



MINUTES

ENGAGING AND COMMUNICATING WITH OUR COMMUNITY

PAPPINBARRA 14 October 2015

PRESENT:

Mayor Peter Besseling
Deputy Mayor Justin Levido
Councillor Lisa Intemann
Councillor Geoffrey Hawkins
Councillor Trevor Sargeant
Councillor Michael Cusato

Craig Swift-McNair (General Manager)
Rebecca Olsen (Director Corporate and Organisational Services)
Jeffery Sharp (Director of Infrastructure and Asset Management)
Tricia Bulic (Director of Community and Economic Growth)

15 community members

APOLOGIES:

Councillor Rob Turner
Councillor Sharon Griffiths
Councillor Adam Roberts
Matt Rogers (Director of Development and Environment Services)
James & Robyn Flanagan

The Mayor welcomed those in attendance and introduced the Councillors and Council staff members present.

The Mayor also provided the Acknowledgement of Country.

Applicant	Mr Rick Sharp
Question 1 Submitted	As a council that advertises itself to be open, transparent and accountable, why does the Council hide the cost of staging the “Iron Man”? Yes, the ratepayers know that it is “commercial in confidence”. To indulge in a non-core responsibility why does Councils compromise its declared principles?
Comments	<p>Support to major events is considered a priority for Council as it brings a significant injection to our local economy (in excess of \$26m per year) - both via direct business (tourism, hospitality, catering, event hire etc) and in-direct flow on across the community from these businesses. The event owners do ask that the specifics of sponsorship/hosting agreements are confidential. It is also in our interest to maintain this confidentiality as we operate in a competitive environment. Disclosing the detail of each agreement could give competing Councils/ hosts an advantage in negotiations with event owners. It is common business practice to adhere to commercial in confidence provisions when under contract.</p> <p>It should also be noted that Ironman has also generated notable volunteering activity which benefits community groups and individuals across the LGA.</p>
Meeting Notes / Action	<p>The Director Community & Economic Growth responded in line with the comments above and explained the role of Council in attracting events and in economic development generally.</p> <p>Councillor Hawkins described how attracting tourists is a core function of Council and discussed how most Council meetings have confidential reports for a range of reasons that do not hamper transparency or the operation of Council.</p> <p>In response to question about the negative impact of Ironman on Laurieton businesses, Councillor Cusato detailed how Council has worked with the Camden Haven regarding Ironman and explained how the relationship is getting better year on year. Cllr Cusato also mentioned the Ironman media release from earlier in the day re the combining of the Ironman 70.3 and the full Ironman from May 2016.</p> <p>Action - refer to DCEG - following a request from Cllr Intemann, we need to provide some basic information on tourism funding including events. Perhaps some high level information as contained in the OP for instance.</p> <p>Action - refer to DCEG - need to get a link or copies of the Ironman promotional videos and other collateral that promotes the hinterland and the broader LGA from a tourism perspective.</p>

Applicant	Ms Lisa McLeod
Question 2 Submitted	Could Council please investigate the option of providing raised pavement markers on Pappinbarra Road. Issue: near misses every day from no clear centre line on road.
Comments	<p>Warning, guidance and regulatory signs and pavement markings are governed by RMS guidelines and Australian Standards. Council will undertake a review of Pappinbarra Road to ensure that it complies with the relevant standards, with this review to be undertaken within six months.</p> <p>If deficiencies are identified, the required works will be carried out following the review, depending on available funding. Timings of the works are determined by Council's road maintenance risk management procedure and range from two weeks for high risks to six months for low risks, again depending on available resources.</p> <p>Speed limits on all roads are regulated and set by the RMS. Council can make recommendations to the RMS, however the final review and decision is held by RMS. Council regularly liaises with the RMS on all road safety issues and if the review of Pappinbarra Road highlights potential speed limit issues our comments will be passed onto the RMS.</p>
Meeting Notes / Action	The Director Infrastructure & Asset Management provided a response in line with the details above. Kerbs and signage need to be reviewed in the next 6 months and it is an issue across the entire LGA. Council now has a new Road Safety Officer on board which will enable such reviews to take place.

Applicant	Ms Lisa McLeod
Question 3 Submitted	<p>Can Council please cutback all limbs that over hang the Pappinbarra Road.</p> <p>Issue: narrow road and this causes vehicles to shift onto the wrong side of the road and increases the likelihood of accidents.</p>
Comments	<p>Council's roadside spraying operation integrates with the rural road slashing programme. This year Council will undertake 2 weed spraying cycles per year, alternating between roadside slashing cycles.</p> <p>Notwithstanding unfavourable seasonal weather conditions, this regime will be sufficient to maintain a roadside grass height of less than 600mm.</p> <p>Council also slashes the road edges once a year on Pappinbarra Rd (sealed section only). This generally occurs around February or March dependant on the weather. The weed spraying and slashing programmes are integrated with the spray crew generally 6 weeks ahead of the slashing.</p> <p>Please note that the outreach mower has a large boom that removes overhanging branches. Outreach mowing is currently scheduled for Pappinbarra Road before the end of the calendar year.</p> <p>Noting the overall aims as detailed above, Council also continues to monitor high risk verges and intervenes when necessary. This sees additional spraying or slashing as appropriate as required on the road network.</p>
Meeting Notes / Action	<p>The Director Infrastructure & Asset Management provided a response in line with information above. Council does face a large challenge in keeping in front of the grass and weed growth throughout the entire local government area. Sight lines for vehicles are the way we determine the cutting height of grass etc.</p> <p>The Director Infrastructure & Asset Management requested that if there were particular segments of road that were more of an issue, then please let Council know and this will be logged in Councils system and it will be passed on to the Safety Officer for review.</p> <p>It was requested that earlier slashing in the growth cycle would be ideal; however the Director Infrastructure & Asset Management reiterated that it is a challenge to be able to do this across the entire area.</p> <p>The Director Infrastructure & Asset Management explained that there are 2 x outreach mower units and that Council prioritises work around risk across the local government area.</p> <p>Action - refer to DIAM for investigation into why Council removes some trees and leaves old wattles along the side of the road.</p> <p>Log trucks are an issue as they take up the full road and are often</p>

considered to be speeding, noting that the official speed limit on the road is 100 km. The Director Infrastructure & Asset Management responded in line with the recent discussions Council has had with Forestry, who have informed Council that the new Forestry logging contract has a requirement where all logging trucks will have GPS type units fitted that will provide them with a range of information such as travelling speed etc. It was pointed out from a member of the community that the logging done up this way is from contractors not necessarily Forestry.

A request was made for Council to review the speed limit. The community believes it is wrong to have 100 km sign at the beginning of the road as that then encourages speed and puts at risk people's lives, the School Bus and wildlife. The Mayor undertook to raise this at the next Local Traffic Committee meeting for consideration by all parties, including the RMS.

Action - refer to DIAM for inclusion on the next LTC agenda

The Director Infrastructure & Asset Management will ensure the speed limit also forms part of the safety audit to be undertaken in the coming months.

With regard to roadside slashing, it was requested that Council should be taking more care in the slashing of road reserves as they can be an integral part of attracting wildlife. There are many overhanging branches that often attract wildlife. Is there any reason why residents who choose to cannot have signage near their properties that say something like 'Watch out for Wildlife - Slow Down'.

Would Council consider putting a sign at the beginning of the road that talks about travelling to conditions, that it is a long and winding, narrow road and to take care of wildlife and that the road is subject to flooding etc.

Action - refer to DIAM for consideration of this - what is preventing this from happening?

The RFS were unhappy with being told that whilst Council agreed that a tree was dead and needed to be removed from the side of the road, it would only be done so in the next three months - this sort of work should happen immediately.

The Director Community & Economic Growth explained the process for lodging a customer request with Council, specifically for trees. Information was provided on the scheduled tree work Council does and how Council deals with customer requests. Council assesses the risk of each request and responds accordingly. The more information we get the better i.e. photographs etc. This point was reiterated by Councillors Intemann and Sargeant.

There are 4 or 5 culverts that are eroding along the road mostly caused by logging trucks - this is on the Left Arm and on the main section of the road.

Action - refer to DIAM for an inspection of the culverts in this area to

	<p>take place.</p> <p>Action - refer to DIAM - for replacement of the signs that have been knocked down on the bend on Pappinbarra Road.</p> <p>Need more drainage on Pappinbarra Road at the dip as it continually floods as per this morning.</p> <p>Action - refer to DIAM for exact location and for an inspection to see what can be done to expand this culverts capacity.</p>
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Applicant	Ms Lisa McLeod
Question 4 Submitted	<p>Assess the speed limit when leaving Beechwood. Pappinbarra Road is a narrow and winding road and speed is a continual problem with some drivers.</p> <p>More signs are required. eg: slow down, stay to the left, reduce speed, wildlife crossing, speed hills.</p>
Comments	Please refer to the response to Question 2 above, as this issue relates to the issue raised in Question 2.
Meeting Notes / Action	Please refer to the response to Question 3 above.

Applicant	Ms Lisa McLeod
Question 5 Submitted	<p>Can weed spraying on the side of the road be carried out before the weeds are over 600mm tall?</p> <p>Issue: weeds prohibit the drivers from seeing other cars and wildlife on the roads edge.</p>
Comments	Please refer to the response to Question 3 above, as this issue relates to the issue raised in Question 3.
Meeting Notes / Action	Please refer to the response to Question 3 above.

Applicant	Ms Lisa McLeod
Question 6 Submitted	Can road side drainage be cleared and made to standard to ensure the road is not undermined by water penetrating the road. Issue: many potholes and road deterioration points on the road.
Comments	<p>The sealed section of Pappinbarra Rd has been previously identified by Council as a road that requires shoulder grading (CRM 16817/2015).</p> <p>This currently sits as a medium priority and is subject to the restrictions of funding and resources. Unfortunately the current funding for this work activity is minimal and scheduling is balanced against other commitments across the entire roads network.</p> <p>The condition of the sealed section of Pappinbarra Rd is considered to be in an excellent condition when compared to other roads within the LGA and given its current condition, it is unlikely that water will undermine the road in the short term.</p> <p>The unsealed section of Pappinbarra Rd receives a regular grade every 6 months with the table drains cleaned out during this operation. Coincidentally, Council has also had a work crew cleaning out the inlet and outlets of culverts within this section of road over the past week.</p>
Meeting Notes / Action	<p>The Director Infrastructure & Asset Management detailed that Council has thousands of roadside drains to manage and addresses these as we undertake works on these roads. With regard to whether the community can get involved in assisting with this, it is difficult for Council to allow residents to undertake works on public roads from a safety and liability perspective.</p> <p>The Director Infrastructure & Asset Management discussed the unsealed roads grading program of twice a year.</p> <p>Clr Intemann stated her confidence in the staff and for the way roads are managed and reiterated the need for people to provide as much information as they can when logging a request / complaint to Council.</p>

Applicant	Mr Rick Sharp
Question 7 Submitted	Given the deficiency of Section 94 contributions to cover incremental infrastructure requirements, could Council tell us what the current infrastructure deficiency is and what will it be in 2020 and show the modelling they used to reach these conclusions.
Comments	<p>S94 contributions are levied to cover the cost of infrastructure upgrading required to meet future growth. The cost of existing deficiencies cannot be covered by s94 contributions. Although s94 contributions are calculated to recoup the full cost of the infrastructure required for growth, there will still be a shortfall in income due to developments that were approved prior to a new contributions plan coming into force, paying a lower rate of contributions.</p> <p>The costs of infrastructure escalating at a rate higher than the indexation in the contributions plan also contributes to an income shortfall. While a reviewed contributions plan can include a review of infrastructure costs, legislation prohibits the new rates being applied retrospectively.</p> <p>Council reports annually on the position of its infrastructure deficiency, through the preparation of Special Schedule 7 as part of its annual financial statements.</p> <p>This deficiency relates predominantly to sealed road assets. It is known that at the current level of investment, the overall condition of these assets will continue to deteriorate over time.</p> <p>The condition of these assets in 5 years time will be dependent on both the future investment into ongoing maintenance and renewal of these assets, and the impact of heavy rainfall and/or flooding events on the condition of these assets.</p> <p>Council has not specifically modelled the infrastructure deficiency as at 30 June 2020.</p>
Meeting Notes / Action	The information above was noted by the Mayor and the Director Infrastructure & Asset Management explained briefly how Section 94 Development Contributions work.

<p>Question Raised from the Floor</p> <p>1.</p>	<p>Expansion of the RFS building.</p>
<p>Meeting Notes / Action</p>	<p>The Director Infrastructure & Asset Management talked through the information / process to date re land tenure and it was explained that the RFS does not own assets, therefore the land would need to be vested in Council - there is some work to be done to understand how this might happen.</p> <p>Action - refer to DIAM - to arrange a survey of the site as soon as possible so this work can be undertaken.</p>

<p>Question Raised from the Floor</p> <p>2.</p>	<p>The Frugal Forest & Council involvement in the project.</p>
<p>Meeting Notes / Action</p>	<p>This project is part of broader community engagement program by Midwaste, to increase recycling and diversion of waste from landfill. Midwaste will be sponsoring the project this financial year to the value of \$20,000 using State Government Waste Less Recycle More grant funding. There will also be involvement with the Glasshouse as was the case with the Salvage Spider in 2013.</p> <p>The aim of the Frugal Forest is to create an intricately detailed forest installation entirely from stuff that was headed for the dump. Why? Because nothing is wasted in the forest and people can really learn from that.</p>

<p>Question Raised from the Floor</p> <p>3.</p>	<p>Is Council considering sealing Pappinbarra Road?</p>
<p>Meeting Notes / Action</p>	<p>Councillor Intemann responded as the Chair of the Roads & Infrastructure portfolio regarding balancing population needs and the needs of local communities with the funding available to Council. It was noted that the issue of sealing some of the unsealed roads is being discussed in the Roads & Infrastructure Portfolio, with no firm direction on this as yet.</p>

<p>Question Raised from the Floor</p> <p>4.</p>	<p>Thanks to Council</p>
<p>Meeting Notes / Action</p>	<p>The community are very pleased with the upgrade of Beechwood Road.</p> <p>Thanks to the Council grading teams for the work they do with grading and drainage etc...it is a top job.</p> <p>Jeanette Rainbow thanked Council for all the work on the Wauchope main street plan and the works already undertaken. Jeanette would like us to get on with it through the new plan as Wauchope has great potential and we need to work towards making everything better.</p>