



WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL

AGENDA

22 JUNE 2006

Stephen McLean

General Manager



13 June 2006

Administrator
Walgett Shire Council
PO Box 31
WALGETT NSW 2832

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Ordinary Meeting of Walgett Shire Council will be held in the Burren Junction Town Hall on **Thursday, 22 June 2006, commencing at 10.00am.**

AGENDA

PUBLIC FORUM PRESENTATIONS

(limited to five minute presentations, and must relate to items listed within the Business Paper, with two speakers, speaking for the item and two speakers, speaking against the item to be considered)

WELCOME TO VISITORS

(recognising the original Aboriginal caretakers of the lands covered by the Shire)

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD 20 APRIL 2006 and EXTRAORDINARY MEETING HELD 9 MAY 2006.

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CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES – 20 APRIL 2006 AND 9 MAY 2006

The Draft Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 20 April 2006 and Extraordinary Meeting held on 9 May 2006 were distributed to Council's Administrator.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT TO COUNCIL MEETING 22 JUNE 2006

Item No: 1

Subject: Independent Inquiry into the Financial Sustainability of New South Wales Local Government

Author: Hugh Percy - Administrator

File No: 235/03/00/00

Summary:

This report provides a summary of the independent inquiry into the Financial Sustainability of the New South Wales Local Government.

Comments (including issues and background):

The Final Report Findings and Recommendations of the Independent Inquiry into the Financial Sustainability of New South Wales Local Government was released on 3 May 2006. This is a major report with far reaching implications for the future of New South Wales Local Government.

The report is based on one of the most comprehensive reviews of Local Government conducted in New South Wales. It has involved extensive research and consultation including consideration of over one hundred and seventy submissions, thirteen consultative forums, Councils surveys, public opinion polling, more than thirty commissioned research papers and interviews with key government Ministers and officials.

The Inquiry was initiated by the Associations in response to widespread concerns about Local Government's financial capacity to meet the growing demand for infrastructure and services. The Inquiry was financed by a combination of council contributions and the Associations reserves. The total cost of the Inquiry was \$600,000 plus moderate administrative and research support by the Associations.

The Inquiry was conducted by a highly qualified independent panel of experts. The panel members were: -

- *Professor Percy Allan AM, Chair and Research Director, a former Secretary of NSW Treasury, Public Policy, Finance and Management Advisor*
- *Ms Diana Gibbs, Company Director, Farmer and Economic Development Advisor*
- *Ms Libby Darlison, Social Policy and Change Advisor*

Findings and Recommendations of Inquiry

It is clear from the report that New South Wales Local Government is facing major challenges including a real infrastructure funding crisis, and inadequate revenue base, skills shortages and the every increasing demands being placed on Local Government by the community and other spheres of government.

The report's major finding is that there is a huge infrastructure renewals backlog of over \$6 billion and that this is expected to grow to almost \$21 billion in fifteen years.

The report includes forty-nine final recommendations and spotlights a number of challenges facing Local Government including the need to: -

- Define Local Government's role relative to other spheres of Government
- Renew infrastructure to overcome a growing backlog
- Implement Total Asset Management
- Prioritise services to better reflect public preferences
- Reform development controls at both state and council levels
- Improve strategic planning and operational efficiency
- Boost revenues from rates, fees and grants
- Strengthen governance structures and procedures
- Achieve long term financial sustainability

The report concludes that most of the proposed changes require a long-term commitment and need to be introduced in concert because they are either interdependent or insufficient on their own to underpin council sustainability.

Given that most of the proposed changes also require an intergovernmental and / or whole of government response, the report proposes that a Summit be convened to consider, debate and hopefully endorse the recommendations of the Inquiry, and that the State Government establish an Independent Commission to monitor progress in achieving agreed outcomes.

The report provides future directions for New South Wales Local Government and the Associations advise that they will consult widely with members before acting on any of the recommendations. Given the extensive nature of the report, detailed consideration will be required before a comprehensive response can be made.

The Associations have advised that the Inquiry has completed its task with the presentation of the *Final Report*. However, the report does not mark the end of the process. Rather, it sheds light on the size and complexity of the task ahead of us. Many of the key findings and recommendations of the report will need to be acted on if the Inquiry is to have served any practical purpose.

The Inquiry has been a major initiative by and on behalf of Local Government, and there is both an expectation and obligation (for the Associations) to take the next steps towards improving the financial sustainability of New South Wales Local Government. Advancing the report's recommendations will involve working in close collaboration with stakeholders of the Local Government sector including the Local Government Managers Australia (LGMA), the Institute of Public Works Engineering Australia (IPWEA) and the New South Wales Department of Local Government.

SHIRE OF WALGETT –AGENDA

It will also involve the daunting task of trying to shift the attitudes of the New South Wales State Government and the Commonwealth Government, their respective agencies and the public.

This will be a long-term process and it is recommended that Council commit to the ongoing effort to rebuild and strengthen the financial sustainability of New South Wales Local Government.

Recommendations:

- 1. That the report be received and noted.**
- 2. That the Independent Panel be commended on the successful conduct and completion of this watershed Inquiry.**
- 3. That the LGSA be commended for initiating the Inquiry.**
- 4. That Council commit to support the LGSA in an ongoing effort to rebuild and strengthen the financial sustainability of New South Wales Local Government.**
- 5. That the LGSA establish an implementation framework and process to consult with Councils and other stakeholders; and to advance the key recommendations of the report that have been endorsed by members.**
- 6. That Council call on the New South Wales Government to establish an “Independent Commission consisting of equal representation from the LGSA and the state to assess the gravity of the problems facing Local Government, to recommend urgent action to be undertaken, to help implement such changes in cooperation with Local Government and to monitor progress in achieving agreed outcomes”.**

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT TO COUNCIL MEETING 22 JUNE 2006

Item No: 2

Subject: Complaint - Administrator

Author: Hugh Percy - Administrator

File No:

Summary:

Some time ago a complaint was lodged about the Administrator in connection with an alleged pecuniary interest of the Administrator. This matter was the subject of frenzied media reporting by both electronic and printed media at the time.

Comments (including issues and background):

The complaint arose as a result of resolutions adopted relating to the Minister for Local Government being asked to consider deferral of scheduled elections in the Shire.

Advice from the Department confirms my advice at the time of the complaint – there is an exemption from disclosure under Section 448 (K) of the Local Government Act.

A letter from the Department of Local Government advises the Administrator that it has been determined not to take any further action in relation to the complaint on the grounds set out in the Act, upon the basis that the subject matter of the complaint does not warrant investigation.

Recommendation:

That the Administrator's Report be received and noted.

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT TO COUNCIL MEETING 22 JUNE 2006

Item No: 3

Subject: Request for Support

Author: Stephen McLean – General Manager

File No:

Summary:

Council has been requested to support a call for a regional senate hearing in Brewarrina for the Senate Inquiry into water allocation in the lower Balonne river.

Comments (including issues and background):

NSW Farmer's (Brewarrina Branch) is writing one letter and seeking support from a range of organisations, of which Council is one.

The Narran River is Walgett Shire's western boundary and landholders would appreciate the support of the Walgett Shire Council as they are gravely affected by the lack of stock, domestic and beneficial floodwater coming down the system due to over allocation of water in Queensland.

The Lower Balonne/Cubbie issue has had disastrous ecological and economic effects on the Lower Balonne Floodplain in the northern half of the Brewarrina Shire for the last 25 years.

The QLD government process of allocating and licensing water extraction from the Lower Balonne distribution system and its associated floodplain is unequitable and unworkable.

If the current QLD Water Resources Plan continues to operate, the health of the floodplain across all the environmental, economic, social and cultural issues will decline rapidly. The transfer of wealth out of the Brewarrina Shire by water allocation is causing unprecedented strain on a community that has been ravaged by drought. Losing the ability to operate a business effectively by not having stock and domestic flows and beneficial flooding on the floodplain in the Culgoa, Birrie, Bokhara and Narran rivers has torn the heart out of the community.

The NSW Farmer's (Brewarrina Branch) and supporting groups would greatly appreciate the opportunity to present their case to a Senate Committee Hearing in Brewarrina.

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Relevant Reference Documents:

- Letter asking for support of Walgett Shire Council.

Stakeholders:

- Walgett Shire Council
- Landholders

Financial Implications:

Nil

Recommendation:

That Walgett Shire Council agree to support the NSW Farmer's (Brewarrina Branch) in its call for a Senate Committee Hearing in Brewarrina into water allocation in the lower Balonne River.

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT TO COUNCIL MEETING 22 JUNE 2006

Item No: 4

Subject: NAIDOC Week Celebrations

Author: Stephen McLean – General Manager

File No:

Summary:

Council has been requested to support the NAIDOC week celebrations in Walgett by assisting with venues and equipment.

Comments (including issues and background):

The NAIDOC week celebrations are to be held this year on Friday 7 July. It is intended to hold a flag raising ceremony on the lawns at the front of the Council Chambers, lunch will be held at the Dharriwaa Elders Group office in Wee Waa Street and the celebrations will continue at No. 1 Oval. This will also be the official launch of the mobile PCYC van in Walgett. Council is supporting this event that is held in conjunction with the Community Working party who are organising and running proceedings on the day.

Relevant Reference Documents:

Nil

Stakeholders:

- Walgett Shire Council
- Walgett Community Working Party
- Walgett Community

Financial Implications:

- No Council funds are required in the staging of this event

Recommendation:

That Council receive this report and note the support of the Community Working Party in hosting the NAADOC Week Celebrations at the Council Chambers and No. 1 Oval.

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT TO COUNCIL MEETING 22 JUNE 2006

Item No: 5

Subject: Budget and Management Plan for the Financial Year 2006/2007

Author: Stephen McLean – General Manager

File No: 180/03/00/00

Summary:

The Draft Budget and Management Plan, which includes the Fees and Charges and the Estimates of Revenue and Expenditure for the year ending 30 June 2007, is now required to be formally adopted by Council.

The Draft Budget and Management Plan has been advertised for public comment since 11 May 2006, the closing date for submissions being 5.00pm on the 15 June 2006.

Comments (including issues and background):

Submissions were received during the public comment period.

Relevant Reference Documents:

- Draft Budget and Management Plan 2006/2007

Stakeholders:

- Walgett Shire Council Residents

Financial Implications:

As recommended and set out in the Budget and Management Plan 2006/2007

Recommendations:

1. That Council adopt the Management Plan for the 2006/2007 Financial Year as presented.
2. That council adopt a 3.6% increase in the total levy for General Fund Rates.
3. That the Fees and Charges as listed in the report be adopted, with Council reserving the right to vary fees and charges of a commercial nature as circumstances require.
4. That Council adopt the Estimates of Income and Expenditure, and Revenue Policy including those public submissions considered for the 2006/2007 Financial Year as presented.

MANAGER CORPORATE SERVICES REPORT TO COUNCIL MEETING 22 JUNE 2006
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Item No: 6

Subject: Northern Regional Library

Author: Emma Darcy – Acting Manager Corporate Services

File No: 135/02/01/03

Summary:

Walgett Shire has been offered a reduced contribution of \$142,502 from Northern Regional Library for 2006/2007. This contribution has been reduced from \$197,327 for 2005/2006.

Comments (including issues and background):

At Special Council Meeting held 23 June 2005 it was resolved to withdraw from the agreement with Northern Regional Library effective from 1 July 2006. This decision was based on the contribution rates rising from 141,053 in 2003/2004, \$176,745 in 2004/05 and \$197,327 in 2005/06. The contribution is calculated on a percentage based on population, Walgett contributing 26.55%. The costs included were salaries and wages for the regional library, furniture and building maintenance and depreciation. These expenses were considered to be excessive and not directly related to the regional library (as opposed to Moree Library).

Northern Regional Library has offered a reduction of \$142,502 for 2006/07. The Library service has also agreed to supply more recent books and publications, and also offered organised Library visits on a more regular basis.

The Community Liaison Officer and Walgett Librarian are continuing their investigation into stand alone Libraries and Council is still awaiting North Western Library's decision to allow Walgett to join their co-operative.

Relevant Reference Documents:

- Northern Regional Library Proposed 2006/07 Budget

Stakeholders:

- Walgett Shire Council

Financial Implications:

- Reduction of \$54,825 in Library contribution for 2006/07

SHIRE OF WALGETT –AGENDA

Recommendations:

- 1. That Walgett Shire continues to remain an active member of Northern Regional Library for a further twelve months for 2006/07.**
- 2. That Walgett Shire continues investigating options for most effective utilisation of Walgett Shire Library Services.**

MANAGER CORPORATE SERVICES REPORT TO COUNCIL MEETING 22 JUNE 2006
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Item No: 7

Subject: Monthly Management Report to 30 April 2006

Author: Emma Darcy – Acting Manager Corporate Services

File No: 180/08/00/00

Summary:

This report is prepared to report on the operational performance against adopted estimates for the year ended 30 April 2006.

Comments (including issues and background):

Department of Local Government report, recommendation 31, requires monthly reports be submitted to Council reporting on significant differences. This report analyses the financial performance of the Council for the period ending 30 April 2006 comparing actual expenditure and revenue against the budget. The Council's position at this time is within budgetary expectations with a surplus of \$161,038 compared to a budgeted deficit of \$180,313.

Analysis of the data contained in this report indicates no abnormal items are likely to have any significant impact on the budget for 2005/06.

SHIRE OF WALGETT –AGENDA

Management Review as at 30th April 2006

	Original Budget	Amended 2005/2006 Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Actual (Committed)	Budget Available Current Year	
Executive Revenue	(41,000)	(41,000)	(36,648)	(36,648)	(4,352)	89%
Executive Expenditure	847,500	847,500	797,860	818,754	28,746	97%
Corporate Services Revenue	(119,000)	(119,000)	(21,330)	(21,330)	(97,670)	18%
Corporate Services Expenditure	873,375	873,375	546,736	569,926	303,449	65%
Marketing & Promotions Revenue	(20,000)	(20,000)	(17,862)	(17,862)	(2,138)	89%
Marketing & Promotions Expenditure	223,750	223,750	205,415	178,470	45,280	80%
Financial Services Revenue	(7,607,512)	(6,280,237)	(5,584,300)	(5,584,300)	(695,937)	89%
Financial Services Expenditure	2,710,550	1,274,550	965,972	969,407	305,143	76%
Community Services Revenue	(256,500)	(256,500)	(333,828)	(333,828)	77,328	130%
Community Services Expenditure	589,827	649,827	390,501	389,807	260,020	60%
Developmental Services Revenue	(57,600)	(57,600)	(68,354)	(68,354)	10,754	119%
Developmental Services Expenditure	548,279	558,279	528,744	528,263	30,016	95%
Engineering Services Revenue	(58,000)	(58,000)	(27,384)	(27,384)	(30,616)	47%
Engineering Services Expenditure	96,525	96,525	165,963	170,991	(74,466)	177%
Engineer Works Revenue	(10,198,208)	(9,990,664)	(7,779,404)	(7,779,404)	(2,211,260)	78%
Engineer Works Expenditure	12,501,808	12,512,808	10,506,143	11,452,556	1,060,252	92%
Domestic Waste Revenue	(639,430)	(639,430)	(639,771)	(639,771)	341	100%
Domestic Waste Expenditure	712,919	712,919	502,783	520,025	192,894	73%
Public Order & Safety Revenue	(70,798)	(70,798)	(40,595)	(40,595)	(30,203)	57%
Public Order & Safety Expenditure	210,870	210,870	133,737	136,291	74,579	65%
Water Services Revenue	(1,111,185)	(1,111,185)	(1,058,198)	(1,058,198)	(52,987)	95%
Water Services Expenditure	965,296	965,296	1,001,887	1,070,645	(105,349)	111%
Sewerage Services Revenue	(491,618)	(491,618)	(537,058)	(537,058)	45,440	109%
Sewerage Services Expenditure	380,146	390,646	237,953	236,372	154,274	61%
	(10,006)	180,313	(161,038)	896,775		

Variance of Income Compared to Expenditure				
		Budget YTD	Actual YTD	% of Budget
Income		(19,136,032)	(16,144,732)	84%
Expenditure		19,316,345	15,983,694	83%
Variance		180,313	(161,038)	

SHIRE OF WALGETT –AGENDA

Significant Budget Variances

Executive

- Nil variance to report.
- Collarenebri Agency is operating within Budget with a \$93,000 loss to date and an expected \$116,000 loss estimated to the end of the financial year.

Corporate Services

- River Towns Project is currently non operational due to the absence of a Facilitator. This position is currently being readvertised by the Premiers Department. No income has been received for this project.
- A grant of \$21,330 has been received from Central Corporate Services NSW for Opal and Fossil Advisor.
- Opal and Fossil Museum allocation of \$100,000 fully expended and no further payment is expected.
- Salaries and Wages Manager Corporate Services are only 53% expended year to date. This is due to Maternity Leave taken by the Manager Corporate Services.

Marketing and Promotions

- Nil variance to report

Financial Services

- 2005/06 Financial Assistant Grants – general purpose component, \$2,067,000 was reported in the Management Plan and Council has been notified by the Minister for Local Government that the grant to Walgett Shire Council is \$2,175,725. 75% FAG Grant received to date.
- Pensioner Rebate Subsidy due for 2005/2006. This was lodged with Department of Local Government in May 2006. A total subsidy of \$75,736.75 is expected.
- Insurance Policies are paid up to date with no significant increases to report for this financial year.
- The full amount of rates revenue has been raised this period.
- \$149,000 interest on investments received for the period to September 2005. This is a reflection of the positive cash flow of Council.
- Finance Section Salaries and Wages are significantly lower due to the absence of an Accountant. This function is being performed by the Acting Manager of Corporate Services and Assistant Accountant.

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Community Services

- Only 37% payment to Carers for Family Day Care. This is due to the small number of Carers that have been operating.
- The Regional Library contribution for 2005/06 of \$197,327 has not been paid to date.

Developmental Services

- Nil Variance to Report.

Engineering Services

- General Staff 100% expended to date. This is due to the employment of Projects Officer – Engineering.

Engineer Works

- 2005/06 Financial Assistant Grants – 75% received to date
- Full amount of rates levied on Council owned properties.

Domestic Waste Management

- The full amount of Domestic Waste charges raised.

Public Order and Safety

- Nil variance to report

Water Services

- Additional \$123,000 on Walgett Water Maintenance – this being Maintenance on filtration plant. This includes costs for anticipated further maintenance to be done later in the financial year. This additional maintenance will be funded from Water Services restricted funds (previously reported).
- The full amount of rates revenue has been raised this period.

Sewer Services

- The full amount of rates revenue has been raised this period.

Relevant Reference Documents:

- Monthly Management Report for the period ending 30 April 2006.

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Stakeholders:

- Walgett Shire Council

Financial Implications:

Operations are within budgetary constraints.

Recommendation:

That Council note the Monthly Management Report for the period ending 30 April 2006.

MANAGER CORPORATE SERVICES REPORT TO COUNCIL MEETING 22 JUNE 2006
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Item No: 8

Subject: Monthly Management Report to 31 May 2006

Author: Emma Darcy – Acting Manager Corporate Services

File No: 180/08/00/00

Summary:

This report is prepared to report on the operational performance against adopted estimates for the year ended 31 May 2006.

Comments (including issues and background):

Department of Local Government report, recommendation 31, requires monthly reports be submitted to Council reporting on significant differences. This report analyses the financial performance of the Council for the period ending 31 May 2006 comparing actual expenditure and revenue against the budget. The Council's position at this time is within budgetary expectations with a surplus of \$1,093,877 compared to a budgeted deficit of \$180,313.

Analysis of the data contained in this report indicates no abnormal items are likely to have any significant impact on the budget for 2005/06.

SHIRE OF WALGETT –AGENDA

Management Review as at 31st May 2006

	Original Budget	Amended 2005/2006 Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Actual (Committed)	Budget Available Current Year	
Executive Revenue	(41,000)	(41,000)	(41,869)	(41,869)	869	102%
Executive Expenditure	847,500	847,500	914,792	935,522	(88,022)	110%
Corporate Services Revenue	(119,000)	(119,000)	(21,529)	(21,529)	(97,471)	18%
Corporate Services Expenditure	873,375	873,375	611,508	630,329	243,046	72%
Marketing & Promotions Revenue	(20,000)	(20,000)	(19,803)	(19,803)	(197)	99%
Marketing & Promotions Expenditure	223,750	223,750	221,954	223,823	(73)	100%
Financial Services Revenue	(7,607,512)	(6,280,237)	(6,119,869)	(6,119,869)	(160,368)	97%
Financial Services Expenditure	2,710,550	1,274,550	1,200,846	1,202,232	72,318	94%
Community Services Revenue	(256,500)	(256,500)	(340,438)	(340,438)	83,938	133%
Community Services Expenditure	589,827	649,827	419,895	419,140	230,687	65%
Developmental Services Revenue	(57,600)	(57,600)	(70,790)	(70,790)	13,190	123%
Developmental Services Expenditure	548,279	558,279	562,953	562,471	(4,192)	101%
Engineering Services Revenue	(58,000)	(58,000)	(32,211)	(32,211)	(25,789)	56%
Engineering Services Expenditure	96,525	96,525	188,937	193,966	(97,441)	201%
Engineer Works Revenue	(10,198,208)	(9,990,664)	(9,851,371)	(9,851,371)	(139,293)	99%
Engineer Works Expenditure	12,501,808	12,512,808	11,548,598	12,476,281	36,527	100%
Domestic Waste Revenue	(639,430)	(639,430)	(644,417)	(644,417)	4,987	101%
Domestic Waste Expenditure	712,919	712,919	551,212	567,634	145,285	80%
Public Order & Safety Revenue	(70,798)	(70,798)	(40,595)	(40,595)	(30,203)	57%
Public Order & Safety Expenditure	210,870	210,870	139,859	142,684	68,186	68%
Water Services Revenue	(1,111,185)	(1,111,185)	(1,125,727)	(1,125,727)	14,542	101%
Water Services Expenditure	965,296	965,296	1,124,294	1,143,124	(177,828)	118%
Sewerage Services Revenue	(491,618)	(491,618)	(537,306)	(537,306)	45,688	109%
Sewerage Services Expenditure	380,146	390,646	267,200	265,619	125,027	68%
	(10,006)	180,313	(1,093,877)	(83,100)		

Variance of Income Compared to Expenditure				
		Budget YTD	Actual YTD	% of Budget
Income		(19,136,032)	(18,845,925)	98%
Expenditure		19,316,345	17,752,048	92%
Variance		180,313	(1,093,877)	

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However, some items to note are as follows:

Executive

- Administrator Expenses over budget \$10,000 with an expected \$60,000 further expected to end of financial year.
- Salaries and Wages on costs were increased to 65% to cover the large increase in workers compensation premium. This is reflected in *all salary and wages*. On costs will be reduced back to 53% for 2006/2007.
- Contract Consultancy Fees is \$33,000 over budget with an expected \$20,000 further expenditure expected.

Corporate Services

- River Towns Project is currently non operational due to the absence of a Facilitator. This position is currently being readvertised by the Premiers Department. No income has been received for this project.
- Salaries and Wages Manager Corporate Services are only 65% expended year to date.
- Office Expenses down by \$47,000 year to date.

Financial Services

- 2005/06 Financial Assistant Grant General Purpose Grant now received.
- Pensioner Concession Rebate lodged with Department Local Government. A total subsidy of \$75,736.75 is expected.
- Finance Section Salaries and Wages are significantly lower at 44% YTD due to the absence of an Accountant. This function is being performed by the Acting Manager of Corporate Services and Assistant Accountant.

Community Services

- The Regional Library contribution for 2005/06 of \$197,327 has not been paid to date.

Developmental Services

- Nil Variance to Report.

Engineering Services

- Nil Variance to Report.

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Engineer Works

- Nil Variance to Report

Domestic Waste Management

- Nil Variance to Report

Public Order and Safety

- Nil variance to report

Water Services

- Additional \$123,000 on Walgett Water Maintenance – this being Maintenance on filtration plant. This includes costs for anticipated further maintenance to be done later in the financial year. This additional maintenance will be funded from Water Services restricted funds (previously reported).

Sewer Services

- Nil variance to report

Relevant Reference Documents:

- Monthly Management Report for the period ending 31 May 2006.

Stakeholders:

- Walgett Shire Council

Financial Implications:

- Operations are within Budgetary constraints.

Recommendation:

That Council note the Monthly Management report for the period ending 31 May 2006.

MANAGER CORPORATE SERVICES REPORT TO COUNCIL MEETING 22 JUNE 2006
--

Item No: 9

Subject: Walgett Shire Council Chambers Office Closure – Friday 7 July 2006

Author: Emma Darcy – Acting Manager Corporate Services

File No:

Summary:

Council's new computer system managed by Civica will be fully operational from Monday 10 July 2006. Data is required to be validated and transferred on Friday, 7 July 2006, with all computers off line for this day. All staff located at the Walgett Shire Chambers office will be asked to take leave on this day.

Comments (including issues and background):

Civica Managed Service will “go live” on Monday, 10 July 2006. Live cut-over to the data centre will commence from close of business Thursday, 6 July 2006 and continue all day Friday. This is required to allow enough time to transfer and validate the data and the environment ready to start business as usual on Monday morning 10 July 2006.

This process will require all staff to be off-line for the entire working day of Friday, 7 July 2006. All staff located at Walgett Shire Council Chambers will be requested to take annual leave or rostered days off on this day.

Relevant Reference Documents:

- Contract Schedule Amendment – Civica Pty Ltd
- Email dated 2 June 2006 – Ruth Polglase, Senior Project Manager Civica Pty Ltd

Stakeholders:

- Walgett Shire employees

Financial Implications:

Nil

Recommendation:

That Council note the closure of the Walgett Shire Council offices on Friday, 7 July 2006 due to new computer system installation and data and environment validation of Civica managed services.

MANAGER CORPORATE SERVICES REPORT TO COUNCIL MEETING 22 JUNE 2006
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Item No: 10

Subject: Progress Report – Walgett Pre School and Long Day Care Centre Inc

Author: Belinda Colless – Lands Officer

File No:

Summary:

Walgett Pre-School and Long Day Care Centre has been awarded \$275,00.00 (including GST) from Department of Transport and Regional Services (DOTARS) for capital works to build a long day childcare facility in Walgett.

Comments (including issues and background):

The DOTARS contracts were signed off on 7th June 2006 by Mrs Jillian Friend. The project has now officially commenced and is expected to take 12 months to complete. It is expected that the centre will be fully operational and ready for business by late January 2007.

Walgett Shire Council has been assisting Walgett Pre School and Long Day Care Centre Inc with this project to by liasing with a Draftsman, Structural Engineer and Surveyors to ensure an accurate and comprehensive tender document is designed. The tender document is expected to be released by mid July after Council has reviewed the document and investigated all building aspects.

Walgett Pre School and Long Day Care Centre Inc have commenced the recruitment and selection process by holding an information night for perspective employees and are currently revising their corporate governance policies to ensure the organisation has in place a structure capable of operating a new and dynamic service.

Relevant Reference Documents:

- Nil

Stakeholders:

- Walgett Shire Council
- Walgett Pre-School and Long Day Care Centre Incorporated

Financial Implications:

- Nil

Recommendation:

That Council note that Walgett Pre School and Long Day Care Centre Inc received \$275,000 (including GST) from Department of Transport and Regional Services for the building of a Long Day Care facility in Walgett.

MANAGER CORPORATE SERVICES REPORT TO COUNCIL MEETING 22 JUNE 2006
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Item No: 11

Subject: Insurance Australia Group Shares Held

Author: Emma Darcy – Acting Manager Corporate Services

File No:

Summary:

Walgett Shire Council presently owns 274 shares in Insurance Group Australia. These shares were issued as a result of NRMA Demutualisation on 19 June 2000. These shares are to be sold.

Comments (including issues and background):

The NRMA Demutualisation on 19 June 2000 resulted in Walgett Shire Council being allotted 274 shares. These shares are currently trading at \$5.43(19 June 2006), with a carrying value of \$1,487.82. This investment is not in accordance with s.625 of the Local Government Act, Regulations and Council's investment policy.

Relevant Reference Documents:

- Insurance Australia Group Dividend Statement

Stakeholders:

- Walgett Shire Council

Financial Implications:

Sell IAG shares with an expected return of \$1,487.82.

Recommendation:

That Walgett Shire Council sell 274 Insurance Australia Group shares.

MANAGER CORPORATE SERVICES REPORT TO COUNCIL MEETING 22 JUNE 2006
--

Item No: 12

Subject: Walgett Shire Tourism Summary

Author: Alana Douglas – Tourism Development Officer

File No: 245/02/01/00

Summary:

This report provides a summary of activities currently being carried out regarding tourism within the Walgett Shire.

Comments (including issues and background):

Come By Chance Picnic Race Club Amenities Block

- Funding for a 20-cubicle amenities block with disable access for the Come By Chance Race Club is being investigated.

The following options were discussed:

- Capital Assistance Program – this application is awaiting approval by the end of September 2006
- Walgett Shire Community Assistance Scheme – an application form is currently being completed
- The NSW Clubs organisation is currently being approached for funding through the Walgett RSL club
- Quotes have been gained and the proposed price is approximately \$45,000.00
- Development Application completed.

Kamilaroi Highway Rest Areas

- The proposed signage designs for both rest areas including “Cryon” and “Giin.gii Giin.gi” were completed on the 26 May 2006.
- The final drafts have been sent to Country Mile Signs

Walgett Shire Business Awards

- A sub-committee has been set up for the second annual Walgett Shire Business Awards
- Nominations opened on the 25 May, nominations can be picked up from both Lightning Ridge and Walgett Visitor Information Centres, completed nomination forms can be delivered back to either centre or sent directly to Walgett Shire Council.
- Nominations close Friday 21 July.
- This year 10 award categories have been included
- Workshops will take place in early July (date to be confirmed) to help nominated businesses effectively fill in award category forms and to also look at the strengths and weaknesses of their current business practice.

Collarenebri Visitor Information Centre

- An application for a Level 3 Visitor Information Centre in Collarenebri is currently being completed.
- The Visitor Information Centre will be housed in the Collarenebri “Shire Agency” and will provide tourist information on the area.
- The level 3 Visitor Information Centre will operate in accordance with Walgett Shire Council and Walgett Visitor Information Centre.
- Cost: \$220.00 Inc GST plus signage.
- Approval of accreditation is expected by September 2006.

Logo Design

- A Visitor Survey will be completed and handed out to all visitors to both Lightning Ridge and Walgett Visitor Information Centres to complete on site in an effort to gauge: First Impressions, Expectations and Ideas from the visitors and tourists to the area.
- An Operator Survey will be completed and sent to all business operators in the Walgett Shire to see what operators want and expect and to gather comments made by customers. An information guide will also be included to help businesses understand exactly what a brand is and why it is essential to the marketing and promotion of Walgett Shire as a tourism destination.
- Feedback Deadline will be 31 July 2006
- Once all feedback is collected it will be given to contract designers “ High End Design” to develop a possible four concepts.
- These concepts will be put to the community for 30days in which time a meeting will be held to discuss changes and gain input before the final design is picked.
- Once final design is chosen production will commence for reproduction in all advertising, promotion, souvenirs and signage.

SHIRE OF WALGETT –AGENDA

Signage Audit

- Following consultation from community members regarding the lack of signage throughout Walgett Shire and in particular the Opal Fields
- It is proposed to initiate a detailed signage audit and inventory of signage matters within the Shire.
- Using the outcomes of the signage audit and community recommendations a tourism signage plan will be developed including recommendations, timeline and budget.
- These signs will be developed in conjunction with the Walgett Shire Logo

Centenary of Council

- A Sub Committee has been formed
- Friday 8 December - Street Parade, lunch and entertainment
- Saturday 9 December – Council Dinner - past and present councillors and staff
- Compile a Centenary of Walgett Shire 1906-2006 book in conjunction with Walgett Historical Society and Lightning Ridge Historical Society

Tourism Strategies

- The Walgett Shire Tourism Plan to be completed in September 2006
- New research and statistics have been completed by the Outback Regional Tourist Organisation information which will assist in confidently identifying target markets and developing a pro-active marketing plan to achieve increased visitor numbers and visitor spending in the area.

Main Street Re-development

- Clean up and and develop an attractive streetscape for the town of Walgett.
- The main two issues in this program will be to decorate the main street which tourists and visitors first arrive into and secondly to remove the bars currently on the business house windows and doors.
- This initiative will be completed in conjunction with the Walgett Shire Council the Walgett community and business operators.
- A grant to help source the funds needed to effectively implement this program will be researched.

Possibilities include:

- Main Street/ Small Towns Program
- Towns and Villages Futures Program
- National Community Crime Prevention
- NRMA Community Help Grants Program

Recommendation:

That Council receive and note the Tourism Development Officer's Report for June 2006.

MANAGER CORPORATE SERVICES REPORT TO COUNCIL MEETING 22 JUNE 2006
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Item No: 13

Subject: Walgett Shire Youth Centres

Author: Christie Pacey – Youth Development Officer

File No:

Summary:

This report provides a summary of activities currently being carried out regarding Youth Services in the Walgett Shire.

Comments (including issues and background):

The Walgett Interagency Youth Plan Sub Committee and Council have been working to address matters relating to youth services within the Walgett Shire.

Following is a brief summary of activities that have taken place during the past month: -

Walgett Youth Centre

- The operational hours for Walgett Youth Centre are currently from 3.00 pm to 6.00 pm
- Recent appointment of two Youth Workers have been made to assist at the Walgett Youth Centre, with interviews being held for further appointments
- Currently working to develop and implement quality programs to the Youth Centre
- Cooperative partnerships have been formed with the Department of Sport and Recreation, PCYC and other organisations to enable the provision of varied activities for the youth at the Youth Centre and other suitable venues
- A variety of activities including; Music, Art, and Drama (MAD) projects Dance workshops, various sports and Youth Week celebrations are being implemented.
- A more concentrated approach is being made to improve the consistency of youth attendance at the Centre

Lightning Ridge Youth Centre

- Recent appointment of a Youth Worker to assist at the Lightning Ridge Youth Centre
- Employment of new Youth Worker, Dawn Towney
- Currently working to develop and implement quality programs to the Youth Centre
- Request for minor maintenance and repairs

Collarenebri Youth Centre

- Currently working to develop and implement quality programs to the Youth Centre

Recommendation:

That Council receive and note the Youth Development Officer's Report for June 2006.

MANAGER CORPORATE SERVICES REPORT TO COUNCIL MEETING 22 JUNE 2006
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Item No: 14

Subject: Making of 2006/2007 Rates and Charges

Author: Emma Darcy – Acting Manager Corporate Services

File No: 180/09/01/00

Introduction:

As per section 535 of the Local Government Act 1993, Walgett Shire Council's 2006 /2007 Rates and Charges are to be made by a resolution of council.

Comments:

As per section 532 of the Local Government Act 1993, council's proposed rates and charges were on public display in the Draft Management Plan Budget 2006/2007 from 11 May 2006 to 15 June 2006.

Relevant Reference Documents:

- Draft Budget 2006/2007 (Management Plan)
- Local Government Act 1993

Stakeholders:

- Walgett Shire Council
- Walgett Shire Ratepayers

Financial Implications

As per Draft Budget 2006/2007 (Management Plan)

SHIRE OF WALGETT –AGENDA

Recommendations:

That Council resolves to make the 2006 rates and charges, in accordance with section 535 of the Local Government Act 1993, as follows: -

A. ORDINARY RATES

Ordinary Business Rate, Walgett	2.895	\$ with minimum of	\$360.00
Ordinary Residential Rate, Walgett	2.895	\$ with minimum of	\$360.00
Ordinary Business Rate, Lightning Ridge	1.455	\$ with minimum of	\$260.00
Ordinary Residential Rate, Lightning Ridge	1.455	\$ with minimum of	\$260.00
Ordinary Business Rate, Collarenebri	12.50	\$ with minimum of	\$350.00
Ordinary Residential Rate, Collarenebri	12.50	\$ with minimum of	\$350.00
Ordinary Business Rate, Burren Junction	7.989	\$ with minimum of	\$315.00
Ordinary Residential Rate, Burren Junction	7.989	\$ with minimum of	\$315.00
Ordinary Business Rate, Carinda	3.456	\$ with minimum of	\$315.00
Ordinary Residential Rate, Carinda	3.456	\$ with minimum of	\$315.00
Ordinary Business Rate, Cumborah	1.941	\$ with minimum of	\$140.00
Ordinary Residential Rate, Cumborah	1.941	\$ with minimum of	\$140.00
Ordinary Business Rate, Come-By-Chance	29.85	\$ with minimum of	\$140.00
Ordinary Business Rate, Rowena	29.85	\$ with minimum of	\$140.00
Ordinary Residential Rate, Come-By-Chance	29.85	\$ with minimum of	\$140.00
Ordinary Residential Rate, Rowena	29.85	\$ with minimum of	\$140.00
Ordinary Business Rate, Non-Urban	0.925	\$ with minimum of	\$140.00
Ordinary Residential Rate, Non-Urban	0.925	\$ with minimum of	\$140.00
Ordinary Rural Rate	0.552	\$ with minimum of	\$160.00
Ordinary Mining Rate	6.129	\$ with minimum of	\$143.00

B. WALGETT WATER CHARGE

Recommendation:

That Council resolves to make the Walgett Water charge, \$626.00 per assessment on lands subject to the charge in accordance with Section 501 of the Local Government Act 1993.

C. LIGHTNING RIDGE WATER CHARGE

Recommendation:

That Council resolves to make the Lightning Ridge Water charge, \$570.00 per assessment on lands subject to the charge in accordance with Section 501 of the Local Government Act 1993.

D. COLLARENEBRI WATER CHARGE

Recommendation:

That Council resolves to make the Collarenebri Town Bore Water charge, \$650.00 per assessment on lands subject to the charge in accordance with Section 501 of the Local Government Act 1993.

E. CARINDA TOWN BORE WATER CHARGE

Recommendation:

That Council resolves to make the Carinda Town Bore Water charge, \$280.00 per assessment on lands subject to the charge in accordance with Section 501 of the Local Government Act 1993.

F. CARINDA BORE WATER CHARGE

Recommendation:

That Council resolves to make the Carinda Bore Water charge, \$266.00 per assessment on lands subject to the charge in accordance with Section 501 of the Local Government Act 1993.

G. ROWENA WATER CHARGE

Recommendation:

That Council resolves to make the Rowena Bore Water charge, \$320.00 per assessment on lands subject to the charge in accordance with Section 501 of the Local Government Act 1993.

H. WALGETT SEWERAGE CHARGE

Recommendation:

That Council resolves to make the Walgett Sewerage charge, \$295.00 per assessment on lands subject to the charge in accordance with Section 501 of the Local Government Act 1993.

I. LIGHTNING RIDGE SEWERAGE CHARGE

Recommendation:

That Council resolves to make the Lightning Ridge Sewerage charge, \$286.00 per assessment on lands subject to the charge in accordance with Section 501 of the Local Government Act 1993.

J. LIGHTNING RIDGE PUMP ASSISTED SEWERAGE CHARGE

Recommendation:

That Council resolves to make the Lightning Ridge Pump Assisted Sewerage charge, \$220.20 per assessment on lands subject to the charge in accordance with Section 501 and 541 of the Local Government Act 1993 and that application of the charge must be confirmed/approved by the engineering department.

K. COLLARENEBRI SEWERAGE CHARGE

Recommendation:

That Council resolves to make the Collarenebri Sewerage charge, \$327.00 per assessment on lands subject to the charge in accordance with Section 501 of the Local Government Act 1993.

L. DOMESTIC WASTE MANAGEMENT

Recommendation:

That Council resolves to make the Domestic Waste Management charge (availability charge) in accordance with Section 496 of the Local Government Act 1993, \$29.65 and furthermore, the annual service charge (user pays charge) in accordance with Section 502 of the Local Government Act 1993, \$271.10.

M. WASTE MANAGEMENT SERVICES FOR NON-RESIDENTIAL PROPERTIES

Recommendation:

That Council resolves to make the Waste Management Availability charge for Non-Residential Properties in accordance with Section 501 of the Local Government Act 1993, \$29.65.

N. CHARGE FOR WATER SUPPLIED TO NON-RATEABLE PROPERTIES

Recommendation:

That Council resolves to make the charge for water supplied to non-rateable properties in accordance with Section 502 of the Local Government Act 1993 the same as the charge applicable to rateable properties in the same service area.

O. CHARGES FOR SEWERAGE SERVICES TO NON-RATEABLE PROPERTIES

Recommendation:

That Council resolves to make the charge for sewerage services to non-rateable properties in accordance with Section 502 of the Local Government Act 1993 the same as the charge applicable to rateable properties in the same service area, except for Lightning Ridge local sewerage area.

P. CHARGES FOR SEWERAGE SERVICES TO LIGHTNING RIDGE LOCAL SEWERAGE AREA - NON-RATEABLE PROPERTIES

Recommendation:

That Council resolves to make the charge for sewerage services to non-rateable properties in accordance with Section 502 of the Local Government Act 1993 \$220.20.

Q. WALGETT PEDESTAL CHARGE

Recommendation:

That Council resolves to make the Walgett Pedestal Charge for additional sewerage charges in accordance with the Local Government Act 1993 on all properties satisfying the definition of a multiple dwelling property, \$295.00.

R. LIGHTNING RIDGE PEDESTAL CHARGE

Recommendation:

That Council resolves to make the Lightning Ridge Pedestal Charge for additional sewerage charges in accordance with the Local Government Act 1993 on all properties satisfying the definition of a multiple dwelling property, \$286.00.

S. COLLARENEBRI PEDESTAL CHARGE

Recommendation:

That Council resolves to make the Collarenebri Pedestal Charge for additional sewerage charges in accordance with the Local Government Act 1993 on all properties satisfying the definition of a multiple dwelling property, \$327.00.

T. WALGETT CISTERN CHARGE

Recommendation:

That Council resolves to make the Walgett Cistern Charge in accordance with the Local Government Act 1993, \$46.20 multiplied by the number of WC's and each urinal.

U. LIGHTNING RIDGE CISTERN CHARGE

Recommendation:

That Council resolves to make the Lightning Ridge Cistern Charge in accordance with the Local Government Act 1993, \$44.60 multiplied by the number of WC's and each urinal.

V. COLLARENEBRI CISTERN CHARGE

Recommendation:

That Council resolves to make the Collarenebri Cistern Charge in accordance with the Local Government Act 1993, \$51.30 multiplied by the number of WC's and each urinal.

W. INTEREST

Recommendation:

That Council resolves in accordance with Section 566 (3) of the Local Government Act 1993, to make the interest rate payable on overdue rates and charges 9% per annum for the 2006/2007 rating year.

MANAGER PLANNING AND REGULATIONS REPORT TO COUNCIL MEETING 22 JUNE 2006
--

Item No: 15

Subject: Draft Walgett Local Environmental Plan 2006 –
Classification of Public Land

Author: Matthew Goodwin - Manager Planning and Regulation

File No: 315/01/02/00

Summary:

Walgett Shire Council recently completed public exhibition of the Draft Walgett Local Environmental Plan 2006 – Classification of Public Land (LEP). This report recommends that Council make some minor amendments to the draft LEP, endorse the amended draft and submit it to the Department of Planning seeking its gazettal at the earliest opportunity.

Comments (including issues and background):

The document titled '*Draft Walgett Local Environmental Plan 2006 – Classification of Public Land*' (LEP) was publicly exhibited between Monday 20 February 2006 and Monday 20 March 2006. The community was notified of the public exhibition via advertisements in the Walgett Spectator (15-2-2006), Black Opal Advocate (15-2-2006) and the Ridge News (16-2-2006).

A single public submission was received on the LEP. That submission was from the Walgett Precinct Committee and it is reproduced below.

REPORT FROM PRECINCT COMMITTEE

Name of Precinct : WALGETT

Date of Meeting : 7th march 2006

:

number 56

Number Present : 10

Subject. Walgett Shire Draft Local Environment Plan

That the classification of lands be changed so that the "Eloura Park" in Euroka Street, be changed community land and that Lot 8 on the western side of Eloura Park be sub-divided so that the Astronomical Survey Mark is included in the land of the park.

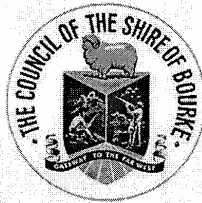
In accordance with Section 29 of the Local Government Act 1993, Council then held a public hearing in respect of the proposed reclassification of land from 'community' to 'operational' via the LEP. The hearing was advertised in the Walgett Spectator (29-3-2006) and the Ridge News (30-3-2006) whilst a letter dated 24 March 2006 was sent to the Walgett Precinct Committee accompanied by a document titled '*Public Hearing Information Package for the Proposed Reclassification of Council Land Under the Local Government Act from Community Land to Operational Land*'.

The hearing was held at 10:00AM on Monday 24 April 2006 at the Council Chambers in Fox St, Walgett. It was chaired by Paul O'Brien, a qualified town planner employed by the Bourke Shire Council as the Director of Environmental Services. Practice Note No 1 – Public Land Management issued by the Department of Local Government in May 2000, required that Council appoint an independent person to preside at the hearing.

The report from the chair of the public hearing was received on 13 June 2006, and is reproduced below.



**REPORT ON THE PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE
PROPOSED RECLASSIFICATION OF COUNCIL LAND
WITHIN WALGETT SHIRE FROM COMMUNITY LAND TO
OPERATIONAL LAND UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF THE
LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT**



Prepared by Bourke Shire Council Director Environmental Services, Paul O'Brien.

REPORT CONTENTS

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2 HEARING 3

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5 RECOMENDATIONS 5

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1 INTRODUCTION

Walgett Shire Council recently exhibited a document titled '*Draft Walgett Local Environmental Plan 2006 – Classification of Public Land*' (LEP).

In the draft LEP Walgett Shire Council proposed to reclassify certain parcels of Council owned land as "operational" land under the Local Government Act 1993. The provisions of the Local Government Act 1993 and the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 require that a public hearing be held regarding such reclassification proposals.

To satisfy these requirements Walgett Shire Council convened a public hearing commencing at 10:00AM on Monday 24 April 2006 at the Council Chambers in the Council offices located at 77 Fox St, Walgett.

As required by Public Land Management, issued by the Department of Local Government in May 2000, Council appointed me, Mr. Paul O'Brien, as an independent person to preside at the hearing. I am a qualified town planner employed by the Bourke Shire Council as the Director of Environmental Services.

2 HEARING

All interested persons and groups were invited to attend the hearing and make verbal or written submissions on the proposed reclassifications.

The meeting was convened at 10.00am on Monday 24 April 2006, as advertised.

Present at that time were:

Mr. Paul O'Brien (meeting chair) – Bourke Shire Council
Mr. Matthew Goodwin – Walgett Shire Council, Manager, Planning & Regulation
Mr. Jack Baker – Walgett Historical Society & Walgett Precinct Committee member.

The meeting closed at 10.16am after a verbal submission was made by Mr. Baker.

3 SUBMISSIONS

The hearing received one verbal submission from Mr. Jack Baker – Walgett Historical Society & Walgett Precinct Committee member.

This submission related to Lot30 DP 253488, a House in Euroka Street, Walgett (Item No.196) and Lot 33 DP 253488, an unmaintained park in Euroka Street, Walgett (Item No.197).

It was suggested that the concern in relation to these items was the existence of a permanent survey mark, at the rear of Lot 30, established by Surveyor Dewhurst by astronomical sighting, and purportedly used for the setout of the town of Walgett. The Precinct Committee put forward that the survey mark should be retained and become a tourist feature.

To this end the Walgett Precinct Committee, at its meeting of 7 March 2006, recommended to council;

That the classification of lands be changed so that the “Eloura Park” in Euroka Street, be changed to community land and that lot 8 on the western side of Eloura Park be sub-divided so that the Astronomical Survey Mark is included in the land of the park.

Council at its ordinary meeting of 16 March 2006 resolved on the motion of the Administrator;

That the minutes of the Walgett Precinct Committee held on 7 March 2006 be received and noted.

The consequence of this motion is that the recommendation of the Walgett Precinct committee was not adopted by the Council at that time, but simply noted. As such the issue may be dealt with as part of the recommendations of this report on the Public Hearing for the proposed reclassification of Council land within Walgett Shire from Community Land to Operational Land.

4 CONSIDERATION OF SUBMISSIONS

Following the close of the meeting on Monday 24 April 2006 I requested and was supplied with the following documentation from Council.

- Site plan of subject lots 30 and 33.
- Copy of 7 March 2006 Precinct Committee report to Council.
- Copy of 16 March 2006 Council meeting minutes.
- Photographic detail of the subject Survey mark.

With this information in hand a site inspection was undertaken of Lots 30 and 33, with Mr. Matthew Goodwin – Walgett Shire Council, Manager, Planning & Regulation. The purpose of this site inspection was to familiarise myself with the on ground situation.

This site inspection revealed that a recent ‘restoration’ of the survey mark had been undertaken. This action resulted in the removal of the original marker post and its replacement with a new post approximately 1.5 times the height of the original. The location of the original marker post is unknown.

This ‘restoration’ has severely detracted from the historical significance of the location due to the removal of the item of prime significance, being the Survey Marker Post. Subsequently the site significance is decreased but not lost.

It is the opinion of the author that the continued significance of the site is best preserved through removal of the substitute Marker and replacement of such with a plaque detailing the significance of the site. The rear portion of Lot 30 containing the Markers original location should then be sub-divided off and consolidated with Lot 20 DP 253488, which abuts the rear of the allotment and forms part of the Council depot land.

Public access to this area may then be gained via the laneway to the west of Lot 28 DP 25348. It is the opinion of the author that this public access should be maintained and advertised to the public through local tourist outlets and heritage advocates.

Should Council resolve to restrict or prohibit public access in the future a program of rigorous public consultation should first be undertaken.

5 RECOMENDATIONS

Having examined the thorough information provided by Council in support of the recommendation for all Council land listed in the *Draft Walgett Local Environmental Plan 2006 – Classification of Public Land*, proposed to be reclassified under the Local Government Act 1993 from “community” land to “operational” land, and taken into consideration submissions for the public, I concur with those recommendations.

Accordingly I recommend the following:

- (a) That the *Draft Walgett Local Environmental Plan 2006 – Classification of Public Land* be made as advertised.
- (b) That once *Draft Walgett Local Environmental Plan 2006 – Classification of Public Land* is made the rear portion of Lot 30, containing the Survey Markers original location, be then be sub-divided off and consolidated with Lot 20 DP 253488.
- (c) That public access to the survey marker site be maintained and advertised to the public through local tourist outlets and heritage advocates. Such public access should not be restricted or prohibited in the future without a program of rigorous public consultation first being undertaken

6 ATTACHMENTS

- *Draft Walgett Local Environmental Plan 2006 – Classification of Public Land*
- Public Hearing Information Package
- Report No.56 from the Walgett Precinct Committee meeting of 7 March 2006 to the Council.
- Minutes of the 16 March 2006 Walgett Shire Council meeting.
- Photo of Survey Marker prior to ‘restoration’.
- Photo of Survey Marker after “restoration”.
- Aerial Photo site plan showing Lots 20, 30 and 31 DP253488 and laneway to the west.

SHIRE OF WALGETT –AGENDA

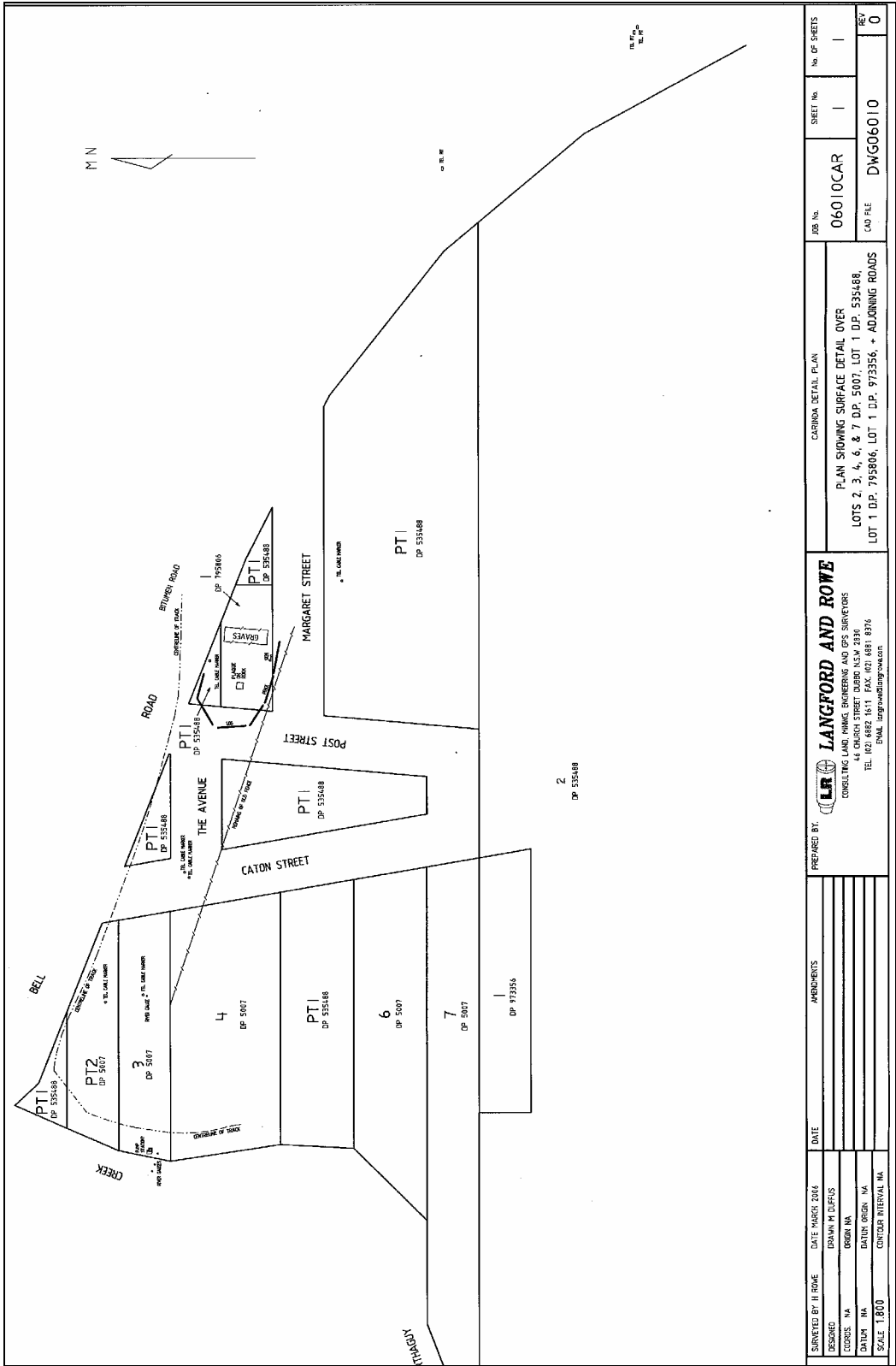
Unrelated to the public hearing, survey work was recently undertaken at Carinda with a view to determining whether a number of freehold lots owned by Walgett Shire Council were affected by any improvements or structures. The lots involved are not fenced and are included in the lands being dealt with under the LEP. A copy of the survey plan is provided below.

The survey revealed the following:

- LEP item No. 9 (Lot 3, Section A, DP 5007) is not “*vacant land*” as described in the LEP. It actually has a pump station and/or river height gauges for the Marthaguy Creek located on it.
- LEP item No. 13 (Lot 1, DP 535488) does not have “*historic graves?*” as described in the LEP. The land is actually vacant.
- LEP item No. 22 (Lot 1, DP 795806) is noted as having “*historic graves?*”. The survey confirmed that the graves are actually located on this land.

In the above context it would be appropriate to adopt an amended LEP that addresses the points above by:

1. Changing the description of LEP item No. 9 (Lot 3, Section A, DP 5007) from “*vacant land*” to become “pump station and/or river height gauges”.
2. Changing the description of LEP item No. 13 (Lot 1, DP 535488) from “*historic graves?*” to “vacant land”.
3. Changing the description of LEP item No. 22 (Lot 1, DP 795806) from “*historic graves?*” to become “historic graves”.



SURVEYED BY: J. H. ROWE		DATE: MARCH 2004	AMENDMENTS		PREPARED BY: <div>LANGFORD AND ROWE CONSULTING LAND, PLANNING, ENGINEERING AND GPS SURVEYORS 44 CHURCH STREET DUNEDIN N.Z. 9100 TEL: 021 6882 1611 FAX: 021 6881 8376 EMAIL: langford@langford.co.nz</div>	JOB No. 06010CAR	SHEET No. 1	No. OF SHEETS 1
DESIGNED: NA	DRAWN: M. DUFFUS							
CORRESP: NA	ORIGIN: NA							
DATUM: NA	CONTING. INTERVAL: NA							
SCALE: 1:800								
			CARBIDA DETAIL PLAN		PLAN SHOWING SURFACE DETAIL OVER LOTS 2, 3, 4, 6, & 7 D.P. 5007, LOT 1 D.P. 535488, LOT 1 D.P. 795806, LOT 1 D.P. 973556, + ADJOINING ROADS			
					CAD FILE DWG06010			
					REV 0			

Relevant Reference Documents:

- File 315-01-02-00.
- Document titled '*Public Exhibition Documents for the Draft Walgett Local Environmental Plan 2006 – Classification of Public Land*' (which included the draft LEP) issued by Walgett Shire Council in February 2006.
- Document titled '*Public Hearing Information Package for the Proposed Reclassification of Council Land Under the Local Government Act from Community Land to Operational Land*' issued by Walgett Shire Council in March 2006.
- Document titled '*Report on the Public Hearing for the Proposed Reclassification of Council Land Within Walgett Shire from Community Land to Operational Land Under the Provisions of the Local Government Act*', as submitted to Walgett Shire Council on 13 June 2006 by the Chairman of the hearing, Paul O'Brien
- '*Practice Note No 1 – Public Land Management*' issued by the Department of Local Government in May 2000.
- '*LEPs and Council Land – Best Practice Guideline*' dated January 1997, issued by the Department of Urban Affairs and Planning.

Stakeholders:

The community and Walgett Shire Council.

Financial Implications:

Nil.

Recommendations:

That Walgett Shire Council resolve to:

1. **Note and consider the submission made on the '*Draft Walgett Local Environmental Plan 2006 – Classification of Public Land*' by the Walgett Precinct Committee at its meeting held on 7th March 2006.**
2. **Make publicly available the '*Report on the Public Hearing for the Proposed Reclassification of Council Land Within Walgett Shire from Community Land to Operational Land Under the Provisions of the Local Government Act*' as submitted to Walgett Shire Council on 13 June 2006. This will include:**
 - (a) **Posting the document to precinct committees and working parties for their information.**
 - (b) **Placing the copies of the document on public display at Walgett Shire Council's Walgett office.**

3. **Adopt recommendation (b) and (c) made by the chair of the public hearing into the proposed reclassification of public land, as contained in the document titled *'Report on the Public Hearing for the Proposed Reclassification of Council Land Within Walgett Shire from Community Land to Operational Land Under the Provisions of the Local Government Act'* as submitted to Walgett Shire Council on 13 June 2006.**

Those recommendations are:

- (b) **That once Draft Walgett Local Environmental Plan 2006 – Classification of Public Land is made the rear portion of Lot 30, containing the Survey Markers original location, be then be sub-divided off and consolidated with Lot 20 DP 253488.**
 - (c) **That public access to the survey marker site be maintained and advertised to the public through local tourist outlets and heritage advocates. Such public access should not be restricted or prohibited in the future without a program of rigorous public consultation first being undertaken.**
4. **Not adopt recommendation (a) by the chair of the public hearing that the *'Draft Walgett Local Environmental Plan 2006 – Classification of Public Land'* should be made as advertised.**
5. **Amend the *'Draft Walgett Local Environmental Plan 2006 – Classification of Public Land'* by:**
 - (a) **Changing the description of LEP item No. 9 (Lot 3, Section A, DP 5007) from *"vacant land"* to become *"pump station and/or river height gauges"*.**
 - (b) **Changing the description of LEP item No. 13 (Lot 1, DP 535488) from *"historic graves?"* to *"vacant land"*.**
 - (c) **Changing the description of LEP item No. 22 (Lot 1, DP 795806) from *"historic graves?"* to become *"historic graves"*.**
6. **Adopt the amended *'Draft Walgett Local Environmental Plan 2006 – Classification of Public Land'* and submit it to the Director General of the Department of Planning in accordance with subsection (4) of section 68 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979.**

MANAGER PLANNING AND REGULATIONS REPORT TO COUNCIL MEETING 22 JUNE 2006
--

Item No: 16

Subject: Heritage Adviser's Annual Report

Author: Matthew Goodwin - Manager Planning and Regulation

File No: 235/06/26.1

Summary:

As part of a funding agreement with the NSW Heritage Office, Council's Heritage Adviser is required to submit an annual report that details heritage works facilitated with the assistance of grants. This report recommends that the Administrator endorse the report prepared by Walgett Shire Council's Heritage Adviser, Graham Hall.

Comments (including issues and background):

Walgett Shire Council's Heritage Adviser, Graham Hall, has prepared a report detailing the heritage works facilitated by Council during the 2005-2006 financial year.

Council is expecting a \$5,910 grant from the Heritage Office as a dollar for dollar subsidy for heritage work detailed in the report.

A copy of the report is reproduced below.

**HERITAGE ADVISER'S
ANNUAL REPORT TO
WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL**

Walgett Shire
Council
RECD

6 JUN 2006

FILE: 235/06/26/00

LETTER No: 6511

REFER: MP6

COPY: SJM
PER
NAB



The hall at Come-by-Chance, repainted after 25 years

Graham Hall, Heritage Adviser

HERITAGE FUNCTIONS AND PROGRAM

The Heritage Adviser's position and related activities are jointly funded by Council and the NSW Heritage Office in accordance with a formal funding agreement. To quote from the Heritage Office model brief, "The primary goal ...is to assist a local council and its community to have appropriate measures in place so as to best conserve and present the heritage of the area concerned." The Adviser's duties comprise "education, management and promotion." The funding agreement with the Heritage Office requires me to report on these matters.

In practice, education, management and promotion are reflected in the five strategies of Council's Heritage strategic Plan:

1. Identify items of local and state significance
2. Promote the appreciation of the Shire's heritage
3. Encourage conservation of the Shire's heritage
4. Protect the Shire's heritage
5. Lead by example in implementing strategies 1-4

Education, management and promotion also run across all the components of the formal program. These comprised

- the provision of **Heritage Advisory Services** to Council, property owners and the community (a standard component of a heritage program)
- coordination of the **Community-based Heritage Study**
- the **Local Heritage Fund**

REPORTING ARRANGEMENTS

The Council officer responsible for the heritage programs is the Manager, Planning and Regulation, Mr Matthew Goodwin. This is an appropriate and effective level for contact.

During the previous financial year the Heritage Committee was dissolved, although its members have continued as the Study Committee for the Heritage Study. The study is virtually complete, and in view of the great assistance the group has provided and the value placed on heritage committees by the Heritage Office, I will be recommending that Council again appoint an appropriately structured Heritage Committee.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I am grateful, as always, for the friendly and professional support of Matthew Goodwin. I would also like to thank Stephen McLean, Kaye Stone, Alan Nelson, and others at Council; the advisory group for the community-based heritage study; and Victoria Throp and her colleagues at the Heritage Office, for their assistance throughout the year.

HERITAGE ADVISORY SERVICES

Strategic planning issues

It is good that heritage is seen as an integral element within strategic planning for the Shire, and not only as a component of the Local Environmental Plan. In earlier years I participated in discussions on the Tourism Strategy and the Land Use Strategy. This year I was invited to comment on the Walgett Shire Growth Management Strategy Issues Paper. This provided an opportunity to comment on how dispersed and fragile much of the Shire's environmental heritage is, and to comment in particular on the place of heritage tourism as part of a growth strategy. The comments I made on this point are reproduced below for Council's consideration.

The paper mentions tourism based on the opal industry and mentions the market potential for outback tours. Heritage has significant potential in this context. There are several outstanding items.

However it must be said that they are scattered and not all are even accessible. The areas where heritage is at all concentrated are few. Only the centre of Burren Junction is immediately obvious as an area with heritage values. Parts of the opal fields are historically significant. The potential of Wilson Street, Collarenebri, is at present obscured.

Tourists will not come to the Shire to see a single heritage item. So:

- *the items need to be identified, perhaps by plaques as well as in publications, and linked by the establishment of (probably self-guided) walking and car heritage trails,*
- *heritage tourism should be promoted as part of a wider opal field, rural and environmental outback tourism strategy*
- *this should link the towns and villages of Walgett Shire, and*
- *in turn, should link the entire region.*

Development applications

As the Shire as yet has no Local Environmental Plan, there are no heritage-listed items at present. Consequently no Development Applications have been referred for formal comment on heritage issues. However Council staff have the draft list arising from the Community-based Heritage Study, and referred queries on a number of potential items for which Development Applications or preliminary inquiries had been received. A recurring theme was how to meet current requirements in respect of fire safety in historic buildings, and other requirements of the Building Code of Australia when a change of use is proposed.

Council owned or controlled items

Council sought advice on several items under its ownership or control including

- a colour scheme for the Walgett Airport building,
- management of graves and a historic survey mark at Carinda,
- the pine trees in Gray Park,
- the old Walgett Railway Station,
- capping the bore at the Burren Junction Bore Baths
- the open cut mine at Lunatic Hill, Lightning Ridge.

Only one of the three Council staff who undertook heritage training some years ago is still with Council, but in my opinion staff at all levels are increasingly aware of heritage issues.

Lunatic Hill Open Cut Mine

The open cut opal mine at Lunatic Hill was nominated as a potential heritage item, together with the preserved fields, during the community-based heritage study. It was also nominated as a State-significant item in response to the Heritage Office "Icons" project and separately by the Lightning Ridge Opal and Fossil Project.



Lunatic Hill open cut opal mine, Lightning Ridge

The mine is under threat because the Department of Natural Resources requires remediation by backfilling. Neither Council management, the Lightning Ridge community nor I see this form of remediation as appropriate, given the heritage significance and tourist potential of the mine. Instead, it should be fenced in the least intrusive manner consistent with safety.

A possible source of funding was the Heritage Office's biennial Site Works program, under which grants of up to \$50,000 can be provided for conservation of State-significant items. I collaborated with Ms. Jenni Brammell, Project Manager, Lightning Ridge Opal & Fossil Centre Project, to complete the nomination for State listing and the funding application.

The application was, unfortunately, not successful, and the site remains at risk. However the Heritage Office is continuing with its assessment of the nomination for State listing. Once the site is listed at State and/or local level, it will have a greater degree of protection, and possibly a better chance of future funding.

Loss of the Diggers' Rest Hotel

A potential heritage item, the Diggers' Rest Hotel, Lightning Ridge, built in 1930, was burnt to the ground on 24 April, as its predecessor, the Imperial Hotel, did in 1927. This follows the loss of Lightning Ridge's third Post Office, later a café, and the Catholic Church, Walgett, in the last few years. I have no information on the causes or the adequacy of fire prevention measures



The Diggers' Rest Hotel, Lightning Ridge, now destroyed by fire.

COMMUNITY-BASED HERITAGE STUDY

This study is aimed at identifying those items which constitute the Shire's environmental heritage and merit recognition and protection by listing in a Schedule to the Local Environmental Plan. A thematic history of the Shire, professionally written by Terry Kass, provides a framework for the study. Previous reports have detailed the extensive series of workshops held and the resulting draft list of items.

These have been reviewed and endorsed by the Study Committee during the year. It was hoped that owners might have been contacted, their input considered and the report presented to Council by now.

However it is clearly essential that the items that have been proposed be accurately identified in terms of their legal description (Lot, Section and DP number), to ensure that the true owner is contacted and that the item, if approved for inclusion on a Schedule to the forthcoming LEP, is properly recorded. (Experience with a large metropolitan council where errors are present in the schedule confirms this view, which is shared by me and Council's management.) Unfortunately the difficulties previously reported have taken longer to overcome than hoped, but the document is now close to completion. As noted, it is already in use by Council staff on a provisional basis.

LOCAL HERITAGE FUND

This Fund provides grants, normally on a \$ for \$ basis, to owners of listed or potential items for practical conservation work such as painting, repairs, removal of veranda enclosures, and replacement of guttering. Private owners and commercial organisations are eligible. Comprehensive guidelines and conditions have been developed for transparent administration.

In the first few years the emphasis has been on community buildings across the towns and villages of the Shire. This not only conserves the fabric of our heritage buildings, but promotes an appreciation of their value amongst the community.

This year grants were provided for repainting and repairs to the Burren Junction School of Arts, the Diggers Memorial Hall at Carinda and to the Anglican Church at Cumborah, and minor repairs to the Anglican Church at Walgett. Full details are tabulated below.

The Heritage office is offering increased financial support for the Local Heritage Fund next year and I have recommended that Council budget the maximum amount that will attract dollar for dollar support. I will be suggesting an emphasis on private houses and business premises in 2006-07, once owners have been notified of the proposed listings from the Community-based Heritage Study.

Graham Hall, B.Arch, M.Bldg.Sc, MBA, Grad Cert Herit Cons, RAlA
Heritage Adviser

SUMMARY LIST OF COMPLETED PROJECTS**WALGETT SHIRE LOCAL HERITAGE FUND 2005-06**

Applicant	Property	Works undertaken	Total project cost \$	Applicant's contribution \$	Local Fund contribution \$
Burren Junction School of Arts Committee	Burren Junction School of Arts	Replace rotten weatherboards, window sills, frames and sashes, door frames and treads, architraves, doors; repair eaves lining; replace broken storm water drain	11,660	5,830	5,830
Rev. G. Stewart	St. Peter's Anglican Church, Walgett (1)	Repair window	213	71	142
Rev. G. Stewart	Anglican Church, Cumborah (2)	Paint exterior	3,228	2,880	348
Carinda Diggers Memorial Hall Committee	Carinda Diggers Memorial Hall	Repair damaged weatherboards and architraves, repaint exterior	11,000	5,500	5,500
TOTAL					11,820
					Heritage Office contribution \$5910

Note (1): A grant of \$2 for every \$1 was approved for this work, in view of the church's financial position.

Note (2): The grant covers the cost of materials only. The work was done by voluntary labour conservatively valued at \$20/hour for 144 hours.

The above items have been completed, although photographs of the completed work are not yet to hand in respect of all the items. These will be provided in the near future.

PROPOSED PROJECTS 2006-07

Having focussed on community buildings in the five largest towns in the Shire (Walgett, Lightning Ridge, Collarenebri, Burren Junction and Carinda) and one village (Cumborah) for the first three years of the Fund's operation, it is intended in the coming year to emphasise the privately owned items in the draft list of heritage items. As soon as the legal descriptions of all the land parcels involved have been identified, owners will be contacted, and invited to comment and apply for a grant. It is expected that there will be more, but smaller, grants as a result.

SHIRE OF WALGETT –AGENDA

Relevant Reference Documents:

- Heritage Adviser's Annual Report to Walgett Shire Council, as included with this report.

Stakeholders:

- Walgett Shire Council and the public.

Financial Implications:

Submission of the report to the Heritage Office will result in a \$5,910 grant from that agency. Provision for a \$6,000 grant was made in this year's budget.

Recommendations:

That the Administrator resolve to:

1. **Note the contents of the report titled "Heritage Adviser's Annual Report to Walgett Shire Council", as submitted to the NSW Heritage Office by Graham Hall, Walgett Shire Council's Heritage Adviser.**
2. **Forward the report to all Precinct Committees and Working Parties in the Shire for their information and comment.**

MANAGER PLANNING AND REGULATIONS REPORT TO COUNCIL MEETING 22 JUNE 2006
--

Item No: 17

Subject: Land Reserved from Mining, Lightning Ridge

Author: Matthew Goodwin - Manager Planning and Regulation

File No: 265/03/01/00

Summary:

There are a numbers of areas of land near Lightning Ridge which Walgett Shire Council has an interest in for future development. This report considers options for the development of the three major areas for urban related purposes.

Comments (including issues and background):

In a letter dated 27 March 2006, the Lightning Ridge Miners Association requested that Walgett Shire Council agree allow access to an area of land that has been reserved from mining by the Department of Primary Industries at the request of Council. A copy of that letter is provided below, along with a map of the land involved.

The policy reserve is located south of Lightning Ridge near the 3 Mile Road as shown in the map. In a letter dated 30 September 1992 Council sought the support of the Department of Minerals and Energy (now Department of Primary Industries) and the Lightning Ridge Mining Board for Council's proposed purchase of the land from the Western Lands Commission for the future residential and industrial needs of Lightning Ridge. It is understood that the Lightning Ridge Mining Board approved this area as a policy reserve in 1992.

A similar request was received from the Lightning Ridge Miners Association last year for the policy reserve, as well as other areas. It is relevant to note that Council subsequently resolved at the Council meeting held on 15 December 2005 to:

- “(1) Designate the policy reserve area between the Three Mile Road, Fantasia St, Lapkalle St and the Lightning Ridge aerodrome (part of Lot 1794 DP 767406) as its preferred location for urban expansion of Lightning Ridge, both for residential and industrial uses.*
- (4) Write to Edge Land Planning, the company engaged by Walgett Shire Council to prepare a rural and urban land use strategy and Local Environmental Plan, advising that Council has made the above designations and requests that they be given appropriate consideration in the course of development of the strategy and Local Environmental Plan.*
- (5) Write to the Lightning Ridge Miners Association and inform it of the above designations.”*

SHIRE OF WALGETT –AGENDA

The Study and Strategy document is nearing completion and will be placed on public exhibition in the short term. It would be premature for Council to make a decision on the Association's proposal prior to considering any recommendations that may arise from the Study and Strategy document regarding providing for urban expansion.

In the above context, a response letter was sent to the Lightning Ridge Miners Association, as reproduced below.

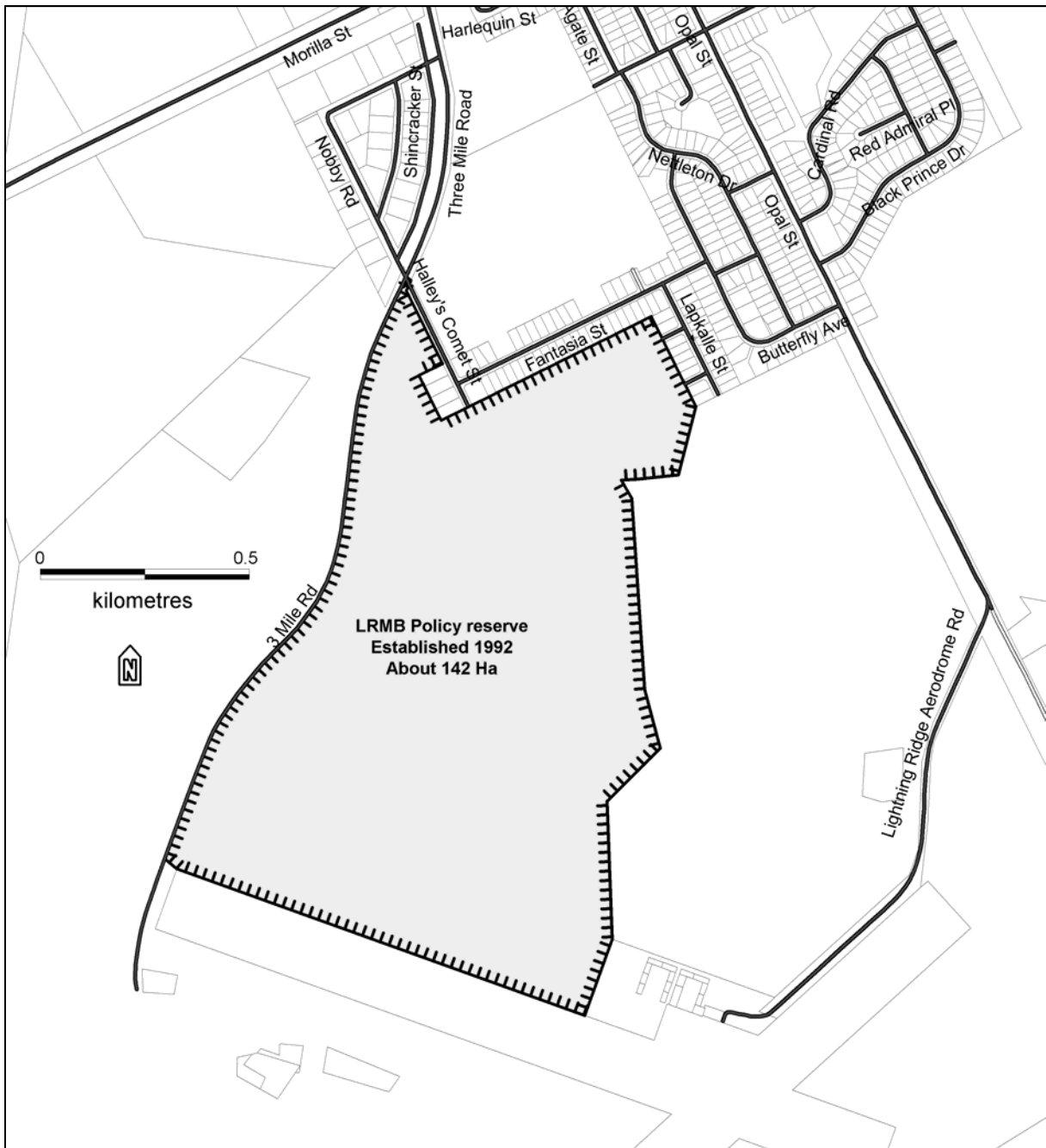


Figure 1 – Area that the Lightning Ridge Miners Association have requested be made available for opal prospecting and mining.



Lightning Ridge Miners' Association Ltd.

ABN 36 001 204 726

P O Box 177
Lot 60 Morilla Street
LIGHTNING RIDGE NSW 2834

Walgett Shire
Council

Phone: (02) 6829 0427
Fax: (02) 6829 0830
Email: lrma@lightningridge.net.au

27 March 2006

REC'D

29 MAR 2006

The General Manager
Walgett Shire Council
PO Box 31
Walgett NSW 2832

FILE: 265/03/01/00

LETTER No: 3080

Att: Matthew Goodwin

REFER: MPA

Dear Sir,

COPY:

Re: 142ha Policy Reserve South of Fantasia Street

The Lightning Ridge Miners' Association Ltd met with Hugh Percy, Alan Nelson and Ian Taylor on 14 March 2006. As suggested at that meeting we have spoken with Matthew Goodwin in regard to the above area that is currently reserved from opal prospecting and mining.

We understand the Walgett Shire Council has reserved this land for future residential and industrial development. As explained this area also has a high potential for opal and quite a few people have expressed an interest in exploring the area. Without a vibrant opal industry it is unlikely that there will be any demand for additional residential or industrial land.

Following is a staged proposal that we believe will suit both the aims and needs of the Walgett Shire Council and the opal industry.

Stage One – Years 1-5

Walgett Shire Council develops a number of residential blocks in an area bounded by Opal Street, Pandora Street and Cardinal Road, marked blue on the attached map. We believe this area has sufficient land to develop enough blocks to satisfy initial demand. This area has several advantages. It is within the town boundary, water and sewage lines are close by and very little of it would have been intensively mined.

The opal industry could explore and mine the whole of the currently reserved area of 142ha south of Fantasia Street to the airport, for a period of five years.

Stage Two – Years 6-10

Walgett Shire Council develop a further number of blocks in an area bounded by Fantasia Street, Lapkalle Street and the Three Mile Road as marked in pink on the attached map, as

and when demand dictates. The water and sewer mains are not as accessible to this area as it is in Stage One area and it may not be in the town boundary.

The opal industry could continue to explore and mine the balance of the current reserve, approximately 106ha for another 5 years, marked in green on the map.

We request in this case the town boundary not be extended until the very last moment prior to the blocks being sold, as mining is excluded within 200m of the town boundary unless the applicant has the consent of all surrounding residents.

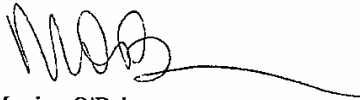
Stage Three – Years 10-15

Develop the rest of the currently reserved area working south from the Stage Two area, as and when demand dictates. This area is currently quite a distance away from existing facilities such as water and sewer mains and it would be more economical to only develop it when the services come closer over time in a staged plan.

The opal industry could continue to explore and mine any area not wanted immediately.

If this proposal is acceptable we recommend that no residential claims or western lands leases for residences be permitted in the currently reserved area of 142ha whilst it is available for opal prospecting and mining. This will benefit the Council when it comes time to develop the area and benefit the opal industry by not sterilising prospective ground with camps.

Yours sincerely,



Maxine O'Brien
Secretary/Manager

c.c. Mr Hugh Percy, Administrator



Reference: MG; MG; 265-01-02-00

Your Reference: 265/03/01/00

RN 5158

Contact: Matthew Goodwin

8 May 2006

Maxine O'Brien
Secretary/Manager
Lightning Ridge Miners Association
P.O. Box 177
LIGHTNING RIDGE N.S.W. 2834

Dear Maxine,

RE: 142 ha POLICY RESERVE SOUTH OF FANTASIA ST, LIGHTNING RIDGE

Thankyou for your letter dated 27 March 2006, which requested Walgett Shire Council take steps to permit opal mining and exploration on a temporary basis in a policy reserve area between Fantasia St and the Aerodrome at Lightning Ridge.

Some time ago Walgett Shire Council engaged Edge Land Planning to prepare a Growth Management Study and Draft Strategy that will form the basis for a draft Local Environmental Plan. The Study and Strategy document is nearly complete and will be placed on public exhibition in the short term. It would be premature for Council to make a decision on the Association's proposal prior to considering any recommendations that may arise from the Study and Strategy document regarding providing for urban expansion.

Your letter has been referred to Edge Land Planning for consideration prior to the finalisation of the Growth Management Study and Draft Strategy document. It is suggested that the Association should consider making submissions on that document, as well as the draft Local Environmental Plan, when they are released for public comment.

Please contact me if you require any additional information.


Matthew Goodwin
Manager Planning & Regulation

SHIRE OF WALGETT –AGENDA

Relevant Reference Documents:

- File 265-03-01-00 - Economic development, planning, claims, opal mining quarrying.

Stakeholders:

Walgett Shire Council, Lightning Ridge Miners Association, public.

Financial Implications:

Nil.

Recommendation:

That Walgett Shire Council resolve to note the letter sent to the Lightning Ridge Miners Association on 8 May 2006 regarding the policy reserve area between the Three Mile Road, Fantasia St, Lapkalle St and the Lightning Ridge aerodrome (part of Lot 1794 DP 767406).

MANAGER PLANNING AND REGULATIONS REPORT TO COUNCIL MEETING 22 JUNE 2006
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Item No: 18

Subject: Development and Complying Development Certificate Applications

Author: Matthew Goodwin - Manager Planning and Regulation

File No: 315/01/00/00

Summary:

This report provides a summary of the Development and Complying Development Certificate applications recently dealt with by the Manager Planning and Regulations and General Manager under delegated authority.

Comments (including issues and background):

The following tables provide a summary of Development (DA) and Complying Development Certificate (CDC) applications dealt with under delegated authority by the Manager Planning and Regulations and General Manager during April and May 2006.

DA	DEVELOPMENT	DECISION	DATE	LAND (lot/sec/DP)	LOCATION	ZONING
2006006	2 shipping containers pig/roo storage and buying	Approved	10-May-2006	53//752271	Walgett	1. Non Urban
2006007	Family Day Care	Approved	10-Apr-2006	85//45077	Lightning Ridge	2. Village
2006008	Prefab building for opal buying	Approved	10-Apr-2006	16/9/758612	Lightning Ridge	2. Village
2006009	Transportable dwelling	Approved	10-Apr-2006	21 and 73//750313	Walgett	2. Village
2006011	Steel framed shed for restaurant patrons	Approved	19-Apr-2006	57//705026	Lightning Ridge	2. Village
2006012	Conversion of 4 bed-sit units into 2 one bedroom units	Approved	19-Apr-2011	2//599185	Walgett	2. Village
2006013	Caravan park	Approved	16-May-2006	35//752697	Walgett	1(b) Non Urban

CDC	DEVELOPMENT	DECISION	DATE	LAND (lot/sec/DP)	LOCATION	ZONING
2006009	Shed	Approved	11-Apr-06	1//862620	Lightning Ridge	2. Village
2006014	Verandah	Approved	5-Apr-06	12//544492	Collarenebri	2. Village
2006015	Shed	Approved	19-Apr-06	1/14/758317	Cumbarrah	2. Village
2006016	Extension and renovation of existing dwelling	Approved	25-May-06	6/28/758612	Lightning Ridge	2. Village
2006017	Inground fibreglass swimming pool	Approved	11-May-06	1//753915	Burren Junction	1.(a) Non Urban

SHIRE OF WALGETT –AGENDA

Relevant Reference Documents:

- Respective Development Application and Complying Development Certificate files.

Stakeholders:

- Public and applicants

Financial Implications:

Nil

Recommendation:

That Walgett Shire Council resolve to note the Development and Complying Development Certificate applications dealt with under delegated authority by the Manager Planning and Regulation and General Manager during April and May 2006.

MANAGER PLANNING AND REGULATIONS REPORT TO COUNCIL MEETING 22 JUNE 2006
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Item No: 19

Subject: Development Application 2006014 - Walgett Shire Council

Author: Janet Babic – Planner
Matthew Goodwin - Manager Planning and Regulation

File No: DA 2006014

Summary:

A Development Application has been lodged on behalf of Walgett Shire Council to subdivide a part of Travelling Stock Route 1280 to enable an extension to Walgett Waste Management Depot. This report recommends that the application be approved.

Comments (including issues and background):

Development Application 2006014 has been lodged by Kaye Stone, Council's Assets Officer, on behalf of Walgett Shire Council. The proposal is to subdivide Travelling Stock Route (TSR) 1280 to enable future extensions to the Walgett Waste Management Depot. The land involved adjoins the existing Waste Management Depot on its eastern edge. The proposal involves:

1. TSR 1280 which has an area of about 174.677 hectares.
2. Creating two lots, one of about 4.28 hectares for the future extension of the Walgett Waste Management Depot, and the remaining land of about 170.397 hectares which will remain as TSR.

The land is located adjacent to Walgett Waste Management Depot as shown in the figures below.

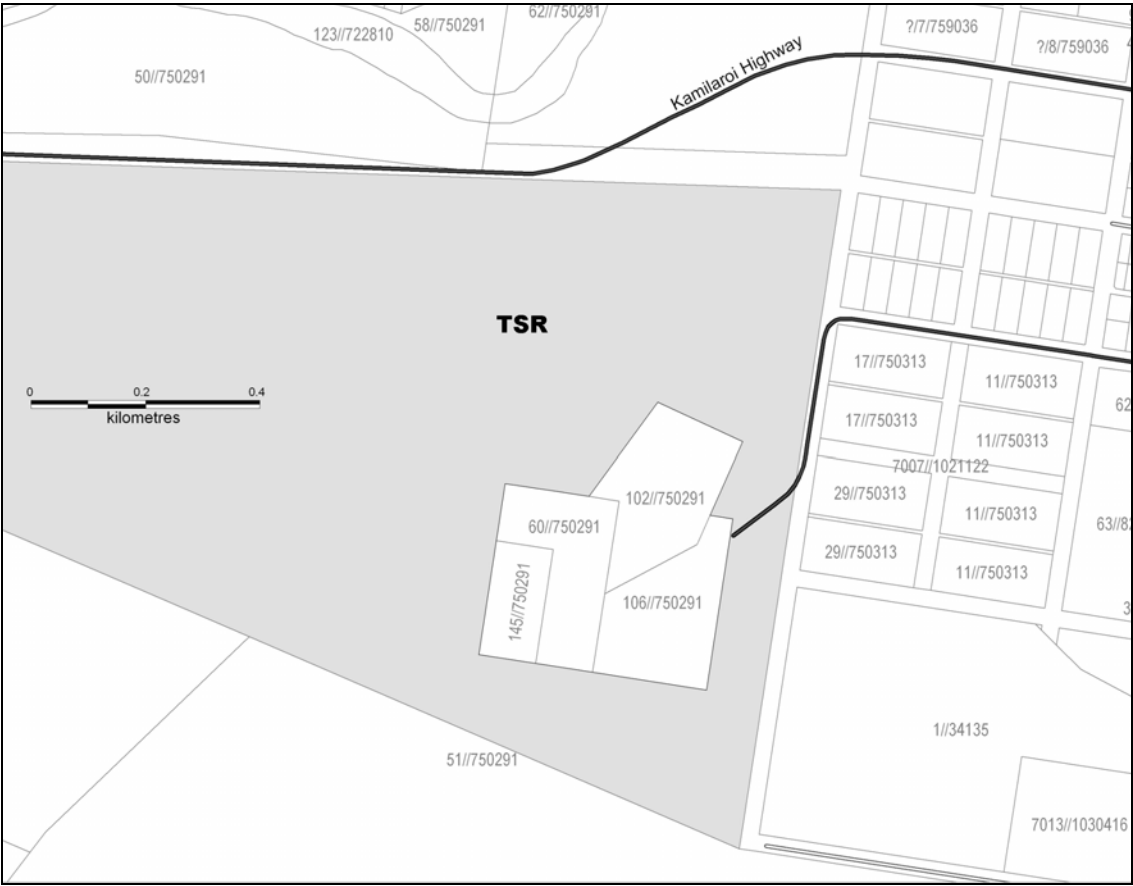


Figure – Land proposed to be subdivided (by shaded area).

SHIRE OF WALGETT –AGENDA

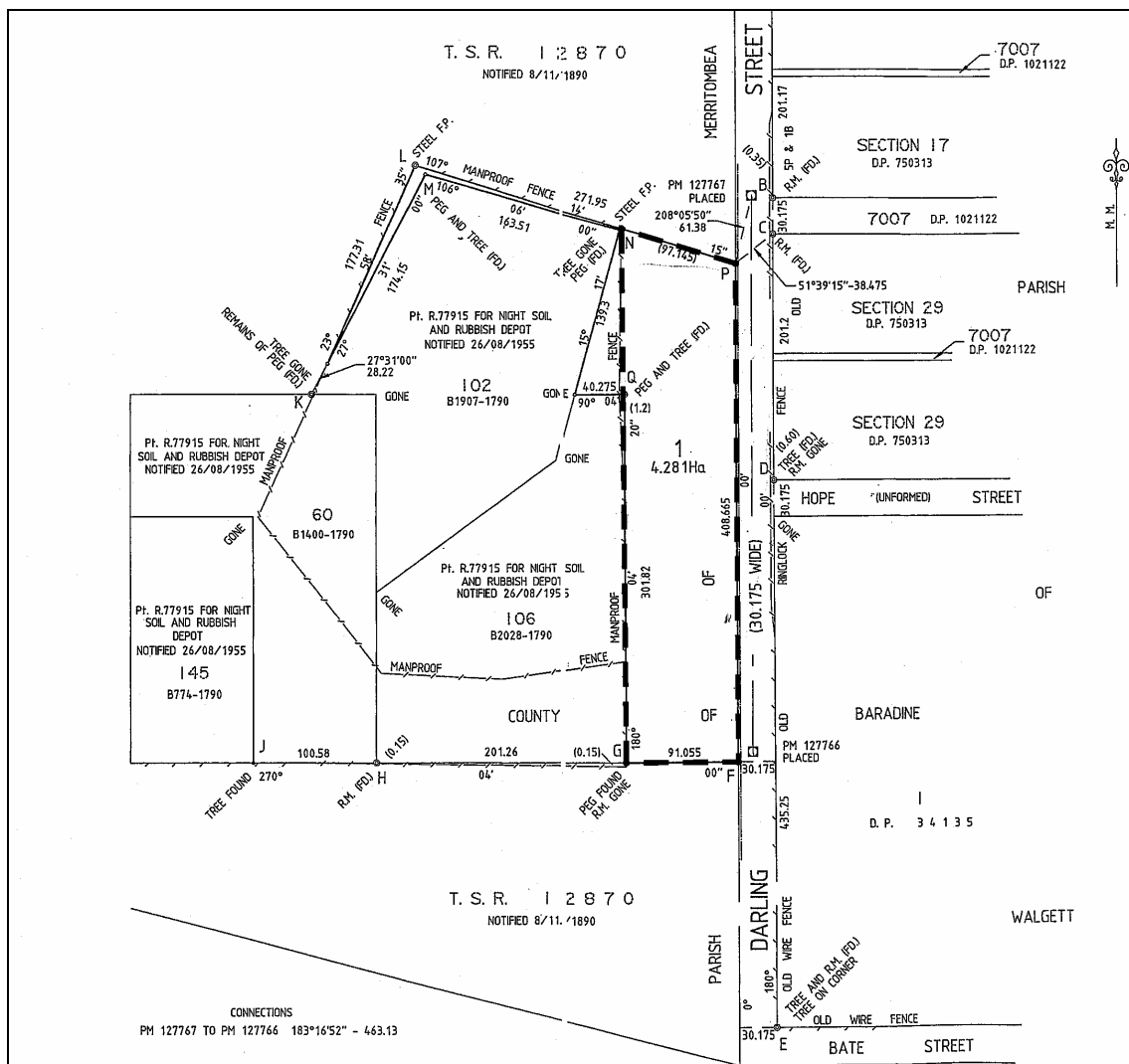


Figure – Lot proposed to be created (perimeter shown by a thick broken line).

Statutory matters for consideration:

79C (1)(a)(i) Provisions of any environmental planning instrument.

The only relevant environmental planning instrument is the Interim Development Order No. 1 – Shire Of Walgett 1968 (IDO). Under that order the land is located within a "1. Non-Urban A" zone and development consent is required from Council to permit the development to proceed.

79C (1)(a)(ii) Provisions of any draft environmental planning instrument that is or has been placed on public exhibition.

Not applicable.

79C (1)(a)(iii) Any development control plan.

Not applicable.

SHIRE OF WALGETT –AGENDA

- 79C(1)(a)(iia) Any planning agreement that has been entered into under section 93F, or any draft planning agreement that a developer has offered to enter into under section 93F**

Not applicable.

- 79C(1)(a)(iv) The regulations.**

Section 92 and 92A of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2000 prescribe additional matters for consideration (see comments below).

- 79C (1)(b) Likely impacts of the development, including environmental impacts on both the natural and built environments, and social and economic impacts in the locality.**

Current land uses on surrounding lots are: a vacant area between the proposed development and Walgett Township Levee and Walgett Sewage Treatment Works to the east, grazing on TSR 1280 to the north and south and Walgett Waste Management Depot to the west. Accordingly the development is unlikely to have a significant impact on natural or built environments.

By adding 4.281 hectares to the existing area of the Walgett Waste Management Depot, future needs for increased landfill capacity would be addressed. Therefore the proposed created Lot would help minimise costs normally associated with exploration of suitable sites for future landfill requirements.

- 79C (1)(c) Suitability of the site for the development.**

FLOODING: There is some potential for inundation by flood waters. Development consent has only been sought for the subdivision at this stage, not the use of the site as a rubbish depot.

ENVIRONMENT: No flora, fauna or archaeological data has been supplied with the Development Application and consent has only been sought for the subdivision at this stage, not the use of the site as a rubbish depot.

OVERALL: There are no apparent factors that make the site unsuitable for subdivision.

- 79C (1)(d) Submissions made in accordance with the Act or the regulations.**

Not applicable. Under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 the proposal is local development with no opportunity for submissions under the act or regulations (as opposed to designated or advertised development).

- 79C (1)(e) The public interest.**

No objections were received at the time of completing this report.

Given that the proposed development is permissible with development consent, is for an important future community service and is compatible with surrounding developments approval of the proposal appears to be in the public interest.

The following matters must also be considered by Council in accordance with Sections 92 and 92A of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2000 when making a decision on any Development Application.

- 92 (1) (a) Coastal areas.**

Not Applicable.

- 92 (1) (b) Demolition.**

Not Applicable, no demolition work is proposed.

- 92A Preliminary planning.**

Not applicable.

SHIRE OF WALGETT –AGENDA

Relevant Reference Documents:

- Development Application file 2006014
- Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979.
- Interim Development Order No. 1 – Shire Of Walgett 1968.

Stakeholders:

- Walgett Shire Council
- Department of Natural Resources (land owner).

Recommendation:

That Development Application 2006014 be approved subject to the following conditions of consent:

PRESCRIBED CONDITIONS OF DEVELOPMENT CONSENT

As no 'work' is to be undertaken there are no prescribed conditions of development consent under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2000.

SPECIAL CONDITIONS SET BY COUNCIL

GENERAL

Gen 010.

It is possible that a covenant may affect the land, which is subject to this consent. The granting of this consent does not necessarily override any covenant. You should seek legal advice regarding the effect of any covenants that may affect the land.

Reason: To avoid breaching the requirements of any covenant.

SUBDIVISION

Sub 010.

That two lots are created by the subdivision of Travelling Stock Route 1280, one of about 4.281 hectares and one of about 170.397 hectares.

Reason: To ensure that the development proceeds in the manner proposed by the applicant and approved by Council.

Sub 020.

A surveyor's plan must be submitted to Walgett Shire Council prior to the expiry date of this development consent so that the subdivision certificate on the plan can be signed by an authorised officer.

Reason: The subdivision cannot be registered with the Land Titles Office, and be finalised, until the subdivision certificate on the surveyors plan is signed by an authorised officer of Walgett Shire Council.

APPROVED PLANS

Pln 010.

The development shall be implemented in accordance with:

- (a) All documentation and correspondence submitted by the applicant, or their agents, in support of the Development Application,
- (b) the details set out on the plans approved and stamped by authorised officers of Council, except as amended by the conditions of this development consent.

Reason: To ensure that the development proceeds in the manner proposed by the applicant and approved by Council.

**MANAGER PLANNING AND REGULATIONS REPORT TO COUNCIL
MEETING 22 JUNE 2006**

Item No: 20

Subject: Heritage Schedule for Local Environmental Plan

Author: Matthew Goodwin – Manager Planning and Regulation

File No: 235/06/26/00

Summary:

This report provides an overview of the current status of the development of a heritage schedule for inclusion within a Local Environmental Plan, as well as the expected timeline for its completion.

Comments (including issues and background):

A tentative list of heritage items within the Shire has been prepared by Walgett Shire Council's Heritage Adviser, Graham Hall, in consultation with a wide range of community members who participated in the former Walgett Shire Council Heritage Committee. Although the Committee was disbanded after the appointment of an Administrator to Walgett Shire Council, the Heritage Adviser continues to consult with former committee members on an informal basis.

Recently the Heritage Adviser supplied an indicative timeline for the finalisation of the heritage schedule to be included in a Local Environmental Plan. That timeline is reproduced in the table below.

TIME	ACTION
July	Finalise property descriptions and heritage inventory sheets.
July	Notify owners; invite comments and further information.
Aug/Sep	Meet owners at precinct or specially convened meetings, meet with Aboriginal groups.
Sep	Collate owners' comments, revise inventory sheets and draft list, finalise covering report, and send to Study Advisory Committee.
Sep	Study Advisory Committee considers revised list.
Oct	Publicly exhibit draft list and invite comment.
Nov	Consider public comments in consultation with former heritage committee members.
Dec	Submit final list of items recommended for inclusion in the heritage schedule of a Local Environmental Plan to Walgett Shire Council and the NSW Heritage Office.

SHIRE OF WALGETT –AGENDA

There may be some variation from the timeline, primarily because it is not possible to predict the extent to which owners may wish to attend meetings to discuss proposed listings. The Heritage Adviser has indicated that it is intended introduce heritage as an item at precinct meetings, but special meetings may also be required to either meet the timetable or facilitate consultation.

Relevant Reference Documents:

- Heritage file 235-06-26-00.

Stakeholders:

- Walgett Shire Council and the public

Financial Implications:

Work by the Heritage Adviser is jointly funded by Walgett Shire Council and the NSW Heritage Office. The work detailed here will be funded from existing budgets.

Recommendations:

That the Administrator resolve to note the indicative timeline prepared by Walgett Shire Council's Heritage Adviser, Graham Hall, for the finalisation of the recommended heritage schedule to be included in a Local Environmental Plan.

MANAGER ENGINEERING REPORT TO COUNCIL MEETING 22 JUNE 2006

Item No: 21

Subject: Water Supply to Preserved Opal Fields - Lightning Ridge

Author: Alan Nelson – Manager Engineering

File No: 032/06/01/84

Summary:

This report recommends that Council not permit people residing outside the Lightning Ridge Town Boundary on mineral claims, the opportunity to lawfully connect to the town water supply, other than those residing on Western Lands Leases and Mining Purpose Leases who are already lawfully connected, and have been connected for sometime, as a consequence of decisions of previous administrations.

Comments (including issues and background):

The 2006/07 management plan provides for the replacement of the small (50mm) water main which runs from Opal Street (at Butterfly Avenue) to the Lightning Ridge Aerodrome. Investigations were carried out, with limited success, to identify and disconnect unlawful water connections along this pipeline, following advice from Council's resident team leader at the Lightning Ridge Aerodrome residence that water pressure and volume at the aerodrome was virtually nil at various times.

It is considered that unlawful connections to a replacement water main to the Lightning Ridge Aerodrome cannot be discounted entirely. However, with the implementation and regular reading of meters on all lawful connections, the scope of water lost, whether this be by unlawful connections or system leaks, will be able to be better tracked.

It is acknowledged that some people residing on mineral claims are keen to pay for a lawful connection to this replacement water main, assuming the replacement main is installed alongside the existing main. There is however, an alternative to relocate this main to service a proposed new Council subdivision east of Fantasia Street. This is yet to be decided, however, in this event, the existing main would need to be retained in some form to service several existing consumers.

It must be recognised that it is neither possible nor feasible for the current water supply infrastructure to meet the water requirements of all people residing on mining claims outside the Lightning Ridge Town Boundary. Accordingly, to supply some and not others will probably only lead to disputation and problems for future Council administrations. In addition, the supply of town water to mineral claim sites, where a sewerage system is not in place, will also lead to problems.

SHIRE OF WALGETT –AGENDA

There appears to be a consensus amongst State Government agencies that the opal fields surrounding Lightning Ridge should not be serviced along the lines of a village area, something which it is expected that the forthcoming Local Environment Plan will confirm. Supply of town water would be seen as the first step in 'urbanising' these areas. It would clearly be unaffordable, both to those already residing in the area and others who may be expected to cross subsidise the development of services, to proceed in this direction. Those who established in these areas did so in the present environment which should remain as is.

Relevant Reference Documents:

- Council File No 032/06/01/84
- Walgett Shire Management Plan 2006/07

Stakeholders:

- Walgett Shire Council
- People residing on mineral claims surrounding Lightning Ridge

Financial Implications:

The 2006/07 management plan provides \$250,000 for replacement of the water main to the Lightning Ridge Aerodrome.

Recommendation:

That Council not permit people residing outside the Lightning Ridge Town Boundary on mineral claims, the opportunity to lawfully connect to Council's town water supply, other than those residing on Western Lands Leases and Mining Purpose Leases who are already lawfully connected, and have been connected for sometime, as a consequence of decisions of previous administrations.

MANAGER ENGINEERING REPORT TO COUNCIL MEETING 22 JUNE 2006

Item No: 22

Subject: Telstra Payphone – Walgett Aerodrome

Author: Alan Nelson – Manager Engineering

File No: 260/03/00/00

Summary:

This report recommends that Council urges Telstra to retain their public payphone at Walgett Aerodrome, so as not to compromise public safety in the event of a serious incident at the aerodrome. However, in the event that Telstra will not agree to this, it is recommended that Council allow the facility to be removed rather than adopt an option to retain it at an expense to Council.

Comments (including issues and background):

Telstra have indicated that they wrote to Council in February 2006, stating that they would remove their payphone at the Walgett Aerodrome Terminal Building in late June 2006. There is no record of this letter having been received by Council, accordingly a deferral of any removal action for a month has been obtained to allow Council the opportunity to consider Telstra's proposal and determine a response.

Telstra has in place a programme of removing 'uneconomic' payphones, except where such removal would unreasonably compromise public safety or place a remote community at severe disadvantage. It is considered somewhat doubtful that Council could successfully argue the retention of this payphone under either of these criteria. However, given the nature of aerodrome operations and the relative isolation of the aerodrome to the town, a request to Telstra to retain the payphone for public safety reasons is worth pursuing.

Telstra has advised that, if Council wishes to retain the telephone availability at Walgett Aerodrome, it can choose from three alternatives, these being :

1. A customer operated payphone. A payphone suitable for a minimally supervised location would cost about \$3,500. The owner of the phone would be responsible for maintenance costs etc.
2. A Telstra smart payphone, which would be rented from Telstra. A monthly lease fee of between \$82 and \$142 would apply, depending upon the period of the lease.
3. Retention of the existing payphone on the basis that Council would reimburse Telstra where annual revenue falls short of \$3,500.

SHIRE OF WALGETT –AGENDA

Given the fact that most private pilots flying into Walgett will probably have a mobile phone with them and the willing ness of the RPT operator to contact the local taxi operator on behalf of any passenger requiring transport, the need for a Council funded payphone at the Walgett Terminal Building is not seen as essential.

Relevant Reference Documents:

- Council File No 260/03/00/00

Stakeholders:

- Walgett Shire Council
- Telstra
- Users of Walgett Aerodrome

Financial Implications:

Any of the options listed by Telstra to retain the payphone at Walgett Aerodrome will involve Council in expenditure, which it currently does not face. It is difficult to accurately assess the future expenditure associated with each of these options, thus making a comparison difficult as well.

Recommendation:

1. **That Council urge Telstra to retain their payphone at Walgett Aerodrome Terminal Building on the grounds that public safety may be unreasonably compromised in the event of its removal.**
2. **That, in the event that Telstra determines to remove their payphone at Walgett Aerodrome Terminal Building, Council does not fund a replacement.**

MANAGER ENGINEERING REPORT TO COUNCIL MEETING 22 JUNE 2006

Item No: 23

Subject: Burren Junction Bore Baths – Agreement for Disposal of Waste Water

Author: Alan Nelson – Manager Engineering

File No: 032/01/01/56

Summary:

This report recommends that Council enter into an agreement with the Burren Bore Water Trust, regarding the disposal of waste water from the Burren Junction Bore Baths.

Comments (including issues and background):

Council will recall that, in late 2004, an agreement was entered into with the Burren Bore Water Trust that would see, by 16 December 2006, the operation of the existing bore baths heavily modified otherwise the facility would close.

Following engagement of a consultant and a number of meetings with the Department of Natural Resources and the Burren Bore Water Trust, it is considered that disposal of waste water from the Bore Baths to adjacent stock and domestic water supply reticulation schemes within the Burren and Drildool trust districts is preferable to reinjection of waste water into the Great Artesian Basin. The essential thrust of the agreement, which is the subject of this report, is that Council will meet costs, both capital and recurrent, associated with transferring this water to the trusts. This is not seen as unreasonable. One clause contained in the agreement is seen as unacceptable, this being that Council guarantees that water transferred to the trusts will be suitable for use in their networks. In theory, this could be interpreted to make Council responsible for the quality of water extracted from the Great Artesian Basin. The Burren Bore Water Trust accepts this and the agreement should be executed subject to the deletion of this clause.

Relevant Reference Documents:

- Council File Nos 032/01/01/56, 005/05/02/33 and 005/03/02/00
- Draft Agreement prepared for the Burren Bore Water Trust

Stakeholders:

- Walgett Shire Council
- Burren Bore Water Trust
- Department of Natural Resources
- Drildool Bore Water Trust

Financial Implications:

There are no direct financial implications associated with entering the agreement proposed by the Burren Bore Water Trust. Disposal of waste water from the renewed bore baths facility will involve an expense and the disposal method described in this agreement is seen as the cheapest and most practical solution available.

Recommendation:

That Council enter into a written agreement with the Burren Bore Water Trust for the disposal of waste water from the Burren Junction Bore Baths, as placed before Council by Solicitors acting for the Burren Bore Water Trust, subject to the removal of the clause which makes Council responsible for guaranteeing waste water quality from the Bore Baths.

MANAGER ENGINEERING REPORT TO COUNCIL MEETING 22 JUNE 2006

Item No: 24

Subject: Fluoridation of Water Supplies

Author: Alan Nelson – Manager Engineering

File No: 032/05/01/05

Summary:

Notification has been received from NSW Health to indicate that a direction to Council, to undertake fluoridation of town water supplies in Walgett and Collarenebri by 30 June 2007, has been gazetted.

Comments (including issues and background):

In early 2005 Council resolved to express interest in accepting the NSW Government's offer to fully fund the cost of introducing fluoride into town water supplies where natural fluoride levels were deficient. Subsequent to this, community meetings were held in Walgett, Lightning Ridge and Collarenebri. As a consequence of these meetings, consideration of fluoridation of the Lightning Ridge supply has been deferred in recognition of what appeared to be widespread community opposition. The level of opposition in Walgett and Collarenebri was relatively minor.

In April 2005 Council resolved to place the matter in the hands of the NSW Government and, subsequent to this, a direction to fluoridate water supplies in Walgett and Collarenebri has now been gazetted.

NSW Health, through its Chief Dental Officer, will contact Council in due course regarding project implementation and related issues.

Relevant Reference Documents:

- Council Minute 30/05 – February 2005
- Council Minute 86/05 – April 2005
- Council File No 032/05/01/05

Stakeholders:

- Walgett Shire Council
- Residents of Walgett and Collarenebri
- NSW Health

SHIRE OF WALGETT –AGENDA

Financial Implications:

The capital cost of introducing fluoride into town water supplies in Walgett and Collarenebri is being met fully by the State Government. A modest increase in operating costs can be anticipated.

Recommendation:

That Council note the gazettal of directions to fluoridate public water supplies in Walgett and Collarenebri.

MANAGER ENGINEERING REPORT TO COUNCIL MEETING 22 JUNE 2006

Item No: 25

Subject: Roads to Recovery Programme – Supplementary Allocation

Author: Alan Nelson – Manager Engineering

File No: 195/04/00/00

Summary:

This report recommends that Council allocates funding received under the Supplementary Roads to Recovery Programme in equal amounts to Regional Roads Nos 333 and 329.

Comments (including issues and background):

Advice has been received from the Hon Jim Lloyd MP, Minister for Local Government, Territories and Roads, that Council has received an additional \$838,000 under the Supplementary Auslink Roads to Recovery Programme.

Council will need to submit a programme of works, in an amount of \$838,000, to the Department of Transport and Regional Services by 30 September 2006. The funds will need to be spent and accounted for no later than 30 June 2009.

The Roads to Recovery Programme is a Federal programme which aims to boost available funds for expenditure on local roads. However, the only condition is that the funds be spent on roads, accordingly it is permissible to spend part or all of these funds on regional roads. Regional roads have traditionally been funded by the State Government, principally through the Block Grant, however Council has, in the past, seen fit to expend some Roads to Recovery funds on regional roads. Given that regional roads, and particularly the Walgett-Carinda and Burren Junction-Collarenebri routes, are a major source of complaint in this area, it is suggested that this supplementary allocation be divided equally between these two roads.

Relevant Reference Documents:

- Council File No 195/04/00/00

Stakeholders:

- Walgett Shire Council
- Commonwealth Government
- Department of Transport and Regional Services

SHIRE OF WALGETT –AGENDA

Financial Implications:

The Supplementary Roads to Recovery Programme is fully funded by the Commonwealth.

Recommendation:

That Council allocate funds from the Supplementary Roads to Recovery Programme as follows :

- 1. Regional Road No 333 – reconstruction and sealing of selected length between Walgett and Carinda - \$419,000**
- 2. Regional Road No 329 – reconstruction and sealing of selected length between Rowena turnoff and Burren Junction - \$419,000**

MANAGER ENGINEERING REPORT TO COUNCIL MEETING 22 JUNE 2006

Item No: 26

Subject: Lightning Ridge Waste Disposal – Selection of Preferred Option for Waste Disposal for the Town of Lightning Ridge

Author: Melanie O’Sullivan – Technical Officer

File No: 185/02/00/00

Summary:

To provide council with the necessary information to enable commencement of public consultation for the selection of a preferred option for the disposal of waste for the town of Lightning Ridge for a fifty year period.

Comments (including issues and background):

Landfill appropriate to the needs of Lightning Ridge Township for the next fifty years is projected to require a land area of approximately 20-30 hectares for correct management and environmental rehabilitation.

In accordance with council resolution 68/06, the process of selection of suitable sites/options for waste disposal was revisited. Where relevant, private leaseholders were approached regarding areas sited within Western Lands Leases. Options as proposed include private land parcels where the leaseholders are willing to enter into negotiations with council.

A total of twelve suitable options were investigated/reinvestigated. Four options were eliminated because leaseholders were unwilling to relinquish their leases. Eight possibilities remain as options for consideration.

The attached table contrasts and compares the eight remaining options considered arranged in order from most recommended to least recommended option.

Relevant Reference Documents:

- Walgett Shire Council Minutes of Council Meeting dated 16 March 2006
- Hyder Consulting Lightning Ridge Landfill Feasibility Study

SHIRE OF WALGETT –AGENDA

Stakeholders:

- Walgett Shire Council
- Lanes Earthmoving (Current Landfill Contractors)
- Permanent and temporary residents of Lightning Ridge and surrounding areas
- Relevant private Western Lands Leaseholders

Financial Implications:

- Refer to the attached table

Recommendations:

1. **That public consultation be invited for a period of 28 days to assist in the selection of a suitable site for Lightning Ridge Landfill from the following options:**
 - a. **Option 1 Lot 76 DP 838673 Council Freehold O'Briens Way**
 - b. **Option 2 Lot 2 DP849709 Permissive Occupancy**
 - c. **Option 3 Crown Land Reserve 280078 Cemetery Site**
 - d. **Option 4 Western Lands Lease 14237**
2. **That the outcome of the public consultation be referred back to Council's August general meeting.**

SHIRE OF WALGETT –AGENDA

Summary of Options Lightning Ridge Waste Disposal

All land parcels are calculated on a required land area of approximately 20-30 Hectares

Ranking Name	Option 1 Council Freehold	Option 2 Permissive Occupancy	Option 3 Crown Reserve	Option 4 WLL 1	Option 5 WLL 2	Option 6 Expand Current Landfill	Option 7 Close and Not Replace Current Landfill	Option 8 Open Cut Mine
Option Description	Previously identified "O'Brien Way Site". Landfill would be located on Easternmost corner of site approx 500m from highway and approx. 500m from O'Brien Way. Site would not be visible from either road.	Council Permissive Occupancy. Site located approx. 1.9km West of town and approx 1.1km west of O'Brien Way.	Previously identified as the "Cemetery Site". Crown Land Reserve 280078.	Western Lands Lease located to north of town - two feasible sites.	Western Lands Lease located to South East of town approx 2.4 km North of Castlereagh Hwy and 4.5km SSE of town.	Expansion of Current Landfill to the west of current site	Close current Landfill on reaching existing capacity and dispose of waste in the Walgett or other landfill	Line and stabilise Open Cut mine located to south of Lightning Ridge Airport for use as landfill. Would not require 20ha land space or any further excavation.
Ownership	Council Owned Freehold Land - No further cost to ratepayers for acquisition.	Council would be required to acquire freehold title and conduct all developmental requirements at ratepayer cost	Council would be required to acquire freehold title and conduct all developmental requirements at ratepayer cost	Western Lands Lease privately held. Council would be required to subdivide the area, acquire freehold title and re-zone. All at rate payer cost. Landholder	Western Lands Lease privately held. Leaseholder not willing to relinquish lease. Leaseholder willing to allow use of the land for the purpose	Land not owned by council-occupied under permissive occupancy. Council would be required to acquire freehold title and conduct all	No purchase of facilities required.	Pending Heritage Listing. Investigation indicates option unlikely to receive development approval.

SHIRE OF WALGETT –AGENDA

Ranking Name	Option 1 Council Freehold	Option 2 Permissive Occupancy	Option 3 Crown Reserve	Option 4 WLL 1	Option 5 WLL 2	Option 6 Expand Current Landfill	Option 7 Close and Not Replace Current Landfill	Option 8 Open Cut Mine
				willing to divest lease at current land value rates.	at an agreed rate.	developmental requirements at ratepayer cost. Investigation indicates option unlikely to receive development approval.		
RECOMMENDED OPTIONS FOR CONSULTATION					NOT RECOMMENDED			
Construction Cost	Greenfield site - all construction and site hardening as per design.	Likelihood of greater rock excavation would significantly increase construction costs.	Would require flood levee containment.	Would require flood levee containment.	Greenfield site - all construction and site hardening as per design.	Constructing suitable landfill cells in rock increases cost. Excavations in this area would require suitable lining to contain contaminants.	Waste transfer projected to cost six times as much as landfill over fifty year period. Minimal construction cost.	Additional stabilisation of open faces would be required.
Access (Roads)	No road construction required except for internal access.	Some improvement of existing roads would be required.	No road construction required except for internal access.	Existing access roads would require extension for all weather access.	Lorne road would have to be upgraded to all weather access at ratepayer expense.	Suitable to task - no further construction required	No road construction required.	Some improvement of existing roads would be required.
Proximity to Residential Dwellings and Community Facilities	Minimal evidence of current mining activity. Entrance would be from O'Brien Way.	Minimal evidence of current mining activity. Entrance would be from O'Brien Way.	Surrounds the Cemetery. Close to town water supply pipeline. Prevailing winds likely to	Site and access roads in close proximity to residential mining claims. Prevailing	Greater than 4.5km from urban area and 2.5km from airport.	Approximately 40-50 existing residential mining claims exist in the area identified for expansion.	Waste would have to be transferred through both Lightning Ridge and Walgett townships in transit.	Location within 1km radius of airport renders site in contravention to

SHIRE OF WALGETT –AGENDA

Ranking Name	Option 1 Council Freehold	Option 2 Permissive Occupancy	Option 3 Crown Reserve	Option 4 WLL 1	Option 5 WLL 2	Option 6 Expand Current Landfill	Option 7 Close and Not Replace Current Landfill	Option 8 Open Cut Mine
	Greater than 3.4km from urban area and 2.1km from airport.	Greater than 2km from urban area and 2.8km from airport.	blow any smoke and odours towards open-air public facilities (golf club, gun club, showground, sports fields).	winds likely to blow any smoke and odours towards residences.		Land for landfill would be sterilised for mining - necessitating removal or closure of mining claims. Close proximity of permanent and semi permanent residents increase the potential for injury to the public via vermin contamination and/or diseases. Prevailing winds likely to blow any smoke and odours towards residences.		management and planning approval regulations. The increased risk of birds, airborne litter and smoke create a hazard for aircraft. Investigation indicates option unlikely to receive development approval.
Aesthetics	Not directly visible from any public landmarks. Location would be hidden well	Not directly visible from any public landmarks. Location would be hidden well back into the	Evidence of landfill activity could be observed from town (eg noise, smoke from fires. Site	Potentially visible from Walk In Mine. Potentially visible from road - road is not primary	Potential visible from 3 Mile open cut mine.	Situated within direct view of existing tourist attraction (Walk In Mine).	Waste would have to be transferred through both Lightning Ridge and Walgett townships in transit.	Site earmarked as potential heritage listed area to be protected as a tourist

SHIRE OF WALGETT –AGENDA

Ranking Name	Option 1 Council Freehold	Option 2 Permissive Occupancy	Option 3 Crown Reserve	Option 4 WLL 1	Option 5 WLL 2	Option 6 Expand Current Landfill	Option 7 Close and Not Replace Current Landfill	Option 8 Open Cut Mine
	back into the scrub and screened from both roads by 500m of bushland at ground level.	scrub and screened from O'Brien way.	not directly visible from any significant tourist locations.	access into the town. Requirement for levee containment would screen landfill itself from road traffic.				attraction. Close proximity to airport means that visitors flying to Lightning Ridge would not be able to fly into the airport without seeing into the landfill.
Environmental Factors	None identified.	Sterilises ground for mining purposes.	Close proximity to intake for town water supply. Floodplain location would require levee construction to contain waste and prevent water inflill.	Floodplain location would require levee construction to contain waste and prevent water inflill.	Floodplain location would require levee construction to contain waste and prevent water inflill.	Uncontained contaminant leachate from pre-existing and new mine shafts.	Flooding or restriction of road access to the town of Lightning Ridge would result in considerable accumulation of waste, creating a noticeable environmental/health hazard.	Site would require considerable lining to contain leachate and stabilise walls.

MANAGER ENGINEERING REPORT TO COUNCIL MEETING 22 JUNE 2006

Item No: 27

Subject: Memorandum of Understanding with Walgett Aero Club

Author: Alan Nelson – Manager of Engineering

File No: 255/07/05/00

Summary:

This report seeks Council's endorsement of a Memorandum of Understanding with Walgett Aero Club and relates to the Aero Club's occupation of premises at the Walgett Aerodrome.

Comments (including issues and background):

Prior to the recent security upgrade at the Walgett Aerodrome, electricity accounts were paid by the Aero Club for consumption metered in the vicinity of the Aero Club facility. This was seen as a reasonable arrangement, however with the installation of additional security lighting in the vicinity of the hangars, and the difficulty and expense in separately metering this additional lighting, it has been agreed that Council would pay the total electricity account.

To reimburse Council for the average electricity cost, before the installation of the additional security lighting, a monthly rental of premises used by the Aero Club has been agreed between Council staff and the Aero Club. The Memorandum of Understanding provides for a monthly rental of \$90, this being subject to an annual cost adjustment in line with the increase in Council's General Rate.

Relevant Reference Documents:

- Memorandum of Understanding between Walgett Aero Club and Council

Stakeholders:

- Walgett Shire Council
- Walgett Aero Club

Financial Implications:

Not Applicable

Recommendation:

That Council endorse a Memorandum of Understanding with the Walgett Aero Club relating to the Aero Club's occupation of premises at the Walgett Aerodrome.

COMMITTEE MINUTES TO COUNCIL MEETING 22 JUNE 2006
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Item No: 28

Subject: Bush Fire Management Committee Meeting – 27 April 2006

Author: New South Wales Rural Fire Service

File No: 004/05/01/77

MAIN OUTCOMES / DECISIONS:

Agenda Item 1 Opening Executive Officer

All welcomed and Michael Webb chaired meeting

Minutes of previous meeting read and accepted as correct.
Moved E Palmer, Second M Webb, Carried unanimous

Business arising from previous minutes.

Agenda item 7, Narran Lake area size should be 7000 hectares, not 70000 as recorded.

Agenda item 7, outside agencies access to Brims. Brims used by NPWS- have access. NPWS does have some doubling up of entering occurring due to the system. Council does not have access to the system; any information is passed directly onto the RFS for input. SF have access to Brims, their GIS officers at Dubbo input the data.

RFS to confirm the outside agencies access and downloading of information into the RFS system.

Agenda Item 7, Warawang fire trail; has not been inspected, requires follow up- possible a dormant trail. Trail used as an access track to get into the area, can be walked on accessed of 4WD bike, no tanker access. Western end has worst access. Need to check the Warranbungle Fire Plan to see if the trail is mapped, it may not need to be maintained by NPWS. J Kennedy to follow up with M Brookhouse re the inspection of the trail and the Fire Plan for details of use and maintenance of the trail.

Agenda Item 2 Contact Lists Executive Officer

Attendees handed copies of contact lists and asked to update and not changes. NPSW office at Baradine now administers all the land in the Pilliga, including Pilliga West.

Agenda Item 3 Section 52 Plans

Competency requirements for IC class 2&3 require IMX and IMW for role. S44 qualified are competent for Class 2 & 3 fires. S44 controller for RFS E Palmer and M Ryan in process of gaining qualification. RFS is trying to get volunteer/local input into planning.

Draft operations coordination plan, other agencies are to input their own data. Agencies supplied a copy of draft and notify the RFS of any additions. MAA is included in S52plan, SES, and NSWFB to be included in report/plan. Other agencies are to have their input recorded by 30th June to be made as additions to the plans.

S52 plan needs to be linked into the Warrenbungle Fire Plan for reference.

There is no fire management plan for Pilliga West, only the Pilliga sub plan is in existence. New plans need to be developed to include the new Pilliga areas.

SHIRE OF WALGETT –AGENDA

Agenda Item 4 HR Subsidy

\$2000 has been allocated to both Coonamble and Walgett for HR works, money needs to be expended within the next 6-7 weeks.

Coonamble needs asset protection zone established along the river behind the existing houses. Additional funds need to be applied for future works; works require an additional \$50000 to \$60000 to complete works

Walgett HR works to be carried out at either Carinda or Cumborah, with Carinda a higher priority

The CMA has funding available, may be able to fund additional money.

Agenda Item 5 Bushfire Risk Plan

Risk management plans for Coonamble/Walgett are due for renewal next year. Current plan is still valid until the new one is completed.

Bushfire risk plans valid until 2007, with new pilot plans trialed at Dubbo and Mudgee. RFS Head Office staff are to have meetings with local BFMC committee to put the plans together. Need public/local into the planning. Attempting to make plan more user friendly.

Plans will eventually go into Brims as well. Agencies are to have input into the hazards and asset data.

Agenda Item 6 Agency reports

NPWS, have had a quiet fire season, HR work quite season also, no works planned for the Marshes. Are monitoring by pass channel in the Marshes. District offices no located at Narrabri, Coonabarabran and Baradine. Catherine Watt ha gone to Blue Mountains. Resources Cat 7 and 2 or 3 Cat 9 located at Baradine. John Whittal is in charge at Baradine.

SF, have had average fire season. 6000 hectares burnt at Narrabri at Christmas. Smaller fires in Pilliga West near Gwabegar- 60 hectares. No plans for Hr work for Pilliga West. SF heavy plant may be shared with NPWS. SF has lost approximately 200,000 hectares land to NPWS. Grazing is allowed in SF to hazard reduce, no grazing in Coonamble or Walgett areas at present.

RFS, quiet season due to drought. Communications in Pilliga West do not work. Some S44 incidents attended in the Region.

NSWFB, busy season, 85 fires along river bank in Coonamble. Have new tankers less than 3 years old, crew strength has been upgraded from 12 to 15 men.

Agenda item General Business

New FCC is in process of being built, with possible opening in October. Outside agencies can put their own electronics into the new centre.

Coonamble/Walghett BFMC Meeting
27 April 2006

OUTSTANDING TASKS REGISTER:

Add any new tasks or keep any tasks that are still outstanding.

The Tasks Register is distributed to the Team Members prior to the following meeting for updating. The updated Register then forms part of the agenda from the following meeting.

When a task is completed it is reported at the next meeting and then drops off the Register at subsequent meetings)

No:	Who:	Task Description:	Current Details (including status, outstanding issues and planned actions):	Due Date:	New Date:
	M Ryan	RFS to confirm the outside agencies access and downloading of information into the RFS system.			
	J Kennedy	Follow up with M Brookhouse re the inspection of the trail and the Fire Plan for details of use and maintenance of the trail.			

Coonamble/Walgett BFMC Meeting
27 April 2006

**Coonamble/Walghett BFMC Meeting
27 April 2006**

[illegible]

**Coonamble/Walgett BFMC Meeting
27 April 2006**

COMMITTEE MINUTES TO COUNCIL MEETING 22 JUNE 2006

Item No: 29
Subject: Consultative Committee Minutes – 1 February 2006
Author: Walgett Shire Consultative Committee
File No: 145/04/07/00

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING
WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE**

FILE: 145/04/07

The following are minutes of the Walgett Shire Council Consultative Committee Meeting held on Wednesday, 1 February 2006 in the Walgett Council Chambers, commencing at 3.15 pm.

1. PRESENT

Peter McHutchinson	Chairperson
Bronwyn Newton	Secretary
Janet Babic	Management Representative
Roy White	Management Representative
Michael Woodham	Committee Member
John Radman	Committee Member
Ian Taylor	LGEA Representative

2. APOLOGIES

Stephen McLean	Management Representative
Fiona McKenzie	Deputy Chairperson
Maria Jackson	DEPA Representative

Observer: Terry Dray – United Services Union

3. MINUTES

The Minutes of the Consultative Committee Meeting held on Tuesday, 13 December 2005 were confirmed, with no amendments required.

4. BUSINESS ARISING

Customer Service Officer (Engineering)

Acting Coordinator Human Resources, Bronwyn Newton notified the committee that the position of Customer Service Officer (Engineering) evaluation documents have been processed through the oo-soft program and the grade remained as a Grade 6.

Consultative Committee Nominations

Acting Coordinator Human Resources, Bronwyn Newton advised that the Consultative Committee has received no further nomination interests from employees to become a member of the Consultative Committee.

SHIRE OF WALGETT –AGENDA

First Aid Allowance

Acting Coordinator Human Resources, Mrs Bronwyn Newton advised that she had spoken to the following Shires (Coonamble, Dubbo & Tamworth) and that the matter was still under review.

ACTION-

Consultative Committee Secretary, Mrs Bronwyn Newton to provide the Committee with information received on this matter at the meeting.

The Consultative Committee recommended that a letter be forwarded to the Occupational Health & Safety Committee requesting information regarding the matter.

Industrial Relations Reform

The Committee has received no notification of further information relating to this matter.

Consultative Committee Constitution

Management Representative, Mr Roy White requested copies of the Consultative Committee Constitution be made available to all committee members.

Consultative Committee Secretary, Mrs Bronwyn Newton advised the Committee that the Consultative Committee Constitution has not been processed through Council meeting to be adopted.

Chairperson, Mr Peter McHutchison requested the following action: -

ACTION-

Consultative Committee Secretary, Mrs Bronwyn Newton to ensure that the Consultative Committee Constitution has been provided for the February Council meeting Agenda, with the recommendation that the document be endorsed.

Consultative Committee Secretary, Mrs Bronwyn Newton to supply a copy of the Consultative Committee Constitution to all members of the Consultative Committee.

Organisational Structure

The Committee discussed the proposed Organisational Structure and recommend the following changes be considered prior to endorsement by the Council.

RECOMMENDATION-

Consultative Committee Secretary, Mrs Bronwyn Newton to ensure that the following recommended changes are provided to Council's Engineer Works, Mr Barry Maher who submitted the proposed Organisational Structure to the Consultative Committee, prior to the February Council Meeting.

- The proposed Organisational Structure being submitted to Council meeting for endorsement have all employee names removed.
- The position of Lands Officer is attached to the Manager Engineering position.
- The positions of Handyman & P/T Cleaner be attached to the Engineer Works Position
- Suggested name change Engineer Projects to be changed to Projects Engineer
- Suggested name change Technical Officer to be changed to Projects Officer

5. GENERAL BUSINESS

5.1 Consultative Committee Elections – Chairperson & Secretary

Taking into consideration the Consultative Committee Constitution, Committee elections were due for the following positions – Secretary, Chairperson & Deputy Chairperson.

All positions were declared vacant and expression of interest or nominations were called for the positions.

RECOMMENDATION-

It was recommended that the Consultative Committee endorse the following elected members to the identified positions: -

Secretary – Mrs Bronwyn Newton

Moved – Mr Roy White & Seconded – Mr Michael Woodham

Chairperson – Mr Peter McHutchinson

Moved – Mr Roy White & Seconded – Ms Janet Babic

Deputy Chairperson – Mr Michael Woodham

Moved –Mr Peter McHutchinson & Seconded – Ms Janet Babic

5.2 Family DayCare Coordinator

The position description of Family DayCare Coordinator was submitted for endorsement by the committee. The following change was made: -

The selection criteria noted below be moved from Essential Criteria to Desirable Criteria.

"Demonstrated knowledge of Council's Induction Manual"

RECOMMENDATION:

It was recommended that the Consultative Committee endorse the position description of Family DayCare Coordinator with the above amendment.

5.3 Support Services Coordinator

Acting Coordinator Human Resources, Mrs Bronwyn Newton supplied the Committee with copies of the revised Position Description of Workshop Foreman, (Which undertook a Position Title change during Council's restructure in July 2005) to be discussed next meeting. It was also noted that this document has been processed through the oo-soft job evaluation system.

Acting Coordinator Human Resources, Mrs Bronwyn Newton advised that the position description for the Support Services Coordinator would be supplied on the next agenda for discussion.

Note:-

Management Representative, Ms Janet Babic will be an apology for the next meeting

There being no further business the meeting closed at 4.15 pm

**Next Meeting of the Consultative Committee Meeting will be held on
1st March 2006 at 3pm at the Council Chambers.**

COMMITTEE MINUTES TO COUNCIL MEETING 22 JUNE 2006

Item No: 30
Subject: Consultative Committee Minutes – 19 April 2006
Author: Walgett Shire Consultative Committee
File No: 145/04/07/00

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING
WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE**

FILE: 145/04/07

The following are minutes of the Walgett Shire Council Consultative Committee Meeting held on Wednesday, 19 April 2006 in the Walgett Council Chambers, commencing at 3.05pm.

1. PRESENT

Peter McHutchinson	Chairperson
Michael Woodham	Deputy Chairperson
Bronwyn Newton	Secretary
Janet Babic	Management Representative
Roy White	Management Representative
John Radman	Committee Member
Ian Taylor	LGEA Representative
Len Smyth	DEPA Representative

2. APOLOGIES

Stephen McLean Management Representative

Observer: Terry Dray – United Services Union

3. MINUTES

The Minutes of the Consultative Committee Meeting held on Wednesday, 1 February 2006 were confirmed, with no amendments required.

4. BUSINESS ARISING

First Aid Allowance

Consultative Committee Secretary, Mrs Bronwyn Newton advised that a letter had been forwarded to the Occupational Health & Safety Committee and a reply had been received supporting each working area should be assigned with a responsible First Aid Officer.

Consultative Committee Secretary, Mrs Bronwyn Newton advised the reply from other shires and how they handle First Aid Officers.

ACTION-

The Consultative Committee recommended that a letter be forwarded to the General Manager requesting a written First Aid Policy/Procedure be drafted and supplied within two months for review and endorsement.

Consultative Committee Constitution

Consultative Committee Secretary, Mrs Bronwyn Newton advised the Committee that the Consultative Committee Constitution had been provided for the February Council meeting Agenda, with the recommendation that the document be endorsed.

It was noted that the Consultative Committee Constitution was endorsed at Council's February meeting.

ACTION-

Consultative Committee Secretary, Mrs Bronwyn Newton to supply a copy of the Consultative Committee Constitution to all members of the Consultative Committee.

Organisational Structure

Chairperson, Mr Peter McHutchison enquired if the Consultative Committee recommendations were reflected on the Organisation Structure presented for endorsement at the Council meeting.

Chairperson, Mr Peter McHutchison also requested that hard copies of the Council Minutes be supplied to each workplace for employees to view as some employees do not have access to the internet and the Walgett Shire Council webpage is not regularly updated to show the current Council minutes.

RECOMMENDATION-

Consultative Committee Secretary, Mrs Bronwyn Newton to request a copy of the endorsed Organisational Structure and a copy of the February Council Meeting minutes for the Committee to view.

Consultative Committee Secretary, Mrs Bronwyn Newton to supply a copy of the current Organisation Structure to all workplaces for employees to view.

Support Services Coordinator

Coordinator Human Resources, Mrs Bronwyn Newton advised that the position description for the Support Services Coordinator would be supplied on the next agenda for discussion.

March Consultative Committee Meeting

Coordinator Human Resources, Mrs Bronwyn Newton enquired why there was no March Consultative Committee Meeting.

Roy White, Management Representative responded notifying the committee a quorum was not available.

Uniform Policy

David Callander was requested at 3.45pm to address the committee as the Occupational Health & Safety representative to discuss the uniform policy. David advised the committee that the General Manager has requested the Consultative Committee and the Occupational Health & Safety create a uniform policy.

ACTION-

The Consultative Committee recommended that a letter be forwarded to the General Manager requesting a written Uniform Policy be drafted and supplied within two months for review and endorsement.

Note: -

David Callander, Occupational Health & Safety representative departed the meeting 3.57pm.

5. GENERAL BUSINESS

5.1 Engineer Works

The Competency Criteria of Engineer Works was submitted for endorsement by the committee. The following additions were made to be included at entry level: -

“Degree and/or diploma in Civil Engineering or a relevant field and/or 5-10 years experience in a similar position”

“Demonstrated knowledge of obligations under the NSW OH&S Act and Regulations”

RECOMMENDATION:

It was recommended that the Consultative Committee endorse the competency criteria of Engineer Works following the above amendments.

5.2 Resignation – Fiona McKenzie

Fiona McKenzie resignation from the Consultative Committee was noted and accepted by the Committee.

5.3 Resignation – Maria Jackson

Maria Jackson resignation from the Consultative Committee was read and accepted by the Committee.

It was acknowledged by the committee that Mr Len Smyth would be the replacement DEPA Representative. Len Smyth was welcomed to the committee by the Chairperson and the Committee members.

5.4 Projects Officer

The Competency Criteria of Projects Officer was submitted for endorsement by the committee. The following change was made: -

Delete– Entry Level – Criteria one “TAFE”

RECOMMENDATION:

It was recommended that the Consultative Committee endorse the competency criteria of Projects Officer following the above amendment.

Note: -

DEPA Representative, Mr Len Smyth will be an apology for the next meeting

There being no further business the meeting closed at 4.20 pm

**Next Meeting of the Consultative Committee Meeting will be held on
3rd May 2006 at 3pm at the Council Chambers Meeting Room.**

PRECINCT COMMITTEE REPORTS TO COUNCIL MEETING 22 JUNE 2006

Item No: 31

Subject: Lightning Ridge Precinct Committee Minutes – 24 April 2006

Author: Lightning Ridge Precinct Committee

File No: 004/09/09/92

LIGHTNING RIDGE ADVISORY (PRECINCT) COMMITTEE

**MINUTES OF MEETING HELD AT LIGHTNING RIDGE BOWLING CLUB
24th April 2006**

PRESENT—David Lane, Heather Landini, Debbie Dwyer, Hayward Little, Jeff Naismith & Noni Rutherford.

APOLOGIES – Judy Ward, Christina Johansson
Apologies received Moved: Heather Landini Seconded: Debbie Dwyer

Meeting opened 7.00pm by David Lane
Minutes of Meeting 27th March. Moved: Noni Rutherford Seconded: Haywood Little
BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES:

1. Discussion -re Garbage Tip. Cumborah was put forward as a possible site for the future tip.
2. Fence at front of Mud Brick House Morilla St opposite the Westpac Bank. The public are concerned with the site of the fence and if it complies with the Council's Regulations and if so then can the owners be requested to maintain it in keeping with the other business houses (? apply a coat of paint) in the vicinity.

CORRESPONDENCE:

1. Request for Alcohol Free Zone in Lions Park. – “We support an alcohol free zone between 9.00pm and 6.00am to provide a civilized public space where people can enjoy drink while prohibiting of time when anti social behaviour is likely to occur. Alcohol should be permitted with a function licence” Moved: David Lane Seconded: Hayward Little
2. DA 2006011- Lot 57 DP 705026(Bald Hill Rd) - No Objections registered.
3. Lappkalle Fantasia Streets Corner. - To the Administrator “ Please consider fixing the Lappkalle and Fantasia Street's intersection dish drain in the 2006-7 budget” Moved: Heather Seconded: Debbie
4. Drainage in the lane behind the Doctors Surgery, between Opal and Brilliant Sts. Despite recent work in the lane water is still not draining away making it impassable in wet weather and the Brilliant St end hard to access.

GENERAL BUSINESS.

1. Request that the Zoning for the section of Morilla St between Agate and Brilliant Streets remain so that the current mix of businesses is maintained.

Meeting Closed 7.50 pm

Next Meeting - Monday 29th May 2005 at LRD Bowling Club.

**PRECINCT COMMITTEE REPORTS TO COUNCIL MEETING
22 JUNE 2006**

Item No: 32

Subject: Collarenebri Precinct Committee Minutes – 2 May 2006

Author: Collarenebri Precinct Committee

File No: 004/09/09/92

Collarenebri Precinct Meeting
Held in the Town Hall on Tuesday 2nd May, 2006.

Present: Robert Greenaway (in chair), Alana Douglas, Richard McGrath, Shirley McGrath, Margaret delandelles, Laura Simpson, John Walford, Bev Hobbs.

Apologies: Christine and Bill Cameron, Dot Winter.

Apologies moved by Richard McGrath, sec Margaret delandelles. Cd.

Correspondence: Letter from the Shire re our recommendations from last meeting. Agenda from Shire for extraordinary meeting. Grant application form.

Minutes of last meeting moved by Shirley McGrath, sec Margaret delandelles. Cd.

Business arising from Minutes:

1. Work has begun on the footpaths in main street. 8 CDEP workers. And all being well work should finish in about 16 weeks.
2. Re Tennis courts....we have no further info, but hoping the courts will be made useable very soon as people keen to play.
3. Hoping sharps bins will soon be in place at public toilets.
4. Dogs still roaming in town.

General Business: 1. Alana reported there was nothing further happening with the Caravan Park. Scott Murray who is interested in starting one has turned his attention to perhaps purchasing Lot 69 and 70 in Maitland street at the Shire auction, after coming up against a brick wall with the land next to the town oval. 2. Re visitors through Colly....Alana suggested we have a visitors book placed where people passing through might sign, giving the Shire an idea of just how many people come through. The Hotel was probably a likely spot to have it.

3. Alana discussed the idea that the Shire was looking for a tourism logo, and was open for suggestions as to what might go on it. Porcupines, bores, rivers, opals are some we came up with.

4. The new signs for approaches to town....are ready to go up. John Torrens has made the stands for them. Bill Cameron would be happy to help put them up, Robert also and he would be happy to have other helpers ring him. Robert felt it would be appropriate to place them just before the 50k signs, and they will be on the Moree, Mungindi and Walgett roads.

5. The Alcohol free zone signs are in need of updating, and at present are worthless.

6. Fixing of pot holes in Khans lane would be appreciated.

Robert thanked Alana for coming to our meeting.

He also thanked Bev Hobbs for her work as Secretary over the past 12 months. Bev is moving from Colly with her family, and looking forward to a relaxed retirement.

The meeting closed with no further business at 7.50pm.

Next meeting will be on Tuesday 27th June at 7pm at Town Hall.

Walgett Shire
Council
LCD

03 MAY 2006

FILE
004/09/09/92

LETTER NO:
5086

REFER:
ST 11

26/2
NAB

An example of the report format used by Precinct Committees

REPORT FROM PRECINCT COMMITTEES	
Name of Precinct:	<u>COLLARENEBRI</u> Number: <u> </u>
Date of Meeting:	<u>20D MAY 2006</u> Numbers Present: <u>8</u>
Item Number:	<u> </u> File Number: <u> </u>
Subject:	<u> </u>
Recommendation:	<u>(1) VISITORS BOOK BE PLACED</u> <u>AT HOTEL.</u> <u>(2) SHARPS BINS FOR PUBLIC TOILETS.</u> <u>(3) TENNIS COURTS BE MADE READY</u> <u>FOR USING.</u> <u>(4) POT HOLES BE FIXED IN KHANS LANE.</u> <u>(5) ALCOHOL FREE ZONE SIGNS BE</u> <u>UP DATED.</u> <u>THANK YOU THAT WE ARE HAVING</u> <u>OUR FOOTPATHS DONE.</u>
Signature of Chair:	<u>R. H. Greenaway</u>
Signature of Secretary:	<u>S. Woods</u>

PRECINCT COMMITTEE REPORTS TO COUNCIL MEETING 22 JUNE 2006

Item No: 33

Subject: Lightning Ridge Precinct Committee Minutes – 5 June 2006

Author: Lightning Ridge Precinct Committee

File No: 004/09/09/92

LIGHTNING RIDGE ADVISORY (PRECINCT) COMMITTEE

**MINUTES OF MEETING HELD AT LIGHTNING RIDGE BOWLING CLUB
5th June 2006**

PRESENT–Heather Landini, Debbie Dwyer, Jeff Naismith Nick Cook & Harry Parada.

APOLOGIES – Judy Ward, Christina Johannson, David Lane

Apologies received Moved: Harry Parada Seconded: Heather Landini

Meeting opened 7.00pm by Debbie Dwyer

Minutes of Meeting 24th April 2006. Moved: Jeff Naismith Seconded: Heather Landini

BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES: Nil

CORRESPONDENCE:

IN

1. 2006/2007 Draft Management Plan and Budget

GENERAL BUSINESS.

1. Discussion held re draft plan and budget with all present agreeing to move as is. Moved: Heather Landini Seconded: Jeff Naismith
2. Motion that meetings are changed due to a conflict with Rotary meeting to allow more people to attend. Moved: Heather Landini Seconded: Jeff Naismith

Meeting Closed 7.40 pm

Next Meeting - Monday 26th June 2005 at LRD Bowling Club.

REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS TO COUNCIL MEETING 22 JUNE 2006

Item No:

Subject:

Author:

File No:

No Report Submitted.

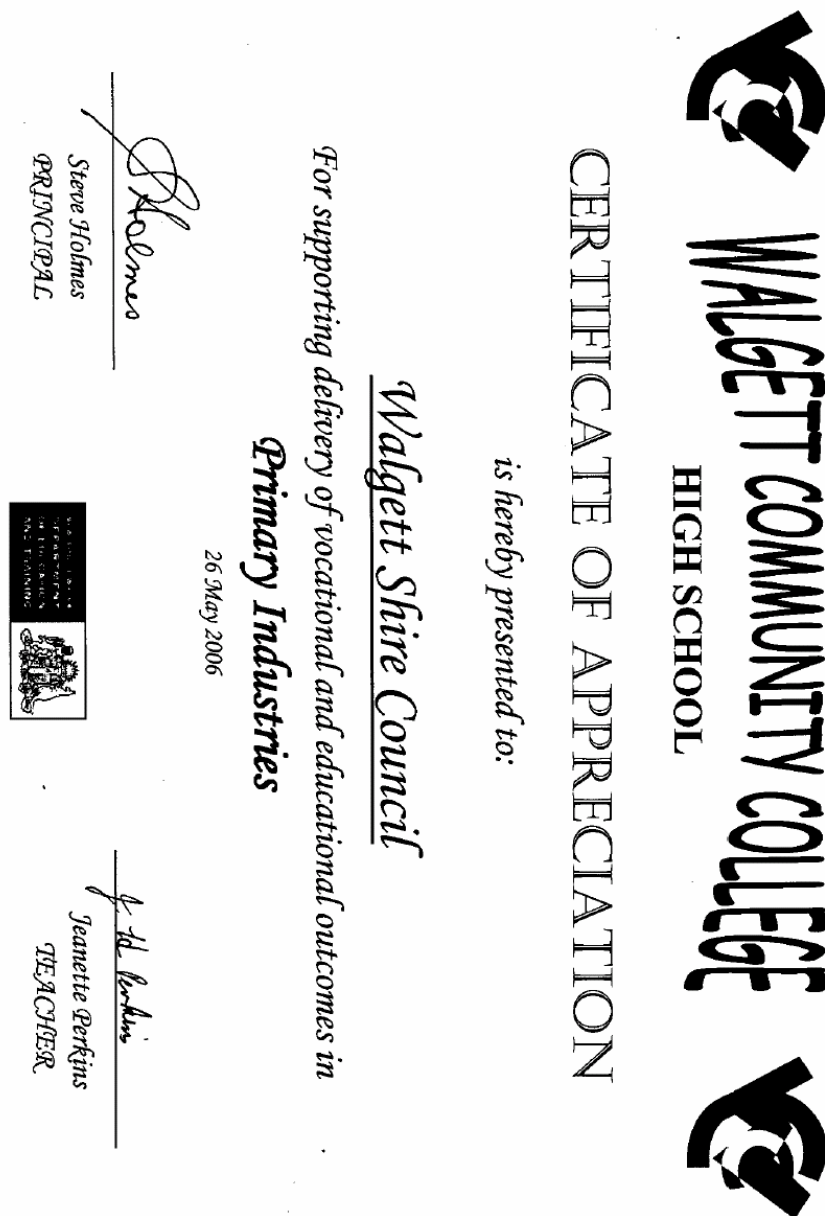
LETTERS OF APPRECIATION TO COUNCIL MEETING 22 JUNE 2006

Item No: 34

Subject: Walgett Community College – Certificate of Appreciation

Author: Walgett Community College

File No: 295/01/14/00



LETTERS OF APPRECIATION TO COUNCIL MEETING 22 JUNE 2006

Item No: 35
Subject: Lightning Ridge Pre-School – Letter of Appreciation
Author: Lightning Ridge Pre-School
File No: 295/01/14/00

LIGHTNING RIDGE PRESCHOOL



Providing the Stepping Stones
for a Smooth Transition to School

The Administrator
Walgett Shire Council
PO Box 31
Walgett
NSW 2832

10th June 2006

Dear Hugh Percy,

The Committee, Parents, and Children of the Lightning Ridge Preschool would like to thank you for all the support you have recently given to our preschool, without it we certainly wouldn't be able to continue as we are now.

We would also like to thank you for making available the services of Simon Kinsmore to assist us in receiving more funding.

With kind Regards
Rosie Brenton
(Secretary)

Walgett Shire
Council
REC'D

14 JUN 2006

FILE: 295/01/14/00

LETTER No: 6919

REFER: SJM
PER NAD

COPY: H.P

Lightning Ridge Preschool
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