



SUPPLEMENTARY ITEMS
ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL

To be held on

Wednesday, 24 March 2021
4pm

at

Armidale Council Chamber

SUPPLEMENTARY ATTACHMENTS

INDEX

13 OUR PEOPLE AND COMMUNITY

13.8 Minutes of Councillor Village Tour and Town Meetings

Attachment 1:	Ben Lomond - Minutes - 27 February 2021.....	3
Attachment 2:	Wards Mistake - Minutes - 27 February 2021.....	6
Attachment 3:	Black Mountain - Minutes - 27 February 2021.....	8
Attachment 4:	Guyra - Minutes - 2 March 2021	10
Attachment 5:	Ebor - Minutes - 6 March 2021.....	13
Attachment 6:	Wollomombi - Minutes - 6 March 2021	16
Attachment 7:	Hillgrove - Minutes - 6 March 2021.....	19
Attachment 8:	Armidale - Minutes - 10 March 2021	22

Councillor Tours

Held

9am

Saturday 27 February 2021

At

Ben Lomond

In Attendance:

Mayor Ian Tiley, Cr Margaret O'Connor, Cr Jon Galletly, Mr James Roncon (General Manager) and Mr Scot MacDonald (Director Businesses & Services)

1. Mayor's Introduction

2. General Discussion

- a. Advised about Performance Improvement Order

- i. Action: Nil.

- b. Rangoon Windfarm CCC – Residents asked if Council was going to nominate a Council or community representative (16 March 2021) (i.e. Councillor or staff rep). Classified State Significant Development. Possible voluntary planning agreement.
 - i. Action: To be determined by Mayor/GM.
- c. Roads – improvements. Ben Lomond village roads condition & capacity to handle B-Doubles
 - i. Action: Review village roads (particularly corners)
- d. Streeters Rd - damage to historic Bagot's Wheel stone flour mill
 - i. Action: Clr O'Brien has raised before and will provide an update to the Executive Office
- e. Rail trail – retain corridor. Encourage multi use. Camera inspections of roads
 - i. Action: Views noted.
- f. Ben Lomond Railway Station - Residents would like a sign "Highest Railway Station"
 - i. Action: ARC to review.
- g. Ben Lomond LAC - will the LAC receive \$10k allocation again (Council annual s356 budget)?
 - i. Action: Confirm if review of LACs covered this
- h. Local group happy to be autonomous – some recognition by ARC would be welcomed.
 - i. Action: Noted.
- i. Comment that Billy Gleeson-Barker is doing a great job at Airport
 - i. Action: Noted.
- j. Council review of Airport policy - Fees & Charges - requesting assurance airport user groups will be consulted.
 - i. Action: Confirm to resident and airport user groups
- k. Landing instrumentation – check out
- l. Camping Area – Mother of Ducks Lagoon. The upgrade of the Rec Area in Guyra is limiting the number of RVs.
 - i. Action: Noted
- m. Water Catchment expansion options - to be funded? Storage options for Malpas Dam

- i. Action: Keep community informed
- n. Ben Lomond Star Gazing Festival. Astronomy photography
 - i. Action: Relay Tourism grant opportunity to LAC
 - ii. Investigate what is required to work with
 - iii. Essential Energy to manage street lights in Ben Lomond to maximise Star gazing opportunities
- o. BLER grants and Drought Community Funding. LAC wants details on what grants have been applied for and won - gone where? Grant – railway station/hall?
 - i. Action: Provide details to LAC
- p. Ben Lomond Transfer Station. Residents stated the skip bin is too high to tip into
 - i. Action: Investigate solution.
- q. Request for a written agreement between ARC and LAC for the use of the mower - how to use it/where/where not to mow. Guyra Council used to have one.
 - i. Action: Investigate MoU for mower
- r. Clearer signage for when New England Highway is diverted for accidents.
 - i. Action: Investigate request

Councillor Tours

Held

11:30am

Saturday 27 February 2021

At

Wards Mistake

In Attendance:

Mayor Ian Tiley, Cr Margaret O'Connor, Cr Jon Galletly, Mr James Roncon (General Manager) and Mr Scot MacDonald (Director Businesses & Services)

1. Mayor's Introduction

2. General Discussion

- a. Extensive discussion on Road funding. Roads upgrades – grading one per year/two per year on a school route.

- i. Action: To be clarified as part of budget process.
- b. Rural Waste Charges – two trips/year. Options to address charging a waste service fee on blocks that don't generate waste. Multiple on non-dwelling farms is a burden.
 - i. Action: The Mayor requested a report on options for Rural Waste Management, possibly including tokens.
 - ii. Action: Discuss with NSW Farmers.
- c. Weed spreading. Procedures for moving plant and machinery (wash down etc). Chilean needle grass. Biosecurity rules? Policy? Funding for Weeds Council is not enough.
 - i. Action: Mayor undertook to inform residents of Policy and action to prevent Council machinery/mowing movements from spreading weeds.
- d. Stock grids. Council maintaining vs Farmers maintaining? Sought clarity on rationale for new/harmonised policy.
 - i. Action: Policy under review to 31/3. Mayor encouraged submissions. Possible briefing for Councillors when report goes to Council with final recommendation.
- e. Poor condition of Aberfoyle Road. "Road in rough condition" signs up for a year. School bus route.
 - i. Action: Report to LAC on plans for the road.
- f. Council responsibility for a road at Pack Saddle
 - i. Action: Council Officer to call resident back directly
- g. Confusion/lack of clarity of what grants have gone where. \$900k
 - i. Action: Mayor requested a Report on all grants - what has gone where (possibly extend report to include unsuccessful grants).

Councillor Tours

Held

2pm

Saturday 27 February 2021

At

Black Mountain

In Attendance:

Mayor Ian Tiley, Cr Margaret O'Connor, Cr Jon Galletly, Mr James Roncon (General Manager) and Mr Scot MacDonald (Director Businesses & Services)

1. Mayor's Introduction

2. General discussion

- a. Rail Trail. Residents want to be consulted.

- i. Action: Noted.

- b. Main Street - update provided re works.
 - i. Action: Nil.
- c. Lagoon Road - \$300k vs \$1.5m? Lagoon Road - 1.4 km has been promised to bitumen seal. Resident has been in contact with Council.
 - i. Action: Confirm to LAC when is this programmed to be sealed (and if a seal or more comprehensive upgrade).
- d. Utilise local knowledge
 - i. Action: Noted.
- e. Mother of Ducks Lagoon – inflow pipes
 - i. Action: Noted.
- f. How much water up Malpas Pipeline
 - i. Action: Advise quantity.
- g. Roads to Recovery Funding signs on Bradley St
 - i. Action: Residents requested information on what the R2R work will be. How is separate from Bradley St upgrade?
- h. Parking/drop off/road safety/ Bus movements/student safety/ around Black Mountain School / asked if a solution could be found.
 - i. Action: Residents requested help with making the traffic movement safer in front of the School
- i. Resident requested info on how much water is being transferred through the Malpas Dam to Guyra WTP pipeline and how much does it cost
 - i. Action: Respond directly to resident.
- j. Rural waste charges
 - i. Action: Mayor requested a Report on options for Rural Waste Management possibly including tokens. Multiple or non-dwelling farms is a burden.
 - ii. Action: Discuss with NSW Farmers

Councillor Tours

Held

5:30pm

Tuesday 2 March 2021

At

Guyra

In Attendance:

Mayor Ian Tiley, Cr Margaret O'Connor, Cr Debra O'Brien, Cr Dorothy Robinson, Mr James Roncon (General Manager), Ms Marissa Racomelara (Acting Director Organisational & Corporate Services and Mr Scot MacDonald (Director Businesses & Services)

1. Mayor's Introduction
2. General Manager's Welcome
3. General Discussion

- a. Concern that in some areas, especially Llangothlin St, water quality is not always great due to being at the end of the line
 - i. Action: Water team to contact customer to investigate issues
- b. Main St update required and provided – footpath, street furniture and essential Energy works
 - i. Action: PMO to ensure communications with community occur
- c. Question regarding whether parking metres were being considered – not current consideration for this option
- d. Hydrotherapy Pool – option to consider Guyra as a location and potential for it be located within the grounds of the old hospital
 - i. Action: Consider location should project proceed
- e. Guyra Showground – request to seek funding for an upgrade of the hall. General discussion on the funding of upgrades to ablution blocks
 - i. Action: Issue to be considered when suitable grant opportunities arise
- f. Preschool – give consideration to a ‘state of the art’ facility
- g. Community requires confidence in council in the areas of budgeting and planning
 - i. GM stated a focus on structure and staff to ensure a skilled and responsive workforce
 - ii. Information provided re Financial Controller protocols, budget consolidation and increased consultation
- h. Rail Trail – concern it is underfunded and has a lack of safety fencing, snakes a concern, recommendation to seek income sources to reduce ratepayer burden
- i. Suggestion to involve more members of the community in volunteering highlighting value they add, discussion on service clubs and community organisations
 - i. Action: Investigate opportunities
- j. Murals – discussion on local artist involvement
 - i. Action: Arts and Culture Committee is discussing options
- k. Showground – request for groundworks to ensure safety of users, seek information from Adam Marshall re recent announcements (as per e.)
- l. Request to ensure consultation is listened and responded to
- m. Complaint about the intersection of Ollera Street and Abercrombie Street – too rough and poor drainage; speeding

- i. Action: Roads to review
- n. Groundwater – general discussion about the future utilisation of the bores – changing from Emergency role to part of ongoing town water supply
 - i. Action: Water team to provide community communication

Councillor Tours

Held

9am

Saturday 6 March 2021

At

Ebor

In Attendance:

Mayor Ian Tiley, Cr Peter Bailey, Cr Andrew Murat, Cr Margaret O'Connor, Ms Marissa Racomelara (Acting Director Organisational & Corporate Services, Mr Scot MacDonald (Director Businesses & Services), Ms Lilian Colmanetti (Acting Principal Advisor Strategic Infrastructure Planning).

1. Mayor's Introduction

2. General Discussion

- a. Community Consultations re LSPS – no feedback received

- i. Action: Strategic Planning team to provide advice
- b. Point Look out - Discussion regarding ownership and responsibility for the access road and request to consider sealing
 - i. Action: Roads Team to confirm ownership and review request. Tourism Officer to consider options for promotion of attraction
- c. Traffic issues – speeding is a concern, recommendations for signage, speed cameras, no overtaking lane between all the way from Bellingen and Ebor (potential option to have an overtaking lane between Dorrigo and Ebor)
 - i. Action: Traffic team to review options for speed limiting. TfNSW/RMS to be notified of request for overtaking lanes
- d. Mowing – questions regarding frequency of mowing within the village
 - i. Action: Parks team to provide a response/action
- e. Waste Transfer Facility – request to open on Saturdays, access safety concerns. Advice provided regarding potential for automated opening for residents, oppose any planned closure.
 - i. Action: Waste team to investigate swapping days to enable Saturday opening
 - ii. Action: Roads team to review access and provide an assessment on road conditions
 - iii. Action: Waste team to ensure consultation should investigations into closure of the transfer station be actively considered
- f. Ebor Tourism Presentation – (Presentation document tabled)
 - i. Action: Tourism Officer to consider content
- g. Community Facilities – general discussion on upkeep of camping area and facilities and bus shelter quality and location
 - i. Action: Confirm responsibility for camping area
 - ii. Action: Facilities team to review shelter safety and toilet availability during blackouts
 - iii. Action: Facilities and traffic Teams to review bus shelter location and upgrade
 - iv. Action: Mayor to write to Minister requesting school bus route improvements
- h. Roads – quality of village roads raised as an issue

- i. Action: Roads team to do a full condition assessment of the roads within the village area
- i. Tourism – request to improve promotion of gateway location. Update provided on funded signage
 - i. Action: Communications Team to provide information on planned signage improvements
- j. General Issues
 - i. Communications issue: community is frustrated to keep having meetings with council staff and not received any feedback/ follow up on discussed matters
 - ii. No proper communication between village and council on general issues
 - iii. Community has sent a report to the State about Waterfall Way and issues with that road being too narrow and needs widening, but have not heard back from them yet
 - iv. Council staff to help the community when applying for grants
 - v. There is a massive demand for land and no land available to buy at the moment
 - vi. Request to support proposed new event for launch of trout season

Councillor Tours

Held

9am

Saturday 6 March 2021

At

Wollomombi

In Attendance:

Mayor Ian Tiley, Cr Peter Bailey, Cr Andrew Murat, Cr Margaret O'Connor, Ms Marissa Racomelara (Acting Director Organisational & Corporate Services, Mr Scot MacDonald (Director Businesses & Services), Ms Lilian Colmanetti (Acting Principal Advisor Strategic Infrastructure Planning).

1. Mayor's Introduction
2. General Discussion

- a. Mowing – questions regarding frequency of mowing within the village and in particular the cemetery. Information was provided on service levels compared to Armidale
 - i. Action: Parks team to investigate options for community involvement in mowing of cemetery
 - ii. Action: Parks team to clarify service levels for mowing within the village
- b. Tree planting - update provided on questions and requests raised at LAC meeting confirming ordering of additional tree guards and replacement of dead trees. Request for stump removal in picnic area
 - i. Action: Parks team to provide update and investigate stump removal
- c. Roads – quality of village roads raised as an issue
 - i. Action: Roads team to do a full condition assessment of the roads within the village area and in particular level access to driveways
- d. Waste Transfer Station – request to open on Sundays, access safety concerns. Residents report opposition to potential closure
 - i. Action: Waste team to investigate swapping days to enable Sunday opening
 - ii. Action: Roads team to review access and provide an assessment on road conditions
 - iii. Action: Waste team to ensure consultation should investigations into closure of the transfer station be actively considered
- e. Stock grids – discussion on draft policy related to ownership, responsibility, fencing. Recommendation to provide submissions to draft policy for consideration
- f. General Issues
 - i. Discussion on levels of service and potential trade-offs. Community happy to be consulted on options as matters arise
 - ii. Request for additional consultation when projects are planned eg tree planting
 - iii. Council staff to help the community when applying for grants
 - iv. There is a demand for land and no land available to buy at the moment
 - v. Kempsey road works – increased communication required.

Councillor Tours

Held

9am

Saturday 6 March 2021

At

Hillgrove

In Attendance:

Mayor Ian Tiley, Cr Peter Bailey, Cr Andrew Murat, Cr Margaret O'Connor, Ms Marissa Racomelara (Acting Director Organisational & Corporate Services, Mr Mark Byrne (Project Officer EAM/WSS), Ms Lilian Colmanetti (Acting Principal Advisor Strategic Infrastructure Planning).

1. Mayor's Introduction

2. General Discussion

- a. Drainage – concern raised regarding changed stormwater run off as a result road grading and tank changes near RFS however with a broad impact

- i. Action: Roads team to review issues and provide advice
- b. Roads – request for improved service levels in regard to resheeting generally and turning lanes for safety off Waterfall way. Gara Bridge approaches have heavy patching/water issues. Also Stockton Rd/Bracken St increased traffic as a result of mine request to consider line marking and road widening.
 - i. Action: Roads team to review issues and provide advice
- c. Waste Transfer Station – request to consider varying days to facilitate access. Note that community opposes closure
 - i. Action: Waste team to investigate swapping days to enable different opening days
- d. Trees – trees in park and Isabela St potentially dangerous
 - i. Action: Parks team to review/action any issues
- e. Tennis Court – discussion regarding upgrade requests
 - i. Action: Parks team to review available sports grants
- f. Museum – discussion regarding need for council support to manage volunteers and also building upgrade issues (roof/windows)
 - i. Action : Coordinator Library, Museum and VIC to consider staffing
 - ii. Action: Facilities Team to review building condition
- g. Community Hall – upgrades and repairs discussed
 - i. Action: Facilities Team to review building condition and determine funding allocation and timeframes. Advice to be provided to Progress Association
- h. General Issues
 - i. Recreational Area – Council to consider grant applications and support community to apply where relevant.
 - ii. Tourism support especially in regard to history and museum
 - iii. Better signage for village is requested
 - iv. Improved communications from council is requested.
 - v. Kempsey road works – increased communication required.

Councillor Tours

Held

5:30pm

Wednesday 10 March 2021

At

Armidale

In Attendance:

Mayor Ian Tiley, Cr Margaret O'Connor, Cr Debra O'Brien, Cr Dorothy Robinson, Mr James Roncon (General Manager), Ms Marissa Racomelara (Acting Director Organisational & Corporate Services, Mr Scot MacDonald (Director Businesses & Services), Ms Lilian Colmanetti (Acting Principal Advisor Strategic Infrastructure Planning).

1. Mayor's Introduction
2. General Manager's Welcome

3. General Discussion

- a. Water - Instead of increasing the water rates abruptly, that council considers staged increases over the years
 - i. Action: to be reviewed during FY21/22 budget meetings
- b. Malpas Dam Wall project - Community concerns if raising the wall would be money well spent or if this could be used elsewhere on another project. Council staff confirmed this would be environmental friendly and beneficial to the community as it would allow better water catchment.
 - i. Action: Community consultation and a business case done to support the project
- c. Support of wildlife habitat groups is appreciated.
- d. Communications issues - Community is frustrated that council communicates projects to them during community consultations but afterward change directions on the projects and don't communicate it back to them, e.g. groundwater project
 - i. Action: PMO/project leads to ensure communications with community occur
- e. Groundwater - Communication issues as per described above. Council staff have advised that groundwater may be a permanent feature for the Armidale Region – more research being done on that
- f. Costa tomato farm – water sustainability in developments 1 and 2.
 - i. Action: Seek information about longer term plans to make developments 1 & 2, self sustainable.
- g. Mayoral Photos - There was a resolution from Oct 2017 re historical society that has not been implemented – photographs on council's corridor
 - i. Action: No action required. Resolution 124/18 of June 2018 was that the Mayoral Portraits of the former Dumaresq Shire and Armidale City Councils be preserved and managed by the Armidale Folk Museum; and that the Mayoral portraits from the commencement of the Armidale Dumaresq Council and onwards be placed in the alcove in the Council Chambers, Armidale. This has been completed.
- h. Request to consider if Armidale region waste could be used to manufacture objects/items locally
 - i. Action: waste Team to consider options
- i. Dead trees in MacDonald Park –
 - i. Action: Parks crew to assess