenate their businesses and shop fronts and encourage the maintenance of buildings with character

DP19.2 Work with the tourism industry to identify and develop products and services that appeal to visitors of the Shire

DP19.3 Visitor information is kept relevant and up to date

DP20.0 Plan for a range of industries that build on the strengths of the Bland Shire to stimulate investment and employment

DP20.1 Encourage and actively seek out business and industry to relocate within the shire

DP20.2 Have ongoing engagement and communication with the shire's existing and prospective industry and business including diversification into alternate industries/businesses

DP20.3 Actively promote the Business Development Assistance to new and existing businesses

Author: Senior Economic Development & Tourism Advisor

Gliding Activities

Junior National Gliding Championships – 16/01/2016 to 25/01/2016

Bathurst Soaring Club – 30/1/2016 to 13/2/2016

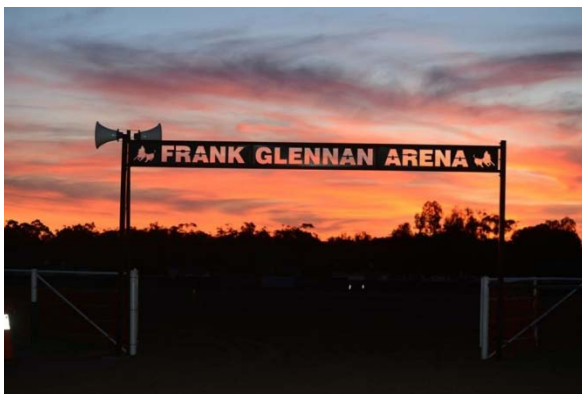
Landmark Gold Nugget Campdraft & Challenge

The West Wyalong Charity Campdraft hosted the successful Gold Nugget Campdraft & Challenge from the 27 to 29 November. This was a new event on the Campdraft calendar which created a lot of interest and resulted in a great weekend for all that attended.

Landmarks National Livestock Director Mark Barton was instrumental in developing the new concept for the southern region to not only get another event on the calendar but to also support those competitors that have an interest in attending the Landmark Classic Sale & Campdraft run at Tamworth every year.

The Challenge had 53 riders and 2 components made up of a dry work pattern followed by a Campdraft pattern all marked out of 100 – both patterns were repeated by the 14 finalists with the ever consistent David Reiter riding Pull Ya Socks Up shooting to the top of the leader board for first place.

In conjunction with the Challenge the draft events were well supported and hotly contested and included a Maiden, Novice, Open & the Classic special the Landmark Golden Nugget Open that was limited to any horse that was bought from a Tamworth Landmark Classic Sale and still owned by the original purchaser – these horses could be ridden by other nominated riders.



MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF BLAND HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS WEST WYALONG ON TUESDAY 15 DECEMBER 2015

The Veteran, Vintage & Classic Motor Cycle Club of ACT

Seven members of the Veteran, Vintage & Classic Motor Cycle Club of ACT visited West Wyalong in November and will be returning in 2016.



Temora Warbirds Downunder

All the accommodation in West Wyalong was fully occupied as a result of the Temora Warbirds Downunder Airshow.

Newell Highway Website Analytics

	May	June	July	August	September	October	November
Pageviews	6,847	9,957	10,558	9,926	10,262	8,140	8,067
Visits	2,298	3,262	3,620	3,465	3,627	2,931	2,954
Visitors	1,814	2,368	2,657	2,531	2,644	2,165	2,169
Desktop	45.5%	41.6%	38.0%	41.3%	42.1%	43.2%	44.4%
Mobile	26.9%	31.9%	36.2%	32.8%	34.5%	35.2%	35.3%
Tablet	27.5%	26.5%	25.8%	25.9%	23.4%	21.6%	20.2%

2015 Investments and Activities in the Bland Shire

Some of the investment and activities in the Bland Shire include:

- Evolution Mining \$694 million
- GrainCorp \$14 million
- GrainFlow \$4 million
- Hanlon Enterprises \$1.1 million
- Sandfire Resources \$2.5 million

Ongoing activities include:

- Mining
- Exploration
- Agriculture
- Industrial
- Retail
- Services
- Petroleum
- Health

2015 Business Assistance

Businesses that were assisted in 2015 were:

- A Moore Detailed Clean
- Donaldson Industries
- Fosters Fencing
- Hanlon Enterprises

Submissions

The following submissions were prepared in 2015:

- 2015 Regional Tourism Organisation Review
- 2015 Telecommunication Review – Council's comments are acknowledged on page 27 of the tabled final report
- Integrated Mining Policy

Country Rugby League

The Bidgee Bulls v Western Rams U16's and 18's representative games will be played at Ron Crowe Oval on 9 April 2016.

Evolution Mining

Jake Klein Evolution Mining's Executive Chairman and his wife Debbie and friends visited West Wyalong as a tourist on Sunday 6 December and had a great time. Jakes comments following their visit were:

'Thanks Jeff - many thanks for an excellent and very informative afternoon - we all thoroughly enjoyed it and appreciate your passion and knowledge of the area - we look forward to Evolution and the Cowal mine becoming an even bigger member of the community building on the strong foundations that Barrick and the Bland Shire have already established'.



West Wyalong 2015 Brochure Distribution

State	Location	Qty
VIC	Mildura Visitors Centre	370
NSW	Coonamble Visitors Centre	320
NSW	Dubbo Information Centre	320
NSW	Narrandera Visitors Centre	320
NSW	Tamworth Visitors Centre	280
NSW	Balranald Visitors Centre	260
NSW	Lake Cargelligo Visitor Centre	260
NSW	Bathurst	250
NSW	Sydney Visitor Centre, The Rocks	210
NSW	Hay	180
NSW	Hunter Valley Wine Country Tourism	180
ACT	Canberra Visitor Centre	160

NSW	Griffith Visitors Centre	160
NSW	Holbrook Visitors Centre	160
NSW	Parkes Visitors Centre	160
NSW	Wagga Wagga Visitors Centre	160
NSW	Young Visitor Centre	160
QLD	Springsure Woolshed & Information Centre	160
NSW	Temora	150
VIC	Laverton Visitors Centre	100
NSW	Cooma Visitors Centre	100
NSW	Coonabarabran Visitors Centre	100
NSW	Gilgandra	100
NSW	Gundagai Visitors Centre	100
NSW	Holbrook Museum & Visitors Centre	100
NSW	Inverell Tourist Information Centre	100
NSW	Leeton Visitors Centre	100
NSW	Lightning Ridge Visitor Centre	100
NSW	Queanbeyan Visitors Centre	100
NSW	The Entrance Visitors Centre	100
NSW	Tocumwal Information & Technology Centre	100
NSW	Wentworth Visitors Centre	100
SA	RAA Elizabeth	100
SA	Renmark Visitors Centre	100
NSW	Blacktown Visitors Information Centre	100
NSW	Cronulla Visitor Centre	100
NSW	Darling Harbour Visitors Centre	100
VIC	Alpine Visitor Information Centre	100
VIC	Benalla Visitors Centre	100
VIC	Cobram Visitors Centre	100
VIC	Echuca Visitors Centre	100
VIC	Halls Gap Visitors Centre	100
VIC	Stawell Visitors Centre	100
VIC	Strathbogie Tourism Information Service	100
NSW	Junee Visitor Information Centre	80
VIC	RACV Frankston	50
VIC	Sunbury Visitors Centre	50
VIC	Sunshine Visitors Centre	50
NSW	Albury Visitors Centre	50
NSW	Barham Visitors Information Centre	50
NSW	Camden Visitors Centre	50
NSW	Clarence River Tourist Assoc. Grafton	50
NSW	Cootamundra Visitors Centre	50
NSW	Deniliquin Visitors Centre	50
NSW	Dunn Lewis Visitor Centre	50
NSW	Gloucester Visitors Centre	50
NSW	Grenfell Visitor Centre	50
NSW	Goulburn Visitors Centre	50
NSW	Hawkesbury River Information Centre	50

NSW	Lithgow Visitors Centre	50
NSW	Mathoura Visitor Information Centre	50
NSW	Newcastle tourism	50
NSW	Oberon Visitor Information centre	50
NSW	Uralla Visitor Information Centre	50
NSW	Warialda Visitors Information Centre	50
NSW	Yass Visitors Centre	50
VIC	RACV Fountain Gate	50
VIC	RACV Geelong	50
VIC	RACV Greensborough	50
VIC	RACV Southland	50
VIC	RACV Swan Hill	50
VIC	RACV Warragul	50
SA	Adelaide Hills Visitors Centre	50
SA	RAA Colonnades	50
SA	RAA Modbury	50
SA	RAA of SA	50
NSW	Hawkesbury Tourism	50
VIC	Ballarat Visitors Centre	50
VIC	Bendigo Visitors Centre	50
VIC	Central Goldfields Visitors Information Centre	50
VIC	Corryong Visitor Centre	50
VIC	Swan Hill Visitors Centre	50