



MINUTES

Ordinary Council Meeting Thursday, 26 May 2022

Date: Thursday, 26 May 2022

Time: 5:00pm

**Location: Council Chambers
Cnr Camp & Weddin Streets
GRENFELL NSW 2810**

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**MINUTES OF WEDDIN SHIRE COUNCIL
ORDINARY MEETING
HELD AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, CNR CAMP & WEDDIN STREETS, GRENFELL NSW 2810
ON THURSDAY, 26 MAY 2022 AT 5:00PM**

1 OPENING

In accordance with the WSC Code of Meeting Practice, this meeting will be recorded for the purposes of audio-visual livestreaming via Council's website and Facebook page. Those in attendance are asked to refrain from making any defamatory statements and comply with all relevant WSC codes, policies and procedures at all times.

2 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

Weddin Shire Council would like to acknowledge the Wiradjuri people who are the Traditional Custodians of the Land.

Weddin Shire Council would also like to pay respect to the Elders both past and present of the Wiradjuri Nation and extend that respect to other Aboriginal Australians who are present.

3 ATTENDANCE AND APPLICATIONS FOR LEAVE**ATTENDANCE****PRESENT:**

Cr Craig Bembrick (Mayor), Cr Paul Best (Deputy Mayor), Cr Jason Kenah, Cr Michelle Cook, Cr Phillip Diprose, Cr Glenda Howell, Cr Stuart McKellar, Cr Warwick Frame

IN ATTENDANCE:

Mr Maxwell Kershaw (Acting General Manager), Mr Michael Chalmers (Director Corporate Services), Mr Luke Sheehan (Director Environmental Services), Mr Jaymes Rath (Director Infrastructure Services (Acting General Manager))

APOLOGIES

Nil

LEAVE OF ABSENCE APPLICATION**4 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES****RESOLUTION 142/22**

Moved: Cr Diprose

Seconded: Cr Parlett

That Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held 28 April 2022 and the Extraordinary Council Meeting held 23 May 2022 be taken as read and CONFIRMED.

CARRIED

5 DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

Item 12.1

Cr Paul Best, Owner of property in Main Street

Cr Jan Parlett, Owner of business in Main Street

Item 12.8

Cr Paul Best, Owner of property in Main Street

Cr Jan Parlett, Owner of business in Main Street

Item 13.3

Cr Michelle Cook, Member Rotary Grenfell

6 PUBLIC FORUM

7 MAYORAL REPORTS/MINUTES

Nil

8 MOTIONS/QUESTIONS WITH NOTICE**8.1 NOTICE OF MOTION - COUNCIL SUPPORT THE DOLLY PARTON IMAGINATION LIBRARY IN WEDDIN SHIRE****File Number:** C2.8.15**Mover:** Cr Michelle Cook**Attachments:**

1. Notice of Motion - Cr Michelle Cook
2. Dolly Parton Imagination Library Information Pack, How it works, Case study

CSP Objective: Culturally rich, vibrant and inclusive community**Budget:** \$ \$2,700 for 25 children to \$4,320 for 40 children to be sourced from Library Budget from previous years – not allocated or spent by the Library Service and an ongoing contribution by the Council to cover the mailing costs to receive the books.**MOTION**

That Council support the Dolly Parton Imagination Library in Weddin Shire.

MOTION

Moved: Cr Cook

Seconded: Cr Parlett

That this matter be opened for discussion by Council. Upon completion of that discussion, it was resolved as follows;

RESOLUTION 143/22

Moved: Cr Diprose

Seconded: Cr Best

That:

1. Council direct the Acting General Manager to undertake a thorough review of the current and future library operations, inclusive of the possible inclusion of the Dolly Parton Imagination Library program into the future operations of the Library.
2. This review be reported back to a future meeting of Council.

CARRIED**SUPPORTING COMMENTS**

The Dolly Parton Imagination Library, provides free books to children from newborns to 5 years of age.

The Dolly Parton Imagination Library “brings the magic of a library into the home, with the gift of a free book, every month, before school begins.”

The program is aimed at improving pre literacy skills and capacity for children, to be ready to learn. It recognises the important role of parents and carers in teaching their children, working in collaboration with the community, business and government to build and support an early literacy foundation.

Over the last 5 years, the program has provided over 200,000 books and enrolled over 10,000 children in Australia.

To participate, parents simply register their child with the library service. Bringing children, parents, and siblings into our Weddin Shire Library.

The Imagination Library would replace the current baby book packs paid for by the Friends of Grenfell Library and delivered by the Community Health Nurses. Since Covid, we have seen the number of children born in the Shire increase from about 25 per year to 40 per year. The Program costs \$108 for a child each year or \$540 for a child over the 5 years. So doing the maths, the program in effect costs \$9 per child per month, times by 12 months to come to the cost of \$108 per year. This calculates out to a TOTAL program cost of \$2,700 for 25 children to \$4,320 for 40 children with the continued baby boom. At present, the library purchases picture books for the baby packs, at a cost of about \$10 per book.

Tamworth Council launched this program in 2019 to cover all children born in Tamworth LGA. Over 950 babies enrolled and the council kicked started the program with 18 months of funding. Cowra and Junee libraries have launched the program in May 2022 with Steph Cooke.

STAFF COMMENTS

Acting General Manager:

There is no doubt that initiatives such as this have considerable merit, especially as a love of reading developed during early childhood has the potential to yield lifelong rewards.

However, I believe that this matter requires further investigation prior to a formal commitment to the upper level of the potential investment.

The role of libraries in rural centres in my opinion, is evolving away from just being a book repository and lending agency to one being more reflective of Community needs. Innovations such as being proposed should be assessed in light of the broader objectives of this vital community asset.

Thus in my view a thorough review of what we currently invest in our library, how we can improve on our service delivery and strengthen the outcomes of our investment should be undertaken.

I would recommend that Council request the Librarian to undertake a thorough review of current and future library operations with such being reported back to the June, 2022 Council meeting. Council can then make a determination on this Notice of Motion.

9 CORRESPONDENCE

Nil

10 GENERAL MANAGER REPORTS

10.1 PRESENTATION BY THE GRENFELL HENRY LAWSON FESTIVAL OF ARTS COMMITTEE

File Number: C1.4.1, C2.6.32
Author: Acting General Manager
Authoriser: Acting General Manager
Attachments: Nil
CSP Objective: Culturally rich, vibrant and inclusive community
Precis: HLF to present an update on the 2022 Festival
Budget: \$ See Council’s budget commitments detailed below.

Representatives of the Grenfell Henry Lawson Festival of Arts Committee (HLF) will present an update on the June 2022 Henry Lawson Festival to Council. This will include a brief PowerPoint presentation, as well as providing an opportunity for Councillors to ask questions of the HLF group.

For Councillors information, the available funding and commitments from Council to this event are;

| | |
|--|-----------|
| • Cash commitment as per Council resolution of 033/2022. | \$40,000 |
| • Council “in-kind” Commitment. This I believe is to cover important supportive services in running the festival, such would include local traffic management, cleaning and waste services, erection of banners et al. Please note, that whilst it is an “in-kind” contribution it is still a cash item in Council’s budget. | \$30,000 |
| • NSW State Government Grant. (\$40,000 of these grant funds are in Council’s bank, with the other \$10,000 to be received). | \$50,000 |
| Total | \$120,000 |

MOTION

RESOLUTION 144/22

Moved: Cr McKellar

Seconded: Cr Frame

That

1. Council continued the past practice of purchasing the annual Henry Lawson Festival art painting for inclusion in the community’s art collection.
2. The Mayor be authorised to assess this purchase and to make the final determination on a purchase, if such is warranted.

CARRIED

The meeting was addressed by the President of the Henry Lawson Festival, Ms Belinda Power who provided a powerpoint presentation of the upcoming 2022 Henry Lawson Festival. The presentation covered the areas of;

- This years Official program
- Static Parade
- The Legend Lives on
- Volunteers required
- Tickets now available

At the conclusion of this presentation, the Mayor on behalf of all Councillors wished the Committee every success in the reactivatin of this important community event.

10.2 ESTABLISHMENT OF A COUNCIL ACTION REPORT - RESOLUTION REGISTER

File Number: C2.3.3
Author: Acting General Manager
Authoriser: Acting General Manager
Attachments: 1. Council Resolution Register
CSP Objective: Innovation in service delivery (healthy, safe and educated community)
Precis: Establishment of a Resolution Register
Budget: \$ nil to be sourced from not applicable

RECOMMENDATION

That:

1. Council endorse the establishment of the resolution register on a trial basis.
2. This trial be reviewed by the incoming General Manager and Council in September 2022.

RESOLUTION 145/22

Moved: Cr Parlett
 Seconded: Cr Cook

That:

1. Council endorse the establishment of the resolution register on a trial basis.
2. This trial be reviewed by the incoming General Manager and Council in September 2022.

CARRIED

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is for Council to consider the establishment of a monthly resolution register to update Councillors on the progress of Council resolutions.

BACKGROUND

The resolution register provides a search tool for Council resolutions, with links to relevant agendas and minutes within the Council LGHub portal. Further, the resolution register will provide Councillors with a monthly update on how resolutions are being progressed. In essence a monthly audit check that informs Councillors and importantly allows Councillors to seek information from the Executive Team on incomplete resolutions.

ISSUES AND COMMENTS

It is suggested that Council adopt a simple legend to indicate progress of each resolution as follows:-

| Icon | Meaning |
|------|-----------|
| ☑ | Completed |

- Partially Completed
- Not Commenced

This is just a simple coding to indicate what has been completed, what is partially underway et al. Once completed the item will be removed from the next month's business paper. Each resolution will require the responsible officer to briefly update Council where that particular item is at that point in time.

FINANCIAL/RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications to the initiative, only the resources required by the responsible officer to update the register.

CONCLUSION

This proposal is a worthwhile review process for both Councillors and the Management Team to ensure Council resolutions are enacted in a timely manner, as well as indicating progress and/or challenges confronting those resolutions.

It should be noted that this initiative, if adopted, will commence from the April, 2022 Council meeting.

I should also state that it is imperative for the Council to implement an electronic document management system for the whole organisation as a matter of priority. As part of my hand over briefing to the new General Manager I will highlight the importance of this initiative.

10.3 NATIONAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2022

| | |
|-----------------------|--|
| File Number: | A3.8.3 |
| Author: | Acting General Manager |
| Authoriser: | Acting General Manager |
| Attachments: | 1. ALGA 2022 National General Assembly Registration Brochure |
| CSP Objective: | Innovation in service delivery (healthy, safe and educated community) |
| Precis: | Aust Local Government Association 2022 National General Assembly |
| Budget: | \$ 2000 to be sourced from Councillor Conference Expenses |

RECOMMENDATION

That Council delegate one representative to attend the National General Assembly on Weddin Shire Council's behalf and provide a report back to the July Council Meeting.

RESOLUTION 146/22

Moved: Cr McKellar

Seconded: Cr Cook

That Council delegate one representative to attend the National General Assembly on Weddin Shire Council's behalf and provide a report back to the July Council Meeting.

Councillor Best was appointed as this Councils delegate to the 2022 National General Assembly, with Councillor Diprose being appointed as the alternative delegate.

CARRIED

PURPOSE

The Australian Local Government Association will be holding it's 2022 National General Assembly of Local Government (NGA) at the National Convention Centre in Canberra from 19 to 22 June 2022.

The theme of this year's NGA – Partners in Progress – reflects the important role that local government plays in building a stronger, more inclusive, and more sustainable Australia – and local government's willingness to work with other governments to get the job done. This theme is particularly timely given that we are in the midst of a federal election outcome, and this year's NGA will be an ideal opportunity to engage with either a new or re-elected Federal Government about building stronger relationships and partnerships.

BACKGROUND

In previous years two Council Delegates (one Councillor and one representative staff member) have attended ALGA conferences, however given the busy workloads on staff it is recommended that Council be represented by one delegate this year.

ISSUES AND COMMENTS

Several interesting agenda items include –

- Regional tourism – post pandemic
- Leadership during an uncertain climate
- Increasing resilience to fires and floods
- Regional housing and population challenges
- Panel discussions on
 - Workforce skills and housing
 - Community leadership
 - Future of local government.

POLICY/LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

FINANCIAL/RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

Registration is between \$989 and \$1099 for all sessions. Accommodation, if required will be between \$190 to \$285 per night per person depending on availability and other general expenses including food and travel will be required.

INTERNAL/EXTERNAL CONSULTATION

CONCLUSION

It is imperative that this Council have a presence at such an important national local government conference. The networking opportunities will be invaluable, especially the opportunity to hear (and possibly meet) Ministers from the government, as well as industry leaders.

10.4 NSW ELECTORAL COMMISSION

| | |
|-----------------------|--|
| File Number: | A3.6.44 |
| Author: | Acting General Manager |
| Authoriser: | Acting General Manager |
| Attachments: | Nil |
| CSP Objective: | Democratic and engaged community supported by efficient internal systems |
| Precis: | NSW Electoral Commission Invoices for the December 2021 election and the 2022 bi-elections. |
| Budget: | \$ to be sourced from Council's non budgeted resources as there is no specific budget allocation for these invoices which total \$58,141. |

RECOMMENDATION

1. The report on the NSW Electoral Commission's invoices in the amount of \$43,595.92 for the December 2021 local Council election and \$14,544.75 for the 2022 bi-election be received and noted, and
2. That Council write to our Local State Member seeking her urgent support in having these accounts reviewed and significantly reduced given the reasons outlined in the report.

RESOLUTION 147/22

Moved: Cr Bembrick

Seconded: Cr McKellar

1. The report on the NSW Electoral Commission's invoices in the amount of \$43,595.92 for the December 2021 local Council election and \$14,544.75 for the 2022 bi-election be received and noted, and
2. That Council write to our Local State Member seeking her urgent support in having these accounts reviewed and significantly reduced given the reasons outlined in the report.

CARRIED

| Election Year | 2012 | 2016 | 2021 | 2022 |
|---|-----------------------------|-------------|---|--|
| General Comments | 5 wards, with 3 uncontested | | | 4 nominations for 4 vacancies |
| Voter enrolment | 2,900 (estimated) | 2,818 | 2,797 | |
| Total election cost by Electoral Commission | \$24,301 | \$27,335 | \$48,596 Covid discounted. Actual charge with Covid would be \$78,958 | \$14,544 which represents a 30% charge of the 2021 election cost |
| Cost per voter enrolled | \$8.38 | \$9.70 | \$15.59 \$28.23 | |

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to advise Council on receipt of the invoices for the recent election and bi-election recount. As Council would be well aware, the bi-election recount was just a formality as there were four (4) candidates for the four (4) vacant positions in essence, an uncontested election.

BACKGROUND

As Councillors would appreciate the cost of running elections at any level of Government is an expensive investment in democracy. However, the recent invoices from the NSW State Electoral Commission for the most recent full and bi-elections are extraordinary.

ISSUES AND COMMENTS

For Councillors information, past election costs and outcomes are as follows;

| Year | 2012 *(1) | 2016 | 2021 | 2022 *(2) |
|---|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|------------------|
| Total Enrolment | | 2,818 | 2,797 | |
| Total Turnout | | 2,294 | 2,446 | |
| % Turnout | | 81.41% | 87.42% | |
| Number of Candidates | | 14 | 14 | |
| Cost from NSW Electoral Commission | \$24,301 | \$27,335 | \$43,596 | \$14,544 |

*(1) This election was in five (5) separate wards. Three 3 of the Wards were uncontested.

*(2) No count required. Four (4) candidates elected to the four (4) vacant positions.

FINANCIAL/RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

The details for the 2021 local Council election at a cost of \$43,596 are broken down into –

| Description | Net Value | Tax | Gross |
|-------------------------|------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| Total Expenses LGE 2021 | 71,780.16 | 7,178.02 | 78,958.18 |
| Covid/Deferral Discount | -32,147.51 | -3,214.75 | -35,362.26 |
| Payable Amount | 39,632.65 | 3,963.27 | 43,595.92 |

| Summary of Costs | Total Cost of Election | Covid/Deferral Discount | Final Invoice Amount |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Ballot Papers | 395 | - | 395 |
| Call Centre | 993 | - | 993 |
| Event Management | 1,069 | -494 | 575 |
| Event Staffing | 47,690 | -24,172 | 23,518 |
| Information Technology | 4,018 | -2,420 | 1,595 |
| Logistics | 2,722 | -646 | 2,076 |
| Postal Voting | 1,149 | -766 | 384 |
| Venues | 11,999 | -3,306 | 8,692 |
| Voter Awareness | 1,745 | -344 | 1,401 |
| Total (excluding GST) | 71,780 | -32,148 | 39,633 |
| GST | | | 3,963 |
| Total (including GST) | | | 43,596 |

The invoice for the bi-election totals \$14,544.75 and this is broken down into –

| Description | Net Value | Tax | Gross |
|--------------------------------|------------------|----------------|------------------|
| Preparation and initialisation | 2795.00 | 279.50 | 3074.50 |
| Application process | 4085.00 | 408.50 | 4493.50 |
| Result publishing | 4085.00 | 408.50 | 4493.50 |
| Project tracking and admin | 2257.50 | 225.75 | 2483.25 |
| Payable Amount | 13,222.50 | 1322.25 | 14,544.75 |

There is no specific funding available within Council's current budget for these accounts. Such would have to be sourced from either deleting another budget item of a similar amount or from existing resources.

I have requested the establishment of a reserve in the upcoming budget that should be funded by a transfer each year to enable an adequate balance on hand to meet future commitments of this nature.

CONCLUSION

In respect of the bi-election invoice, it is difficult to understand how a recount for four (4) Councillors for four (4) vacant positions, following a previous computer count at the December 2021 election, justifies such a significant charge by the NSW Electoral Commission.

It is reasonable to assume that there would be some limited administrative and advisory costs, but the actual charges are somewhat alarming given the circumstances of a non-contested election.

Likewise, the increases from 2012 (\$24,301) to 2021 (\$78,958 discounted to \$43,596) without any significant increases in the voting base are astronomical. So, in 2016 the cost per enrolled voter was \$9.70. Whereas the cost per enrolled voter for 2021 was \$15.59 for the Covid discounted charge and \$28.23 for the total project cost.

There is also the issue of the allocation of penalty fines for those who didn't vote (which I believe is in the \$millions) which goes straight to the State Government's consolidated revenue. Surely, this revenue source should be used to offset the cost of the operations of the NSW Electoral Commission.

During the recent visit by the President and CEO of Local Government NSW, the Mayor raised the question of the cost for the bi-election. I can advise that CEO Scott Phillips has made representations to the Electoral Commission but to no avail.

Thus, the recommendation for seeking political representations on Council's behalf to have these accounts revisited and hopefully, significantly reduced.

10.5 REVIEW OF COUNCIL'S MONTHLY BUSINESS PAPER**File Number:****Author:** Acting General Manager**Authoriser:** Acting General Manager**Attachments:** Nil**CSP Objective:** Shire assets and services delivered effectively and efficiently**Precis:** Review of monthly business paper**Budget:** \$ nil to be sourced from**RECOMMENDATION****That:**

1. The review of the monthly business paper relative to specific agenda items be received and noted; and
2. Council endorse the recommendation to transfer the agenda items identified in the report from a monthly reporting basis to that of being included with the quarterly budget reviews.

RESOLUTION 148/22**Moved:** Cr Best**Seconded:** Cr Kenah**That:**

1. The review of the monthly business paper relative to specific agenda items be received and noted; and
2. Council endorse the recommendation to transfer the agenda items identified in the report from a monthly reporting basis to that of being included with the quarterly budget reviews.

CARRIED**PURPOSE**

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with the outcome of an internal staff review of the monthly Council Business paper to ascertain if it can be streamlined to concentrate on the core business activities of Council in a timely manner.

BACKGROUND

The review undertaken by the Management Team focused on how “for information only reports” can be better reported to Council.

The current agenda “Order of Business” complies in aspects with Council’s adopted Code of Meeting Practice and the relevant legislative guidelines.

What was identified was that there are many information only reports being presented on a monthly basis, which should be reported in conjunction with the quarterly budget reviews (QBR’s). Having

these information reports included in the QBR's would still ensure Council has that information as part of it's legislative review requirements, but in a more timely manner in marrying quarterly statistics with the financials.

ISSUES AND COMMENTS

The monthly information reports that are recommended to be reported quarterly are:

- Statement of Loan Balances
- Rate Debt Recovery
- Library
- Arts and Tourism
- Caravan Park Operations
- Grenfell Aquatic Centre
- Quandialla Swimming Centre

It is proposed that the Economic and Tourism reports, together with the Engineering reports will remain unchanged at present, however these also need to reviewed into a more informative format. This will occur during June.

INTERNAL/EXTERNAL CONSULTATION

Reviewed initially by the AGM and Management Team.

CONCLUSION

Basically, what is recommended is a transference of a data/statical reporting period of 1 month to 3 months for those suggested agenda items. If for any reason there is a problem or a major issue arising with any of these work areas then it is expected that the responsible officer will address same expeditiously and, if necessary, report the matter to Council immediately.

10.6 PAYMENT OF COUNCILLOR SUPERANNUATION

| | |
|-----------------------|---|
| File Number: | C2.2.3 |
| Author: | Acting General Manager |
| Authoriser: | Acting General Manager |
| Attachments: | Nil |
| CSP Objective: | Collaborative wealth building (strong, diverse and resilient local economy) |
| Precis: | Following an amendment to the Local Government Act 1993 (the Act) last year, Councils may make payments as a contribution to a superannuation account nominated by their Councillors, starting from the financial year commencing on 1 July 2022. |
| Budget: | \$ If adopted by Council, and if all Councillors take up this option, then the cost for the first year will be 14,559.30. A vote for this amount has been included in next year's budget. This would then form part of the Councillor's annual Administration costs budget. to be sourced from |

RECOMMENDATION

That:

1. The report on the possible payment of Councillors superannuation as advised by the Department of Local Government Circular of 15 March 2022, be received and noted.
2. Councillors take up this option for the payment of Superannuation in accordance pursuant to Section 254B of the Local Government Act, 1993.

RESOLUTION 149/22

Moved: Cr Diprose

Seconded: Cr Best

That:

1. The report on the possible payment of Councillors superannuation as advised by the Department of Local Government Circular of 15 March 2022, be received and noted.
2. Councillors take up this option for the payment of Superannuation in accordance pursuant to Section 254B of the Local Government Act, 1993.

CARRIED

PURPOSE

Following an amendment to the Local Government Act 1993 (the Act) last year, Councils may make payments as a contribution to a superannuation account nominated by their Councillors, starting from the financial year commencing on 1 July 2022.

The making of superannuation contribution payments for Councillors is optional and is at each Council's discretion.

BACKGROUND

To exercise the option of making superannuation contribution payments for their Councillors, Councils must first resolve at an open meeting to make superannuation contribution payments.

Where a Council resolves to make superannuation contribution payments, the amount of the payment is to be the amount the Council would have been required to contribute under the Commonwealth Superannuation Guarantee (Administration) Act 1992 as superannuation if the Councillors were employees of the Council.

As of 1 July 2022, the superannuation guarantee rate will be 10.5%. The rate will increase by half a percent each year until 1 July 2025 when it reaches 12%.

The superannuation contribution payment is to be paid at the same intervals as the annual fee is paid to Councillors.

To receive a superannuation contribution payment, each Councillor must first nominate a superannuation account for the payment before the end of the month to which the payment relates. The superannuation account nominated by Councillors must be an account for superannuation or retirement benefits from a scheme or fund to which the Commonwealth Superannuation Guarantee (Administration) Act applies.

Councils must not make a superannuation contribution payment for a Councillor if the Councillor fails to nominate an eligible superannuation account for the payment before the end of the month to which the payment relates.

Individual Councillors may opt out of receiving superannuation contribution payments or opt to receive reduced payments. Councillors must do so in writing.

Councils must not make superannuation contribution payments for Councillors during any period in which they are suspended from their civic office or their right to be paid any fee or other remuneration, or expense, is suspended under the Act.

Councillors are also not entitled to receive a superannuation contribution payment during any period in which they are not entitled to receive their fee under section 254A of the Act because they are absent.

POLICY/LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

The specific legislative details are set out in Section 254B of the Local Government Act 1993. These details have been set out in the body of this report.

FINANCIAL/RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

At the superannuation guarantee rate of 10.5% this will incur an additional cost on the Council of \$14,559.30. As this superannuation guarantee rate is set to rise half a percent each year until 2025, based on this year's approved Councillor and Mayor Fees this will cost an additional amount of \$693.30 per year until 2025.

CONCLUSION

The matter is now placed before Council for final determination.

10.7 ELECTION OF ADDITIONAL COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES TO COUNCIL COMMITTEE'S

File Number: C2.6.1

Author: Acting General Manager

Authoriser: Acting General Manager

Attachments:

1. Heritage_Bill Matchett
2. Heritage_Margaret Nowlan-Jones
3. Heritage_Maurice Simpson
4. Tourism_Judith Bryant
5. Tourism_Margaret Nowlan-Jones
6. Weeds_Harvey Nicholson
7. Weeds_Robert Taylor

CSP Objective: Democratic and engaged community supported by efficient internal systems

Precis: Appointment of Advisory Committee Members (under Section 355 of Local Government Act)

Budget: \$ Not Applicable to be sourced from

Cr Parlett and Cr Frame left the room.

J Rath left the room.

RECOMMENDATION

That

1. The elections of Council Committee members be determined by ordinary ballot.
2. Council elect the members of its Committees.
3. All nominees be notified of the outcome of the elections.

RESOLUTION 150/22

Moved: Cr Best

Seconded: Cr Kenah

That

1. The elections of Council Committee members be determined by ordinary ballot.
2. Council elect the members of its Committees.
3. All nominees be notified of the outcome of the elections.
4. Charter of Quandialla Pool be amended accordingly.

CARRIED

PURPOSE

Following the 17 February 2022 Ordinary Council meeting it was resolved that Council would call for further nominations for the community representative positions on the Heritage, Tourism and Weddin Shire Weeds Committees as there were insufficient community applications at this meeting date. Following the appropriate advertising period, additional applications have now been received and are submitted for Councils determination.

As several Councillor's previously on these Committees have resigned, the newly appointed Councillors will be asked to nominate for those vacant positions.

Details are below:

| Committee | Purpose | Meeting Times | Members Elected |
|-----------------------------------|--|---|--|
| Heritage | To review Heritage based decisions and projects within the Shire | bi-monthly basis, to coincide with the visit of the Heritage Advisor. | 3 Councillors, 1 staff*, Historical Society representative, 3 community representatives, Heritage Advisor Cr Diprose, Cr Kenah, Cr Howell Community members: John Hetherington, Bill Matchett, Maurice Simpson |
| Tourism | To review Tourism based decisions and projects within the Shire | bi-monthly basis. | 4 Councillors, 2 staff*, 3 community representatives, 1 village representative (optional) Cr Bembrick, Cr Cook, Cr Best, Cr Kenah |
| Weddin Shire Weeds | To review Weed control based decisions and projects within the Shire | As required. | 3 Councillors, 2 staff members*, Weddin Landcare Group representative, Community Representative Cr McKellar, Cr Best, Cr Frame Community members: Robert Taylor |
| The Henry Lawson Festival of Arts | To overview the completion of the Henry Lawson Festival | As required | 2 Councillors, Community Members Cr Diprose, Cr Parlett |
| Quandialla Pool Committee | To overview the running of the Quandialla Pool Committee | As required | 3 Councillors, DIS, Community Members Cr Diprose, Cr Cook |

*Please note that this indicates that the staff member will be either the General Manager or his/her nominee.

CONCLUSION

The elections of Council Committee members be determined by ordinary ballot.

Cr Parlett and Cr Frame returned to the room.

J Rath returned to the room.

10.8 UPDATE ELECTED COUNCILLOR DELEGATES

File Number: C2.6.1
Author: Acting General Manager
Authoriser: Acting General Manager
Attachments: Nil
CSP Objective: Democratic and engaged community supported by efficient internal systems
Precis: Election of Committee Delegates
Budget: \$ Not Applicable to be sourced from

RECOMMENDATION

That:

- Council appoint delegates for the vacant positions on external organisations.

RESOLUTION 151/22

Moved: Cr Frame

Seconded: Cr Howell

That:

- Council appoint delegates for the vacant positions on external organisations.

CARRIED

PURPOSE

As several Councillor’s previously on these Committees have resigned, the newly appointed Councillors will be asked to nominate for those vacant positions.

Details are below:

| Committee | Purpose | Meeting Times | Delgate Elected |
|---|---|---------------------------------------|--|
| Arts OutWest, C1.3.16 | | Meets quarterly, usually in Bathurst. | General Manager (Arts & Tourism Officer*) |
| Central NSW Joint Organisation (JO), C2.7.3 | An important example of local government cooperation. Delegates are one elected and one staff member. | Meets quarterly. | Mayor and General Manager (alternate – Deputy Mayor) |
| Inter-Agency Health, C1.3.9 | | Meets quarterly or intermittently. | Cr Parlett |

| | | | |
|---|---|--|--|
| Weddin Health Council | | meets bi-monthly or as required | Cr Parlett |
| Lachlan CMA Local Government Reference Group, E3.9.2 | Established by Lachlan Catchment Management Authority with one elected and one technical representative. | Meets 2 – 3 times per year. | Cr McKellar and General Manager (Director Environmental Services*) |
| Lachlan Regional Transport Committee, T3.5.2 | Rail reopening is a priority. | Meets quarterly on Saturdays at centres throughout the region. | Cr Diprose and Cr Frame . |
| Local Emergency Management Committee, E1.1.6 | Established by State Emergency Management Committee. The Director Engineering has been appointed as the Local Emergency Management Officer and Chair of the LEMC although some legislative changes are currently occurring. | Meets quarterly. | General Manager (Director of Engineering*). |
| Weddin Local Traffic Committee, C2.6.3 | Established by RMS. Other members: Police, RMS, Local Member’s representative. | Meets as required, generally quarterly. | General Manager (Director Engineering*). |

| Committee | Purpose | Meeting Times | Members Elected |
|--|---|----------------------------------|---|
| Mid Lachlan Valley Team Bushfire Management Committee, E1.3.8 | Established by Rural Fire Service with representatives of Rural Lands Protection Board, Country Energy, SRA, Department Bushfire Services, NPWS, Department Land and Water Conservation, Weddin Bush Fire Service and other bodies. Representative Rural Fire Service acts as Executive Officer. Combined committee with Forbes, Parkes and Lachlan Councils. | Meets two or three times a year. | Cr McKellar and General Manager (Director Engineering*). |
| Weddin Rural Fire Service Senior Management Team | Established by Rural Fire Service to consider local resources. | Meets once or twice a year. | Mayor and Deputy Mayor, General Manager (Director of Engineering*). |
| Weddin Landcare Steering Committee, E3.7.5 | | Meets as required. | Cr Diprose McKellar alternativer |
| NSW Public Libraries Association (NSWPLA), P2.3.5 | The Central West Zone typically meets half yearly at locations throughout the zone. | Twice yearly. | Cr Diprose (alternate – Cr Cook). |

Council elects its delegates for a number of external organisations biennially to align with its electoral cycle for Mayor and Deputy Mayor.

Under the *Local Government Act 1993*, Council may only delegate to the General Manager. Where a staff member* is to be selected as a delegate, the appointment should be for the “General Manager or delegate(s)”. It has previously been resolved by Council in 2016 that delegates be elected for a term of two years; given the shorter nature of this Council term it is proposed that the delegates be elected until September 2023.

CONCLUSION

The updated Council delegates for vacant positions are to be determined by Councillors at the May 2022 Council meeting either by voices, or if required by a contest, then by a vote.

10.9 PROPOSAL TO HAVE AN AED (DEFIBRILLATOR) LOCATED ON A COUNCIL BUILDING

| | |
|-----------------------|--|
| File Number: | H1.7.15 |
| Author: | Acting General Manager |
| Authoriser: | Acting General Manager |
| Attachments: | 1. Correspondence Weddin Health Group 17 May 2022 |
| CSP Objective: | Innovation in service delivery (healthy, safe and educated community) |
| Precis: | Possible installation of a community based defibrillator. |
| Budget: | \$ Project costs to be funded by the community. to be sourced from |

RECOMMENDATION

That:

1. The report on this request from the Weddin Health Group be received and noted.
2. Council agree to this request and that the AGM be authorised to resolve any matters pertaining to this installation.

RESOLUTION 152/22

Moved: Cr Diprose

Seconded: Cr Best

That:

1. The report on this request from the Weddin Health Group be received and noted.
2. Council agree to this request and that the Acting General Manager be authorised to resolve any matters pertaining to this installation.

CARRIED

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to advise Council of receipt of a request to install a public accessible defibrillator in the CBD area. The correspondence is self-explanatory.

FINANCIAL/RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

As will be noted, the Weddin Health Group will source community funding for this installation and I am sure Council would be willing to meet the necessary installation costs.

CONCLUSION

This proposal has considerable merit and is commended for Council's approval.

10.10 CROWN LAND RESERVES

| | |
|-----------------------|---|
| File Number: | P2.7.9 |
| Author: | Acting General Manager |
| Authoriser: | Acting General Manager |
| Attachments: | 1. Crown Reserves Plan of Management Weddin 2022 |
| CSP Objective: | Sustainable natural, agricultural and built environments |
| Precis: | Crown Land Reserves – generic plan of management |
| Budget: | \$ to be sourced from |

RECOMMENDATION

That:

1. The report on the Crown Land Reserves – generic plan of management prepared by Council’s consultants, Ward Planning and Consulting be received and noted; and
2. This report be referred to the NSW Department of Crown Land for initial review and comment prior to being reassessed by Council and then put on public exhibition for community feedback.

RESOLUTION 153/22

Moved: Cr Diprose

Seconded: Cr Frame

That:

1. The report on the Crown Land Reserves – generic plan of management prepared by Council’s consultants, Ward Planning and Consulting be received and noted; and
2. This report be referred to the NSW Department of Crown Land for initial review and comment prior to being reassessed by Council and then put on public exhibition for community feedback.

CARRIED

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to seek Council’s approval to forward the Plan of Management Report for Crown Lands under this Council’s control to the NSW Department of Lands for review and comment, prior to public exhibition.

BACKGROUND

A report was presented to the June 2020 meeting of Council titled “Crown Reserves Classification and Categorisation” specifically outlining the need for Council to “__ __ classify and categorise the Crown Reserves and Reserve Trusts currently under Council’s control __ __”.

Council subsequently engaged Ward Planning and Consulting to undertake this work, which has resulted in Council now being in possession of a generic plan of management report.

I will table this report at the Council Meeting (92 pages). The report has been reviewed internally and there are no concerns or issues, thus enabling this report to be forwarded to the NSW Crown Land for review and comment. This will then be returned back to Council for consideration of any amendment(s), prior to being put on public exhibition.

POLICY/LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Compliance with the Crown Land Management Act (CLMA).

INTERNAL/EXTERNAL CONSULTATION

The Consultant's report to Council is detailed as follows:

CROWN LAND PLANS OF MANAGEMENT

About the Plans of Management

Plans of Management (PoM) are developed to achieve balanced, responsible and sustainable use of land and aims to meet the ongoing needs of the local community.

PoMs establish directions for planning, resource management, and maintenance of the land as well as identify the key values of the land and its purposes so they can be protected and enhanced. PoMs are legal documents prepared in accordance with the Local Government Act 1993.

Crown Land

The *Crown Land Management Act 2016* introduced legislation in 2018 that requires Local Councils to manage some Crown reserved land as if it were public land under the *Local Government Act 1993* (LG Act). This means that Council is required to prepare plans of management for the Crown reserves.

Crown reserves are land set aside on behalf of the community for a wide range of public purposes including recreation and sport, open space, community halls, special events, environmental and heritage protection and government services.

You can find out more information from the [NSW Government website about Crown Lands across NSW](#).

Drafting the Plan

Council has developed a generic Plan for Crown Lands where Council is the Crown Land Manager.

What is a Plan of Management?

A Plan of Management (PoM) is a legal document prepared in accordance with the Local Government Act 1993 (LG Act) over land classified as 'community land'. The Crown reserves are considered 'community land'.

A PoM can fulfill many purposes, such as:

- Establish directions for planning, resource management, and maintenance of the land.
- Categorise land and identify the key values of the land and its purposes so they can be protected and enhanced.
- Authorise leases, licences, or granting of any other estate and determine what development can take place.

Why is Council preparing a POM for Crown Land?

The *Crown Land Management Act 2016* introduced legislation in 2018 that requires Local Councils to manage Crown reserved land as if it were public land under the *Local Government Act 1993* (LG Act).

Council has prepared a POM for **29** Crown Reserves.

Does Weddin only have 29 Crown Reserve in the Shire?

No, there are many more than 29 Reserves owned by the Crown in the Weddin Shire. There are 29 Crown Reserves that are managed by Council as Crown Land Manager in accordance with the prior mentioned Acts. Other Crown lands/reserves in the Shire may be managed directly by Crown Lands or other Reserve Managers for other purposes. For further questions of this nature, you are advised to contact Crown Lands: <https://www.industry.nsw.gov.au/lands/what-we-do/contact-us>

CONCLUSION

Once the due processes of exhibition and consultation has been completed, Council can then be in a position to implement the plan of management requirements.

11 CORPORATE SERVICES REPORTS**11.1 STATEMENT OF BANK BALANCES**

| | |
|-----------------------|--|
| File Number: | N/A |
| Author: | Director Corporate Services |
| Authoriser: | Director Corporate Services |
| Attachments: | Nil |
| CSP Objective: | Democratic and engaged community supported by efficient internal systems |
| Precis: | Statement of Council's bank balances as at 30/04/22 |
| Budget: | \$ - |

[This report was noted for information only.](#)

| | |
|---------------------|-----------------------------|
| Bank Account | |
| Westpac | 2,348,672.82 |
| Short Term Deposits | |
| CBA | 11,500,000.00 |
| Total | <u>13,848,572.82</u> |

CERTIFICATE OF RECONCILIATION

I certify that the Cashbook for each Bank Account has been reconciled with the appropriate Bank Statement as at 30 April 2022.

The investments shown above are made with the Commonwealth Bank. I certify that these investments have been made in accordance with the *Local Government Act 1993*, the Regulations and Council's investment policies.

11.2 COMMUNITY SUPPORT APPLICATION - CARAGABAL PROGRESS ASSOCIATION

| | |
|-----------------------|--|
| File Number: | C1.1.1 |
| Author: | Director Corporate Services |
| Authoriser: | Director Corporate Services |
| Attachments: | 1. Caragabal Progress Association Community Support Application |
| CSP Objective: | Shire assets and services delivered effectively and efficiently |
| Precis: | Community Support Application |
| Budget: | \$ 5,000 to be sourced from Community Donation Budget |

RECOMMENDATION

That:

1. That Council donates \$5,000 to the Caragabal Progress Association
2. That a further report be submitted to Council when the funds are acquitted.

RESOLUTION 154/22

Moved: Cr Diprose

Seconded: Cr Best

That:

1. That Council donates \$5,000 to the Caragabal Progress Association
2. That a further report be submitted to Council when the funds are acquitted.

CARRIED

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to present Council with a Community Support Application from the Caragabal Progress Association.

BACKGROUND

As per Council Resolution 52/2021 on 26 August 2021 Council established a Community Donation Budget for the maintenance of Non-Council owned community assets for the townships of Quandialla (\$5,000), Caragabal (\$5,000), Greenethorpe (\$5,000), and Bimbi (\$1,000).

The application is for the maintenance of the following projects:

- Memorial Hall Grounds
- The Grounds surrounding the Bird art – including installation of gravel (rather than topsoil)
- The Caragabal Country Golf Club Grounds
- Caragabal Sportsground, including pest treatments for the sheds/toilets

ISSUES AND COMMENTS

Nil

POLICY/LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil

FINANCIAL/RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

Nil

INTERNAL/EXTERNAL CONSULTATION

Nil

CONCLUSION

The application meets the requirements of the resolution.

11.3 COMMUNITY SUPPORT APPLICATION - CRITERION HOTEL

| | |
|-----------------------|---|
| File Number: | C1.1.3 |
| Author: | Director Corporate Services |
| Authoriser: | Director Corporate Services |
| Attachments: | 1. Criterion Hotel Community Support Application |
| CSP Objective: | Culturally rich, vibrant and inclusive community |
| Precis: | Community Support Application |
| Budget: | \$ 285 to be sourced from Council in-kind support for the Henry Lawson Festival. |

RECOMMENDATION

That:

1. Council deny the request to donate 3 days of cool room hire for the Criterion Hotel over the June 2022 long weekend.
2. Council donate 1 day for the hire of a cool room to be used at the "Legends Concert" on the Saturday of the June 2022 long weekend. The donation will come from the Council's in-kind support for the Henry Lawson Festival.

RESOLUTION 155/22

Moved: Cr Kenah

Seconded: Cr Best

That:

1. That Council deny the request to donate 3 days of cool room hire for the Criterion Hotel over the June 2022 long weekend.
2. That Council donate 1 day for the hire of a cool room to be used at the "Legends Concert" on the Saturday of the June 2022 long weekend. The donation will come from the Council's in-kind support for the Henry Lawson Festival.

CARRIED

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to present Council with a Community Support Application from the Criterion Hotel.

BACKGROUND

The Criterion Hotel is seeking the use of one of Council's mobile cool rooms for three days during the Henry Lawson Festival over the June long weekend for surplus stock storage.

The Criterion Hotel does hold a temporary liquor license for the Henry Lawson Festival "Legends Concert" on the Saturday of the June long weekend.

ISSUES AND COMMENTS

The application has not been linked to a community benefit and the donation could be viewed as commercial favouritism over the other licensed pubs and clubs in Grenfell.

POLICY/LLEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Weddin Shire Council Community Project Support Guidelines 2.2, "Applicants must be a not-for-profit entity".

Weddin Shire Council Community Project Support Guidelines 8, "Nothing in this policy prohibits Council from considering financial assistance or in-kind support outside the scope of this policy. Council will consider each case on its merits and any assistance provided will be without precedent".

CONCLUSION

The application fails to meet the intention of a Community Support Application. However, as the Criterion Hotel will be supporting the Henry Lawson Festival, Council could donate one day of the hire as part of the in-kind support provided to the Henry Lawson Festival.

11.4 QUARTERLY BUSINESS REVIEW STATEMENT (QBR) AS AT 31 MARCH 2022

| | |
|-----------------------|--|
| File Number: | A1.6 |
| Author: | Director Corporate Services |
| Authoriser: | Director Corporate Services |
| Attachments: | 1. March 2022 QBR |
| CSP Objective: | Shire assets and services delivered effectively and efficiently |
| Precis: | Statutory Report |
| Budget: | \$ Nil to be sourced from |

RECOMMENDATION

That the Quarterly Budget Review Statement as at 31 March 2022 be adopted as presented.

RESOLUTION 156/22

Moved: Cr McKellar

Seconded: Cr Diprose

That the Quarterly Budget Review Statement as at 31 March 2022 be adopted as presented.

CARRIED

PURPOSE

The QBR is a financial reporting system that presents a summary of Council's financial position at the end of each quarter of the financial year.

BACKGROUND

The QBR consist of a Responsible Accounting Officers (ROA) statement, Operational Income and Expenditure Budget Review, Capital Budget Review, Cash and Investments Review, Contracts Awarded, Legal expenses, and consultant expenses.

The QBR is designed to facilitate progress reporting against the original and revised budgets at the end of each quarter, provide explanations for major variations, and enable the ROA to indicate if Council will be in a satisfactory financial position at the end of the financial year.

FINANCIAL/RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

- Insurance expense has increased by \$170,000
- Financial Statement change of classification change of \$275,000 from employee benefits and oncost to other expenses
- Forecast cost for the NSW Elections and recount is \$40,000 and \$15,000 respectively
- Various other minor changes that can be found 8. Listing of Supplementary Votes in the attached report.

- Increase in RMCC ordered works of \$730,000
- Recruitment of the General Manager \$14,000

CONCLUSION

To adopt the Quarterly Review Statement as recommended.

11.5 INTEGRATED PLANNING & REPORTING (IP&R) TIMELINE

File Number: A3.4.4
Author: Director Corporate Services
Authoriser: Director Corporate Services
Attachments: Nil
CSP Objective: Democratic and engaged community supported by efficient internal systems
Precis: Statutory Requirement
Budget: \$ -

RECOMMENDATION

That Council endorse the proposed IP&R Timeline and hold an Extra Ordinary Meeting 30 June 2022.

RESOLUTION 157/22

Moved: Cr Diprose
 Seconded: Cr Frame

That Council endorse the proposed IP&R Timeline and hold an Extra Ordinary Meeting 30 June 2022.

CARRIED

PURPOSE

To update Council and the Community on the timeline of IP&R for the remainder of the current financial year.

BACKGROUND

| Date | Day | Action |
|-----------|-----------|---|
| 26-May-22 | Thursday | Ordinary Council Meeting |
| 27-May-22 | Friday | IP&R on Website & distributed to selected village locations and Library |
| 9-Jun-22 | Thursday | Ordinary Council Meeting Agenda distribution |
| 13-Jun-22 | Monday | Council Workshop |
| 16-Jun-22 | Thursday | Ordinary Council Meeting |
| 23-Jun-22 | Thursday | Public Submissions End |
| 24-Jun-22 | Friday | Revisions due to public submissions |
| 27-Jun-22 | Monday | IP&R Extra Ordinary Agenda & possible IP&R Revision Workshop if necessary |
| 29-Jun-22 | Wednesday | Revision late report if necessary |
| 30-Jun-22 | Thursday | Extra Ordinary Council Meeting |

ISSUES AND COMMENTS

Council will require and Extra Ordinary meeting on June 30 2022 to adopt Council’s IP&R documents after a 28-day period of public consultation.

POLICY/LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil

FINANCIAL/RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

Nil

INTERNAL/EXTERNAL CONSULTATION

Nil

CONCLUSION

That Council endorse the proposed IP&R timeline.

11.6 INTEGRATED PLANNING & REPORTING (IP&R)

| | |
|-----------------------|---|
| File Number: | A3.4.4 |
| Author: | Director Corporate Services |
| Authoriser: | Director Corporate Services |
| Attachments: | 1. DRAFT Community Strategic Plan 2017-2027 |
| CSP Objective: | Democratic and engaged community supported by efficient internal systems |
| Precis: | Statutory Reporting |
| Budget: | \$ - to be sourced from |

RECOMMENDATION

That Council endorse the Weddin 2027 Community Strategic Plan, be approved for public exhibition, and resubmitted to the June 30 2022 Council meeting for formal adoption.

RESOLUTION 158/22

Moved: Cr McKellar

Seconded: Cr Cook

That Council endorse the Weddin 2027 Community Strategic Plan, be approved for public exhibition, and resubmitted to the June 30 2022 Council meeting for formal adoption.

CARRIED

PURPOSE

To review Council's Community Strategic Plan as per Local Government Act requirements.

BACKGROUND

Each local government area is to have a Community Strategic Plan that has been developed and endorsed by the council on behalf of its community.

- The Community Strategic Plan is to identify the main priorities and aspirations for the future of the local government area.
- The Community Strategic Plan must cover a minimum timeframe of 10 years.
- The Community Strategic Plan must establish strategic objectives together with strategies to achieve those objectives.

The council must review the Community Strategic Plan before 30 June in the year following an ordinary election of council. The council may endorse the existing plan, or develop and endorse a new Community Strategic Plan, as appropriate, to ensure that the area has a Community Strategic Plan covering at least the next 10 years.

POLICY/LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Section 402 Local Government Act 1993.

INTERNAL/EXTERNAL CONSULTATION

The attached document will be placed on public display for a period of at least 28 days.

CONCLUSION

Due to the postponement of the recent Local Government Elections, it was considered that the available timeframe to undertake extensive community consultation to produce and adequately articulated a worthy strategic plan was not sufficient.

Council has undertaken ongoing community consultation through the Digital Community Panel since 2012 and in 2022 via a community survey. In April 2022, Councillors and staff launched a review of the Community Strategic Plan (2017-2027), the 4-year Delivery Program (2022-2026) and the annual Operational Plan (2022-23) during a 2-day intensive workshop. The workshop drew on the community input from a wide range of plans summarised in the Council's 'A Better Community Strategy' (ABCS), which brings together the economic, sport and recreation, cultural, wellness, tourism, and destination management plans to test community priorities.

The 2017-2027 CSP identified the top (infrastructure) issues that the community considered essential and which have been delivered. These projects include the establishment, of a Medical Centre, an accredited Visitor Information Centre, and Grenfell Aquatic Centre.

A minor review of the Council's Community Strategic Plan has been undertaken and is presented to Council for endorsement.

11.7 RESOURCING STRATEGY

| | |
|-----------------------|---|
| File Number: | A3.4.4 |
| Author: | Director Corporate Services |
| Authoriser: | Director Corporate Services |
| Attachments: | 1. WORKFORCE MANAGEMENT PLAN 2022-2027 2. Long Term Financial Management Plan - Draft 2023 3. WSC Buildings AMP 2022 4. WSC Recreation AMP 2022 5. WSC Sewerage AMP 2021 6. WSC Transport AMP 2022 |
| CSP Objective: | Shire assets and services delivered effectively and efficiently |
| Precis: | Statutory Reporting |
| Budget: | \$ to be sourced from |

RECOMMENDATION

That the Asset Management Plan, Workforce Management Plan, and Long-Term Financial Plan be endorsed, approved for public exhibition, and resubmitted to the June 30 2022 Council meeting for formal adoption.

RESOLUTION 159/22

Moved: Cr Best

Seconded: Cr Kenah

That the Asset Management Plan, Workforce Management Plan, and Long-Term Financial Plan be endorsed, approved for public exhibition, and resubmitted to the June 30 2022 Council meeting for formal adoption.

CARRIED

PURPOSE

To review Council's Resourcing Strategy Plans as per Local Government Act requirements.

BACKGROUND

The Resourcing Strategy consists of 3 components:

- Long-Term Financial Planning
- Workforce Management Planning
- Asset Management Planning.

The Resourcing Strategy is the point where the council explains to its community how it intends to perform all of its functions, including implementing the strategies set out in the Community Strategic Plan. Some strategies in the Community Strategic Plan will clearly be the responsibility of the council, some will be the responsibility of other levels of government and some will rely on input

from business and industry groups, community groups or individuals. The Resourcing Strategy focuses in detail on matters that are the responsibility of the council and considers, in general terms, matters that are the responsibility of others. The Resourcing Strategy articulates how the council will allocate resources to deliver the objectives under its responsibility.

The council must review the Resourcing Strategy before 30 June in the year following an ordinary election of council. The council may endorse the existing plan, or develop and endorse a new Resourcing Strategy.

POLICY/LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Section 403 Local Government Act 1993.

INTERNAL/EXTERNAL CONSULTATION

The attached document will be placed on public display for a period of at least 28 days.

CONCLUSION

The Asset Management Plans and Workforce Management Plans has been reviewed and updated in accordance with the Local Government Act 1993.

Council's previously Long-Term Financial Plan adopted Financial plan was from 2016 -2026. It was a year off on the requirements and the original failed to identify which of the three scenarios Council was adopting. Additionally, a cash flow budget was not included which is a requirement.

Internally it has been identified that Scenario 3 was adopted as it was the only option that included a Special Rate Variation for building the Grenfell Aquatic Centre.

Scenario 3 has been updated (highlighted in blue) and the key challenges from the original document are;

- Increased employee benefits & on-costs
- Significant decreased Investment and Interest Revenue (-84%)
- Significantly increased Depreciation expenses (28%)
- Significantly increased Other Expenses (88%).

The budget surpluses over the next five financial years will be minimal and without a rate rise or cutting of non-essential services Council will not be able to meet the desired levels in the Workforce Management plan (including some critical positions).

Additionally, the new sewer treatment plan has increased Council's costs for employees, electricity, and depreciation by approximately 30% per year. Due to the small number of connections the access would have had to increase by \$155 to have a positive operating ratio. Council does have a small reserve and has recommended smaller incremental increases and review that position in the next financial year.

11.8 DELIVERY PROGRAM 2022-2026

| | |
|-----------------------|--|
| File Number: | A3.4.13 |
| Author: | Director Corporate Services |
| Authoriser: | Director Corporate Services |
| Attachments: | 1. DRAFT Delivery Program 2022-2026 |
| CSP Objective: | Shire assets and services delivered effectively and efficiently |
| Precis: | Statutory Reporting |
| Budget: | \$ to be sourced from |

RECOMMENDATION

That the Delivery Program be endorsed, approved for public exhibition, and resubmitted to the June 30 2022 Council meeting for formal adoption.

RESOLUTION 160/22

Moved: Cr Cook

Seconded: Cr Kenah

That the Delivery Program be endorsed, approved for public exhibition, and resubmitted to the June 30 2022 Council meeting for formal adoption.

CARRIED

Review MM's integration of external documentation e.g. DMP Wellness Plan**PURPOSE**

To endorse Council's Delivery Program 2022 - 2026 as per Local Government Act requirements.

BACKGROUND

The Delivery Program is a statement of commitment to the community from each newly elected council. In preparing the Delivery Program, the council is accounting for its stewardship of the community's long-term goals, outlining what it intends to do towards achieving these goals during its term of office and what its priorities will be.

The Delivery Program is designed as the single point of reference for all principal activities undertaken by the council during its term of office. All plans, projects, activities and funding allocations must be directly linked to this Program.

Supporting the Delivery Program are annual Operational Plans. These spell out the details of the Delivery Program – the individual projects and actions that will be undertaken in that year to achieve the commitments made in the Delivery Program.

The council must establish a new Delivery Program after each ordinary election of councillors to cover the principal activities of the council for the 4-year period commencing on 1 July following the election.

POLICY/LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Section 404 Local Government Act 1993.

INTERNAL/EXTERNAL CONSULTATION

The attached document will be placed on public display for a period of at least 28 days.

CONCLUSION

in April 2022, Councillors and staff undertook a workshop and - informed by several plans reviewed the Delivery Programme following community consultation and the 2022 Micromex satisfaction and importance survey.

11.9 OPERATIONAL PLAN 2022/2023

| | |
|-----------------------|--|
| File Number: | A3.4.13 |
| Author: | Director Corporate Services |
| Authoriser: | Director Corporate Services |
| Attachments: | 1. DRAFT Master Operational Plan |
| CSP Objective: | Shire assets and services delivered effectively and efficiently |
| Precis: | Statutory Reporting |
| Budget: | \$ - to be sourced from |

RECOMMENDATION

That the Operational Plan 2022/2023 be endorsed, approved for public exhibition, and resubmitted to the June 30 2022 Council meeting for formal adoption.

RESOLUTION 161/22

Moved: Cr Diprose
Seconded: Cr McKellar

That the Operational Plan 2022/2023 be endorsed, approved for public exhibition, and resubmitted to the June 30 2022 Council meeting for formal adoption.

CARRIED

PURPOSE

To endorse Council's Operational Plan 2022/2023 as per Local Government Act requirements.

BACKGROUND

The council must have an Operational Plan that is adopted before the beginning of each financial year, detailing the activities and actions to be undertaken by the council during that year to achieve the Delivery Program commitments.

a) Consideration of General Fund Rates for 2022/2023

IPART has announced its determination of the maximum permissible rate increase for 2022/2023 as being 0.8% which will raise an additional \$23,697 in the General Fund. Council has applied for a Special Rate Variation for 2022/2023 of 2.5% which will raise an additional \$75,052 in the General Fund. Council will know the results of the Special Rate Variation in June 2022

Table 1 (following) outlines the rating increase for 2022/2023 based on the approved increase of 0.8% and the pending Special Rate Variation of 2.5%.

| Category | Approved Increase 2022/2023 | | | | Pending Special Rate Variation 2022/2023 | | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------|--------------|---------------------|--|-------------|--------------|---------------------|
| | Increase % | Base Charge | Ad Valorem | Yield | Increase % | Base Charge | Ad Valorem | Yield |
| Grenfell Residential | 0.8 | \$ 350 | 0.991822 | \$ 759,332 | 2.5 | \$ 360 | 0.997976 | \$ 772,139 |
| Ordinary Residential | 0.8 | \$ 347 | 0.505309 | \$ 179,078 | 2.5 | \$ 353 | 0.513831 | \$ 182,098 |
| Main Street Business | 0.8 | \$ 374 | 3.292487 | \$ 89,439 | 2.5 | \$ 380 | 3.348015 | \$ 90,947 |
| Ordinary Business | 0.8 | \$ 372 | 1.861095 | \$ 91,627 | 2.5 | \$ 378 | 1.892483 | \$ 93,173 |
| Bimbi Residential | 0.8 | \$ 65 | 0.747476 | \$ 4,033 | 2.5 | \$ 70 | 0.725497 | \$ 4,101 |
| Caragabal Residential | 0.8 | \$ 92 | 1.629984 | \$ 12,208 | 2.5 | \$ 93 | 1.657474 | \$ 12,414 |
| Greenethorpe Residential | 0.8 | \$ 122 | 1.32272 | \$ 36,829 | 2.5 | \$ 124 | 1.345028 | \$ 37,450 |
| Quandialla Residential | 0.8 | \$ 105 | 1.363806 | \$ 18,664 | 2.5 | \$ 110 | 1.351693 | \$ 18,979 |
| Farmland | 0.8 | \$ 299 | 0.167655 | \$ 1,787,424 | 2.5 | \$ 304 | 0.170482 | \$ 1,817,569 |
| Mining | 0.8 | \$ 1,020 | 3.139791 | \$ 7,143 | 2.5 | \$ 1,037 | 3.192744 | \$ 7,263 |
| | | | Total | \$ 2,985,778 | | | Total | \$ 3,036,133 |

b) Consideration of Sewer Fund Charges for 2022/2023

The rate peg does not apply to sewer (or water) funds. With the completion of the new Sewerage Treatment Plant a new Strategic Business Plan for Sewer will need to be undertaken. In the meantime, the sewer charge for 2022/2023 is below.

| Sewer Charges | | |
|-----------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Category | 2021/2022 | 2022/2023 |
| Residential Connected | \$ 575.00 | \$ 600.00 |
| Non-Residential Connected | \$ 630.00 | \$ 650.00 |
| Residential Unconnected | \$ 200.00 | \$ 250.00 |
| Non-Residential Unconnected | \$ 210.00 | \$ 275.00 |
| Water Closets | \$ 85.00 | \$ 100.00 |
| Urinals | \$ 72.00 | \$ 100.00 |

c) Consideration of Domestic Waste Management (DWM) Charges for 2021/2022

Domestic Waste Management charges are levied under Sec 496 of the *Local Government Act, 1993*. Sec 504 stipulates that income obtained from charges for domestic use must be calculated so as to not exceed the reasonable cost to Council in the provision of these services.

The reasonable cost calculation has been undertaken and complies with Sec 504 of the *Local Government Act, 1993*.

A comparison of 2021/2022 and 2022/2023 charges is shown in the below Table.

| Domestic Waste Management Charges | | |
|--|------------------|------------------|
| Category | 2021/2022 | 2022/2023 |
| Grenfell -Waste/Recycling | \$ 372.00 | \$ 400.00 |
| Greenethrope -Waste/Recycling | \$ 330.00 | \$ 380.00 |
| Qundialla -Waste/Recycling | \$ - | \$ 350.00 |
| Caragabal -Waste/Recycling | \$ - | \$ 350.00 |
| Bimbi -Waste/Recycling | \$ - | \$ 350.00 |
| Commercial -Waste/Recycling | \$ 330.00 | \$ 380.00 |
| Rural Garabage Charge | \$ 50.00 | \$ 60.00 |
| Rural Garabage Charge | \$ 50.00 | \$ 60.00 |

POLICY/LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Section 405 Local Government Act 1993.

INTERNAL/EXTERNAL CONSULTATION

The attached document will be place on public display for a period of at least 28 days.

CONCLUSION

That the draft Operational Plan 2022/2023 be put on public display for 28 days.

11.10 RECONNECTING REGIONAL NSW – COMMUNITY EVENTS PROGRAM

| | |
|-----------------------|--|
| File Number: | G2.11.1 |
| Author: | EDO/TPO |
| Authoriser: | Director Corporate Services |
| Attachments: | 1. Community Events Program Drone Lights Show Images |
| CSP Objective: | Culturally rich, vibrant and inclusive community |
| Precis: | Council has been allocated \$119,826 from the recently announced ‘Reconnecting Regional NSW – Community Events Program’. Council is required to endorse an approach for this funding. |
| Budget: | \$ 119.826 to be sourced from grant funding |

RECOMMENDATION

That council proceed with an application for Reconnecting Regional NSW – Community Events Program’ for a drone light event in Grenfell in early 2023.

RESOLUTION 162/22

Moved: Cr Best

Seconded: Cr Kenah

That council proceed with an application for Reconnecting Regional NSW – Community Events Program’ for a drone light event in Grenfell in early 2023.

CARRIED

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to provide guidance to Council on the recently announced ‘Reconnecting Regional NSW – Community Events Program’. Council is required to endorse an approach for this funding at this month’s meeting to allow an event to be scoped and an application to be prepared and submitted by the June 24th, 2022, deadline.

BACKGROUND

The NSW Government recently unveiled the ‘Reconnecting Regional NSW – Community Events Program’. This program is to promote economic and social recovery across regional NSW local government areas and will be achieved by supporting Councils to deliver COVID-Safe community events that are open for the entire community to attend. The program will support regional communities to reconnect by helping deliver exciting community events. The program will also facilitate economic recovery by supporting local businesses in the events, hospitality and accommodation sectors. A dedicated allocation of \$119,826 is available to the Weddin Shire Council.

Events must:

- be open to all members of the public
- free to attend or a very small fee

- have a primary purpose of reconnecting communities and improving social cohesion
- be held before 31 March 2023.

ISSUES AND COMMENTS

Staff need to scope a brand-new event, secure quotes for entertainment and event management and prepare a funding application by 24th June 2022.

Council has received very positive feedback from the local community on the Light Up The Night Event held in April 2022. Elements of that that proved particularly popular were how the event was specifically designed to cater to young families. The event was focused on the local community rather than tourists and it was up to individuals to choose the extent to which they exposed themselves to crowds, with some people preferring to view the event from the safety of their own vehicle, as well as free entry.

Some of the constructive feedback received on Light Up The Night, indicated that people would have spent more time at the event if catering and refreshments were available and if music was a greater part of the event. In addition, many people indicated they would have preferred a larger area to be activated.

There is an opportunity for Council to leverage the success of Light Up The Night, delivering similar outcomes to the community, while taking on board the constructive feedback.

It is proposed that a twilight community event potentially also known as 'Light Up The Night' is held in Grenfell in February /March 2023 featuring live music by local bands such as 'Lawson Shire', food & market stalls, and culminating with a drone light show. Drone light shows are comparable to fireworks without the associated bush fire risk or loud noise that can scare people and animals. Examples of drone light shows are presented in an attachment for information.

A drone light show would involve a swarm of small drones with high powered LED lights, being launched into the night sky to create choreographed three-dimensional, moving shapes set to music. This would be something very new and exciting for regional NSW and would provide the local community with an experience currently only available in capital cities. It is likely that a show featuring 100 drones lasting 20 minutes could be shown.

Although this event itself would not be marketed as a tourism event to out of region visitors, the event will be designed to make locals proud. As such, it will activate the visiting friends and relatives market, with locals inviting friends and family back to Grenfell for the weekend to attend the event. This event would have the ability to fill the accommodation, hotels and businesses in Grenfell. Although the event would be free entry it is proposed to ticket the event to manage attendance. All costs within the event site such as refreshments would be user pays. The venue would be close to Grenfell's Main Street, possibly Railway Station park.

POLICY/LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

The proposed event aligns with Council’s integrated planning.

Weddin 2026 Community Strategic Plan

NO. 1 – COLLABORATIVE WEALTH-BUILDING (STRONG, DIVERSE AND RESILIENT LOCAL ECONOMY)

1.2 Weddin Shire’s tourism potential is maximised: through marketing, accommodation and activities.

NO. 4 – CULTURALLY RICH, VIBRANT AND INCLUSIVE COMMUNITY

4.5 Weddin is seen as encouraging a strong sense of community and connectedness.

Delivery Program 2017-2022

Strategic Outcome #1 Collaborative wealth-building (strong, diverse and resilient local economy)

1.2.2 Develop regional tourism collaboration: trails; self-drive apps; events ‘What’s on’ promotion

1.2.5 Improve visitor experience: signage; destination plan; event calendar; product improvement

Strategic Outcome #4 Culturally rich, vibrant and inclusive community

4.6.1 Develop and maintain activities and facilities to support target and disadvantaged demographic groups throughout the Shire

Operational Plan 2021-2022

Strategic Outcome 1.2 Weddin Shire’s tourism potential is maximised. 1.2.2 Develop regional tourism collaboration: trails; self-drive apps; events ‘What’s on’ promotion. 1.2.5 Improve visitor experience: signage; destination plan; event calendar; product improvement.

Strategic Outcome #4 Culturally rich, vibrant and inclusive community

4.6.1 Develop and maintain activities and facilities to support target and disadvantaged demographic groups throughout the Shire.

FINANCIAL/RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

It is likely that this event can be fully resourced by the grant, including outsourcing of the event’s management to an external event manager in the region. An indicative budget breakdown is presented below.

| Task | Indicative Budget |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------|
| Event Management | \$10,000 |
| Music, stage, lighting etc. | \$30,000 |
| Drone Light Show | \$60,000 |
| Marketing, ticketing etc. | \$5,000 |
| Traffic management | \$10,000 |
| Venue Hire | \$1,000 |
| Safety Fencing | \$4,000 |
| Total | \$120,000 ex GST |

INTERNAL/EXTERNAL CONSULTATION

There has been no specific internal or external consultation on this proposal. There was an extensive community survey undertaken after the Light Up The Night event in April 2022, which returned 66 responses. The feedback from this survey indicates the type of event proposed is likely to be popular with the community while also delivering the outcomes desired by the funding body.

CONCLUSION

The proposed event presents Council with a path forward for the 'Reconnecting Regional NSW – Community Events Program'. The event aligns with Council's integrated planning, is likely to meet community expectations and will meet the desired outcomes of the funding body. In addition, the event will have only a modest impact on Council's limited resources.

12 INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES REPORTS**12.1 GRENFELL MAIN STREET RENEWAL****File Number:****Author:** Director Infrastructure Services**Authoriser:** Acting General Manager**Attachments:** Nil**CSP Objective:** Shire assets and services delivered effectively and efficiently**Precis:** Update to the Grenfell Community on the status of the Main Street Renewal Project**Budget:** \$ - to be sourced from -

Cr Bembrick left the room at 6:49 pm.

Cr Best left the room at 6:49 pm.

Cr Parlett left the room at 6:49 pm.

Cr Diprose nominated to take the Chair for consideration of this report.

Following discussion on this report it was noted for information only.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to inform the community on the status of the Grenfell Main Street Renewal project.

BACKGROUND

Following the community meeting organised by Steph Cooke held Friday 29th April 2022, Council has welcomed NSW Public Works Advisory (PWA) to direct Council with a path forward on this project.

Council have engaged NSW PWA from Monday 9th May 2022 and have been directed to prioritise remediating the Main Street, in preparation for the Henry Lawson Festival. The Festival runs over the June long weekend and is a major event for Grenfell and the wider community both economically and personally with many visiting friend and relatives attending the event.

ISSUES AND COMMENTS

Council have faced many engineering difficulties with this project most notably the geotechnical conditions of the underlying subgrade at the bottom end of the Main Street. This significantly pushed back the project timeline and taken a large portion of the budget which was not originally planned. There were geotechnical investigation undertaken in drier conditions. Since then Council commenced the construction of the pavement and quickly discovered that the conditions had changed through high flows of subsurface natural water flows. Anecdotal data suggests the western end of the Main Street is being constructed on what was once a creek.

All works to this point indicate 48% of the project is complete.

POLICY/LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil

FINANCIAL/RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

A snapshot of the budget is below. The unforeseeable geotechnical conditions have significantly affected the budget in this project.

| Grenfell Main Street Renewal Budget Snapshot | |
|---|----------------|
| Budget (Fully Grant Funded) | \$3,323,503.00 |
| Expenditure to date | \$2,402,245.62 |
| Remaining Budget | \$921,257.38 |

There is \$635,000 tentatively reserved in the operational plan next year through the roads to recovery program to go toward along with \$700,000 from southern phone shares recently acquired.

The original estimation for the project was \$3,200,000. This was under the impression that all geotechnical conditions matched the conducted testing.

INTERNAL/EXTERNAL CONSULTATION

NSW PWA have indicated plans of re-consulting with the community to ensure they are creating a communication structure which works for both the community and Council which is transparent.

CONCLUSION

Council is looking forward to working with NSW PWA to revisit the approach to Construction, Delivery and Communication to the community of Grenfell regarding this highly complex project.

Council notes there had been a lack of communication on the project due to lack of resources, this was rectified by tasking internal employees to conduct duties outside their usual duties to draft social media posts for the community. The posts were generally received well and Council looks forward to improving this communication when the project recommences after the Henry Lawson Festival.

Cr Bembrick entered the room at 6:53 pm. and resumed the Chair

Cr Best entered the room at 6:53 pm.

Cr Parlett entered the room 6.53pm.

12.2 ROADWORKS REPORT**File Number:****Author:** Director Infrastructure Services**Authoriser:** Acting General Manager**Attachments:** Nil**CSP Objective:** Shire assets and services delivered effectively and efficiently**Precis:** Roadworks undertaken for the month of April**Budget:** \$ to be sourced from -**This report was noted for information only.****a. Highways: Capital and Maintenance Works**

Routine maintenance such as rest area maintenance, bitumen patching, guide posting and tree maintenance has continued on major highways.

- SH06 (Mid-Western Highway)
 - Upcoming Sign Replacement Program (Newell Highway to Cowra Shire Council Boundary)
- Heavy Patching
- Pothole Maintenance
- Guidepost Maintenance
- SH17 (Newell Highway)
 - Heavy Patching
 - Pothole Maintenance
 - Guidepost Maintenance

b. Regional Roads: Capital and Maintenance Works

Routine maintenance such as rest area maintenance, bitumen patching, guide posting and tree maintenance has continued on regional roads.

- MR236 (Henry Lawson Way/Forbes Road)
 - Tree Maintenance
 - Guidepost Maintenance
 - Sign Maintenance
 - Pothole Patching
 - Culvert Maintenance
- MR237 (Gooloogong Road)
 - Guidepost Maintenance
 - Pothole Patching
- MR239 (Henry Lawson Way/Young Road)
 - Tree Maintenance
 - Pothole Patching
 - Guidepost Maintenance
- MR398 (Mary Gilmore Way)

- Pothole Maintenance
- Guide Post Maintenance

c. Rural Local Roads: Capital Works

Back Piney Range Road - Culvert upgrade

Culvert construction works have been mostly completed. The contractor will complete the back filling and road works after the water levels drop to a level which will allow the work to be undertaken.

| Project Budget | Current Expenditure |
|----------------|---------------------|
| \$230,232.00 | \$132,866.00 |



Photo : Back Piney Range Road - Culvert Site

Hancock-Flinns Road - Culvert upgrade

Culvert construction works have been mostly completed. The contractor will complete the back filling and road works after the water levels drop to a level which will allow the work to be undertaken.

| Project Budget | Current Expenditure |
|----------------|---------------------|
| \$224,500.00 | \$134,826.00 |



Photo : Hancock-Flinns Road - Culvert Site

Pullabooka Road – Fixing Local Road (Round -1)

Drainage improvement works and shoulder widening works are ongoing. The inclement weather is causing minor project pushbacks. Coming up in the Month of May a 4 km section will be stabilised and sealed at Caragabal section of the project.

| Project Budget | Current Expenditure |
|----------------|---------------------|
| \$4,095,702.00 | \$627,042.00 |



Photo : Pullabooka Road Improvement

New Forbes Road - Fixing Local Road (Round-2)

Final design of the road is complete. Procurement works for drainage and road improvement is going on. Guard Rail on the culvert replacement is due for install before July 2022.

| Project Budget | Current Expenditure |
|-----------------------|----------------------------|
| \$4,305,839.00 | \$367,849.00 |



Photo : New Forbes Road – Culvert Replacement Site

Greenethorpe – Koorawatha - Fixing Local Road (Round -3)

Council have been awarded \$2,942,133 to update the Greenethorpe-Koorawatha road for heavy vehicle safety.

Procurement works for road design and drainage has commenced and Council are to award the contract in May 2022.



Figure 1 - Member for Cootamundra Steph Cooke announcing the funding for Greenethorpe Koorawatha Road Project

Adelargo Road Culvert Replacement - (Bridge Renewal Program)

The existing culvert has been demolished and the new pre-cast concrete culvert has been delivered to site. Works will resume once the water level of the creek will allow the work to be undertaken safely.

| Project Budget | Current Expenditure |
|----------------|---------------------|
| \$623,876.00 | \$93,971.90 |



Photo : Adelargo Road Culvert Site

d. Rural Local Roads: Maintenance

Routine maintenance such as slashing, bitumen patching, guide posting and tree maintenance has continued on rural local roads.

- **Maintenance Grading:**
 - Hunters Road
 - Berendebba Road
- **Culvert/Drainage Maintenance:**
 - New Forbes Road
- **Tree Maintenance:**
 - New Forbes Road
 - Henry Lawson Way (MR236)
 - Gooloogong Road

12.3 OTHER WORKS REPORT

File Number:

Author: Director Infrastructure Services

Authoriser: Acting General Manager

Attachments: Nil

CSP Objective: Shire assets and services delivered effectively and efficiently

Precis: Other works undertaken during the period 1/4/22 – 30/4/22

Budget: \$ 0 to be sourced from not applicable

This report was noted for information only.

Parks & Ovals

- Taylor Park – Mulched garden beds

c. Cemeteries

The following graves have been prepared:

- Grenfell Lawn 1
- Grenfell -
- Bimbi-
- Caragabal -
- Ashes Interment 1
- Private Property -

d. Sewer Mains

No sewer chokes have been reported.

e. Private Works

Nil

f. Vandalism

- Rural - Nil
- Urban - Toilet Block Graffiti
- Progressive Cost Rural \$ 0.00**
- Progressive Cost Urban \$ 150.00**

12.4 UPCOMING ROADWORKS PROGRAM**File Number:****Author:** Director Infrastructure Services**Authoriser:** Acting General Manager**Attachments:** Nil**CSP Objective:** Shire assets and services delivered effectively and efficiently**Precis:** Roadworks scheduled to be undertaken during the period 1/4/22 – 30/4/22**Budget:** \$ 0 to be sourced from not applicable**This report was noted for information only.****a. Highways: Capital and Maintenance Works**

Routine maintenance such as rest area maintenance, bitumen patching, guide posting and tree maintenance has continued on major highways.

- SH06 (Mid Western Highway) - Complete Sign Replacement Program (From Cowra Shire Council Boundary to Newell Highway)
 - Complete Minor Heavy Patching Program
 - Complete Culvert Maintenance Program.
- SH17 (Newell Highway) -

b. Regional Roads: Capital and Maintenance Works

Routine maintenance such as rest area maintenance, bitumen patching, guide posting and tree maintenance has continued on regional roads.

- MR236 (Henry Lawson Way/Forbes Road) - Sealing Safer Roads Project / Reseal Safer Roads Project.
- MR237 (Gooloogong Road)
- MR239 (Henry Lawson Way/Young Road) - Reseal Young Road / Holy Camp Rd Intersection
- MR398 (Mary Gilmore Way)
 -

c. Rural Local Roads: Capital Works

- Back Piney Range Road - Culvert upgrade
- Hancock-Flinns Road - Culvert upgrade

d. Rural Local Roads: Maintenance

Routine maintenance such as slashing, bitumen patching, guide posting and tree maintenance has continued on rural local roads.

- Maintenance Grading:
 - As Required
- Shoulder Maintenance:

- Nil
- Signs/Guidepost Maintenance:
 - As Required
- Culvert/Drainage Maintenance:
 - As Required
- Tree Maintenance:
 - Council Depot
- Slashing
 - Mary Gilmore Way
 - Memory Street
 - O'briens Hill
 - Manganese Road
 - Stan McCabe Drive Block

12.5 WORKSHOP OPERATIONS

File Number:

Author: Director Infrastructure Services

Authoriser: Acting General Manager

Attachments: Nil

CSP Objective: Shire assets and services delivered effectively and efficiently

Precis: Workshop staff’s activities during the period 1/4/22 – 30/4/222

Budget: \$ 0 to be sourced from not applicable

This report was noted for information only.

| <h1>Plant Report April</h1> | | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|--|
| Plant Number | Fault | Repairs |
| 2085 | 280'k Service | Change oil (6.5lt), change oil filter, air filter. Check over & Test drive. |
| 2100 | Blinkers not working | Test circuit and replace 60amp circuit breaker. |
| 2101 | L/H Blinker working some times | Test circuit & bulb unable to fault. |
| 2101 | L/H Blinker working some times | Dismantle L/H headlight check wiring & bulb. Blinker working, unable to fault. |
| 3957 | Rego check | Deliver for Rego check and return. |
| 3963 | Hydraulic hose damaged | O'Connor's to make new hose. Replace hose and test unit. |
| 4102 | Horn, Reverse lights, Batteries | Horn damaged. Test Reverse & replace bulbs. Batteries to be replaced. |
| 4102 | Horn not working | Replace damaged horn & test. |
| 4103 | Front tyres flat | Re-inflate tyres and check over. |
| 4107 | Emulsion blocking system | Spray down unit, allow to soak wash down. On-going Clean |
| 4107 | Jet-Patcher | Clean down unit |
| 4107 | Jet-Patcher | Clean down unit. |
| 4107 | Jet-Patcher | Replace blocked parts. |
| 4112 | Not cutting level | Strip down and order parts. |
| 4117 | Beacon Horn not working | Test circuit no power, replace blown fuse. Beacon still not working, Replace beacon. |
| 4122 | Bucket level Guide damaged | Straight bucket lever. |
| 4122 | Oil leak | Check over and clean up oil residue. Test, no fault found. |
| 5319 | Start issue | Test spark and replace spark plug, Test run. |
| 5334 | Start issue | Test spark and replace spark plug, Test run. |

| | | |
|------|-----------------------------|---|
| 5418 | Throttle controlled damaged | Replace throttle control, top up oil (100ml). |
| 5419 | Throttle controlled damaged | Replace throttle control. |

12.6 WASTEWATER TREATMENT WORKS OPERATIONS

File Number: S1.1.1
Author: Director Infrastructure Services
Authoriser: Director Infrastructure Services
Attachments: Nil
CSP Objective: Shire assets and services delivered effectively and efficiently
Precis: Wastewater Treatment Works Operations for the month of April
Budget: \$ to be sourced from

This report was noted for information only.

Total inflow through the Works was 14,570 kL with a daily average of 485 kL. Outflow for irrigation reuse was 1,106 kL and discharge to Emu Creek was 14,859 kL.

The highest daily recording of 1,272 kL occurred for the 24 hours ending 6:30 am on 30 April 2022 and the lowest of 384 kL for the 24 hours ending 6:30 am on 3 April 2022.

A total rainfall of 102 mm was recorded for April 2022.

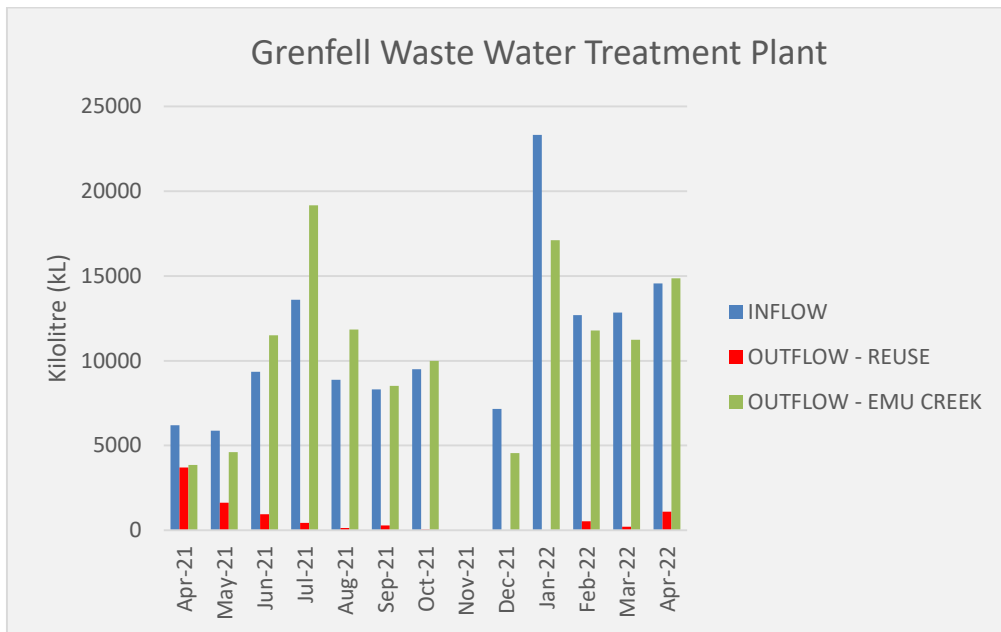


Figure 1 - Grenfell Waste Water Treatment Flows

12.7 BIOSECURITY OPERATIONS

File Number:

Author: Director Infrastructure Services

Authoriser: Director Infrastructure Services

Attachments: Nil

CSP Objective: Sustainable natural, agricultural and built environments

Precis: Update on Biosecurity Operations

Budget: \$ to be sourced from -

This report was noted for information only.

The following activities were undertaken by Council Biosecurity officers for the month of April.

| <u>Activity</u> | <u>Location</u> |
|--|---|
| Administration | <i>Monthly reporting Mapping BIS uploads Email review and replies to relevant emails WAP Budget - monitoring Extranet - review weed profiles Works Program Review Central West Regional Strategic Weed Management Plan - before final submission</i> |
| Publicity | <i>Handouts for weeds Central West Weeds booklets, Biological control booklets, No Space for Weeds campaign merchandise given out hats, jumpers, stubby holders</i> |
| Mapping | <i>BIS compliance - all fields working well and uploads completed each month</i> |
| Meeting | <i>Central West Regional Weeds Committee (CWRWC) - Vacant positions filled Chair – Andy Fletcher - CMCC Vice Chair – Damien Wray - Bogan Shire</i> |
| Training | <i>Booked - Prohibited Weeds training at Dubbo early next month funded by CWRWC, completed pre-course assessment on Prohibited matter, Regional project officer has funded 3 attendees from Weddin for Drone training in near future</i> |
| Inspections | <i>Private property Inspection, Re-inspections carried out and will continue</i> |
| Parish Area Inspections and Reactive Treatment of Weeds if required | <i>Yuline Maudry Birangan Bogolong Bolungerai</i> |

| | |
|--|--|
| | <p><i>Wheoga</i> <i>Eualdrie</i> <i>Grenfell town area</i> <i>Bimbi town area</i> <i>Quandialla town area</i></p> |
| <p>Other High Risk Weed Sites Inspections</p> | <p><i>Grenfell Showground</i> <i>Grenfell Racecourse</i> <i>Campgrounds</i> <i>Rest areas</i> <i>Tourist parking areas</i> <i>Sporting grounds</i> <i>Cemeteries</i> <i>Grain storage areas</i></p> |
| <p>Council Owned Land Inspections</p> | <p><i>Rest areas</i> <i>Dog Park</i> <i>Bogolong Dam</i> <i>Company Dam</i> <i>Cemeteries (Grenfell, Caragabal and Bland)</i> <i>O'Brians Hill Park</i> <i>Roadsides</i></p> |
| <p>TSR Inspection</p> | <p><i>Gooloogong Rd, SH6, Mary Gilmore Way</i></p> |
| <p>Weeds Treated</p> | <p><i>Bridal Creeper, Opuntia (Cactus)</i></p> |
| <p>Sucker Control</p> | <p><i>Continuous sucker control, guard rails, sign posts and culverts on sighting or arrangement</i></p> |

12.8 MAIN STREET UPGRADE - TREES

| | |
|-----------------------|--|
| File Number: | P2.3.18, T3.6.103 |
| Author: | Director Infrastructure Services |
| Authoriser: | Director Infrastructure Services |
| Attachments: | 1. Cemetery Tree Planting Proposal Based off Masterplan 2. Cemetery Front Entrance 3. Front of Home and Community Care (HACC) Building 4. Taylor Park - Planting Proposal |
| CSP Objective: | Sustainable natural, agricultural and built environments |
| Precis: | Utilise tree species purchased for Main Street Project |
| Budget: | \$ to be sourced from |

Cr Bembrick left the room at 6:57 pm.

Cr Best left the room at 6:57 pm.

Cr Parlett left the room at 6:57 pm.

Cr Diprose took the Chair.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council repurpose the 58 trees originally purchased for the Grenfell Main Street Renewal project to the following locations:

1. Twenty-one (21) Autumn Blaze and Thirty-four (34) Ornamental Pear trees be planted at the Grenfell Cemetery
2. Two (2) Autumn Blaze trees to replace trees removed on Short St in front of the HACC Centre
3. One (1) Ornamental Pear be planted as a centre piece in the rose garden at Taylor Park

RESOLUTION 163/22

Moved: Cr McKellar

Seconded: Cr Kenah

That Council repurpose the 58 trees originally purchased for the Grenfell Main Street Renewal project to the following locations:

1. Twenty-one (21) Autumn Blaze and Thirty-four (34) Ornamental Pear trees be planted at the Grenfell Cemetery
2. Two (2) Autumn Blaze trees to replace trees removed on Short St in front of the HACC Centre
3. One (1) Ornamental Pear be planted as a centre piece in the rose garden at Taylor Park

CARRIED

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to propose new planting locations for trees purchased originally for the Main Street Renewal Project.

BACKGROUND

In October 2021 Council purchased the following trees for the Grenfell Main Street Renewal Project:

- Twenty-three (23) Acer x freemanii ‘Jeffersred’ Autumn Blaze
- Thirty-five (35) Ornamental Pear (Pyrus Calleryana ‘Chanticleer’)

These trees have remained in the original temporary pots since being purchased. It is recommended that they do not remain in these for more than six (6) months after purchase. May 2022 will mark 6 months since purchase of these trees. Their condition is deteriorating and they are becoming root-bound. They require planting as soon as possible.

ISSUES AND COMMENTS

The original supplier of the trees is aware we will require a replacement order for the Main Street Project. They have made provision for this and have reserved an identical order for Council when landscaping works are ready to progress.

POLICY/LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil

FINANCIAL/RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

The trees original purchase price was \$ 19,203.80. This cost will be a journal from the Grenfell Main Street Renewal Project to the Cemetery beautification project. The beautification project as a budget of \$ 50,000.

The implications on the Cemetery Beautification Project is as follows:

| Cemetery Beautification Project | | |
|--|--------------|------------------|
| Projected Cost of trees and planting | Budget | Remaining Budget |
| \$ 31,168.50 | \$ 50,000.00 | \$ 18,831.50 |

The three (3) remaining trees to be planted will be charged to the relevant operational budgets. The cost per tree including labour is \$566.70.

INTERNAL/EXTERNAL CONSULTATION

Nil

CONCLUSION

It is proposed that the majority of the trees which include:

- Twenty-one (21) Autumn Blaze and
- Thirty-four (34) Ornamental Pear trees

Are to be planted at the Grenfell Cemetery in line with the recently adopted Cemetery Master Plan concept design.

The remaining two (2) Autumn Blaze trees will replace trees removed on Short St in front of the HACC Centre and one (1) Ornamental Pear will be planted as a centre piece in the rose garden at Taylor Park.

Cr Bembrick entered the room at 6:59 pm. and resumed the Chair

Cr Best entered the room at 6:59 pm.

Cr Parlett entered the room at 6:59 pm.

13 ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES REPORTS

13.1 DEVELOPMENT APPLICATIONS, CONSTRUCTION CERTIFICATES AND COMPLYING DEVELOPMENT CERTIFICATES

File Number: T5
Author: Executive Assistant to the Director Environmental Services
Authoriser: Director Environmental Services
Attachments: Nil
CSP Objective: Collaborative wealth building (strong, diverse and resilient local economy)
Precis: List of development application, construction certificate and complying development application determined during the period 1 April to 30 April 2022.
Budget: \$ Nil †

This report was noted for information only.

Development Applications

The following applications were determined subject to specified conditions, by the Acting General Manager under delegated authority issued on 3 September 2021 (Res. No. 075):

| DA NO. | Applicant | Construction | Value (\$) | Address |
|---------|--------------------------|---|------------|--|
| 9/2022 | Mr R Walsh | Alts & Add to Dwelling, Garage & Boundary Realignment | \$484,550 | LOT: 1 & 2 DP: 7438 816 Quondong Road GRENFELL NSW 2810 |
| 10/2022 | Andy's Design & Drafting | Alts & Add to Dwelling and Shed | \$128,480 | LOT: 1385 DP: 754578 24 Holy Camp Road GRENFELL NSW 2810 |
| 11/2022 | Betterlook Homes | Transportable Dwelling | \$210,000 | LOT: 3 DP: 1070179 17 Bradley Street GRENFELL NSW 2810 |

Complying Development Applications

The following applications were determined as Complying Development subject to standard conditions:

| CDC NO. | Applicant | Construction | Value (\$) | Address |
|-----------|---------------------|---------------|------------|--|
| CD 4/2022 | Lang's Pools & Spas | Swimming Pool | \$45,700 | LOT: 5 DP: 868388 1D Sullivan Street GRENFELL NSW 2810 |

Construction Certificates

The following applications were received and determined under delegation:

| CC NO. | Applicant | Construction | Address |
|---------------|------------------|---------------------|----------------|
| Nil | | | |

13.2 AUSTRALIAN DEATH NOTIFICATION SERVICE

| | |
|-----------------------|--|
| File Number: | A3.6.54 |
| Author: | Director Environmental Services |
| Authoriser: | Director Environmental Services |
| Attachments: | Nil |
| CSP Objective: | Democratic and engaged community supported by efficient internal systems |
| Precis: | Council has received a request to join the Australian Death Notification Service (ADNS) |
| Budget: | \$ Nil to be sourced from |

RECOMMENDATION

That Council participate in the Australian Death Notification Service.

RESOLUTION 164/22

Moved: Cr Kenah

Seconded: Cr Parlett

That Council participate in the Australian Death Notification Service.

CARRIED

PURPOSE

The Minister for Customer Service and Digital Government and Minister for Local Government have requested Councils participation in the Australian Death Notification Service.

BACKGROUND

The NSW Department of Customer Service and the NSW Registry of Births, Deaths and Marriages (BDM) have collaborated with BDMs across the country to develop the Australian Death Notification Service.

The ADNS provides people with a single online location to notify multiple organisations that someone has died. When the deceased's details are entered, the ADNS validates them against the Australian Death Check (ADC). The ADC holds all the death registration data recorded by each BDM across Australia. Once the details are validated, the notifier chooses the relevant institutions and services to inform, and provides their own contact details should a participating organisation need to contact them.

Currently there are over 60 organisations participating in the service, including only one (1) Council. Users of the system have requested more Council be involved with the service.

ISSUES AND COMMENTS

Nil

POLICY/LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no known policy or legal implications for participating in the ADNS.

FINANCIAL/RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

The ADNS is a free national service. Participation in the service is not anticipated to have any significant resource implications.

INTERNAL/EXTERNAL CONSULTATION

Nil

CONCLUSION

Council has received a request to participate in ADNS, which is a free national service providing a single notification point to inform multiple services following a death. It is recommended that Council participate in the service.

13.3 BIN DONATION REQUEST FROM GRENFELL ROTARY CLUB

| | |
|-----------------------|--|
| File Number: | C1.36 |
| Author: | Director Environmental Services |
| Authoriser: | Director Environmental Services |
| Attachments: | Nil |
| CSP Objective: | Sustainable natural, agricultural and built environments |
| Precis: | Grenfell Rotary Club have requested the donation of six (6) recycling bins in order to place at consenting businesses and tourist attractions, to collect bottles and cans to raise funds for local projects in the Weddin Shire. |
| Budget: | \$ 588 to be sourced from waste reserve |

Cr Cook left the room at 7:01 pm.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council donate six (6) recycling bins to Grenfell Rotary Club in order to place at consenting businesses and tourist attractions, in order to collect bottles and cans to raise funds for local projects within the Weddin Shire.

RESOLUTION 165/22

Moved: Cr Diprose

Seconded: Cr Parlett

That Council donate six (6) recycling bins to Grenfell Rotary Club in order to place at consenting businesses and tourist attractions, in order to collect bottles and cans to raise funds for local projects within the Weddin Shire.

Note: It was requested that this initiative be reviewed in (6) six months time.

CARRIED

PURPOSE

Grenfell Rotary Club have requested the donation of six (6) recycling bins in order to place at consenting businesses and tourist attractions, in order to collect bottles and cans.

Grenfell Rotary Club will regularly check and empty the bins. The bottles and cans collected will be returned to a 'Return and Earn' site to raise funds for local projects within the Weddin Shire.

ISSUES AND COMMENTS

The proposal will have a positive impact by reducing the number of recyclable bottles and cans going to landfill, while also raising funds for a local community group to spend on local projects within the Weddin Shire.

POLICY/LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil

FINANCIAL/RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

The total cost of donating six (6) recycling bins to Grenfell Rotary Club is \$588. There is sufficient funds available in the Waste Reserve to fund the donation of the bins. As the club will be maintaining and emptying the bins, there are no ongoing financial or resource implications.

INTERNAL/EXTERNAL CONSULTATION

Nil

CONCLUSION

Grenfell Rotary Club have requested the donation of six (6) recycling bins to place at consenting businesses and tourist attractions, in order to collect bottles and cans. The collected bottles and cans will be returned to a 'Return and Earn' site in order to raise funds for community projects within the Weddin Shire. It is recommended that Council donate the requested six (6) recycling bins.

[Cr Cook entered the room at 7:04 pm.](#)

14 DELEGATE(S) REPORTS

Nil

15 MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS**15.1 MINUTES OF THE QUANDIALLA POOL COMMITTEE HELD FRIDAY 22 APRIL 2022 10AM**

File Number: C2.6.39
Author: Executive Assistant to the General Manager
Authoriser: Acting General Manager
Attachments: 1. Quandialla Pool Committee Minutes 22/4/22

RECOMMENDATION

Except where otherwise dealt with, the Minutes of the held Quandialla Pool Committee be adopted as presented.

RESOLUTION 166/22

Moved: Cr Diprose
Seconded: Cr McKellar

Except where otherwise dealt with, the Minutes of the held Quandialla Pool Committee be adopted as presented.

CARRIED

15.2 MINUTES OF THE HENRY LAWSON FESTIVAL OF ARTS GENERAL MEETING HELD WEDNESDAY 4TH MAY 2022 7PM

File Number: C2.6.32
Author: Executive Assistant to the General Manager
Authoriser: Acting General Manager
Attachments: 1. HLF Agenda May 2022
2. HLF Minutes 4 May 2022

RECOMMENDATION

Except where otherwise dealt with, the Minutes of the Henry Lawson Festival of Arts held 4 May 2022 be adopted as presented.

RESOLUTION 167/22

Moved: Cr Parlett
Seconded: Cr Diprose

Except where otherwise dealt with, the Minutes of the Henry Lawson Festival of Arts held 4 May 2022 be adopted as presented.

CARRIED

15.3 MINUTES OF THE LACHLAN REGIONAL TRANSPORT COMMITTEE (LRTC) MEETING HELD 1 MAY 2022

File Number: T3.5.2
Author: Executive Assistant to the General Manager
Authoriser: Acting General Manager
Attachments: 1. LRTC Meeting 1 May 2022

REPORT REMOVED

15.4 MINUTES OF THE WEDDIN DISTRICT LIAISON COMMITTEE MEETING HELD 22 MARCH 2022

File Number: E1.3.8
Author: Executive Assistant to the General Manager
Authoriser: Acting General Manager
Attachments: 1. Weddin DLC 22 March 2022

RECOMMENDATION

Except where otherwise dealt with, the Minutes of the Weddin DLC held 22 March 2022 be adopted as presented.

RESOLUTION 168/22

Moved: Cr Frame
Seconded: Cr Diprose

Except where otherwise dealt with, the Minutes of the Weddin DLC held 22 March 2022 be adopted as presented.

CARRIED

16 CLOSED COUNCIL**RECOMMENDATION**

The meeting now be closed to the public under Section 10A(2) of the *Local Government Act 1993* to consider the items following because of their confidential nature:

16.1 ELECTRICITY PROCUREMENT

This matter is considered to be confidential under Section 10A(2) - d(i) of the *Local Government Act 1993*, and Council is satisfied that discussion of this matter in an open meeting would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest as it deals with commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it.

16.2 CODE OF CONDUCT COMPLAINT

This matter is considered to be confidential under Section 10A(2) - a of the *Local Government Act 1993*, and Council is satisfied that discussion of this matter in an open meeting would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest as it deals with personnel matters concerning particular individuals (other than councillors).

RESOLUTION 169/22

Moved: Cr Best

Seconded: Cr McKellar

The meeting now be closed to the public under Section 10A(2) of the *Local Government Act 1993* to consider the items following because of their confidential nature:

16.1 ELECTRICITY PROCUREMENT

This matter is considered to be confidential under Section 10A(2) - d(i) of the *Local Government Act 1993*, and Council is satisfied that discussion of this matter in an open meeting would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest as it deals with commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it.

16.2 CODE OF CONDUCT COMPLAINT

This matter is considered to be confidential under Section 10A(2) - a of the *Local Government Act 1993*, and Council is satisfied that discussion of this matter in an open meeting would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest as it deals with personnel matters concerning particular individuals (other than councillors).

CARRIED

17 RETURN TO OPEN COUNCIL**RECOMMENDATION**

The meeting return to Open Council.

RESOLUTION 172/22

Moved: Cr Frame

Seconded: Cr Howell

The meeting return to Open Council.

CARRIED

18 REPORT ON CLOSED COUNCIL**16.1 ELECTRICITY PROCUREMENT****RESOLUTION 170/22**

Moved: Cr McKellar

Seconded: Cr Diprose

That Council

1. Note the extreme and unprecedented volatility of the electricity market currently being experienced,
2. Replace the previous resolution from Council report 20 May 2021 which states:
contribute a minimum of 50% of Council's electricity load to a renewable energy Power Purchase Agreement where the pricing is lower than the existing contracted price,

To:

contribute a minimum of 50% of Council's electricity load to a renewable energy Power Purchase Agreement, and
3. receive a report on completion of the procurement process.

CARRIED

Cr Diprose left the room.

All staff, except the Acting General Manager, also left the room during discussion on this matter.

16.2 CODE OF CONDUCT COMPLAINT

RESOLUTION 171/22

Moved: Cr Best

Seconded: Cr Frame

Summary: Code of Conduct Investigation (Mr John Niven)

1. Bradley Allen Love Lawyers was engaged by Weddin Shire Council (the Council) to undertake an investigation into a complaint by Councillor Phillip Diprose against then Councillor John Niven (the Investigation) alleging breaches of the Council’s Code of Conduct (the Code). We undertook the Investigation pursuant to Council’s Code of Conduct Procedures (the Procedures). On 13 May 2022, we furnished Council and Mr Niven with the Investigation Report.
2. The Investigation considered three allegations against Mr Niven:
 - (a) Firstly, that Mr Niven misused confidential information, in posting information on social media via Post 1 and Post 2 about Council processes that are properly confidential, contrary to clauses 8.10 and 8.11 of the Code (the Confidential Information Allegation);
 - (b) Secondly, that Mr Niven’s social media activity via Post 1 and Post 2 contained comments that are likely to bring the Council and Cr Diprose into disrepute, contrary to clause 3.1(a) of the Code (the Disrepute Allegation); and
 - (c) Thirdly, that Mr Niven engaged in a course of conduct via Post 1 and Post 2 and sending the Email that belittled and humiliated Cr Diprose, contrary to clause 3.8 of the Code (the Bullying Allegation).
3. For the reasons set out in the Report, we reached the following conclusions.
 - (a) As a matter of fact, the Confidential Information, the Disrepute Allegation and the Bullying Allegation are substantiated;
 - (b) In relation to each allegation, Mr Niven’s conduct constituted a breach of the Code; and
 - (c) By way of sanction, we recommend that Mr Niven’s inappropriate conduct be made public by publishing the findings and determination of the Investigation in the minutes of the Council meeting at which the matter is considered.

CARRIED

At the conclusion of the debate and voting on this matter, Councillors Kenah and McKellar requested that their vote against this motion be recorded in the minutes.

Cr Diprose entered the room.

19 CLOSURE

The Meeting closed at 7:55 pm.

.....
CHAIRPERSON