



# MINUTES

Operations Committee

held at

Council Administration Centre  
Committee Room  
180 Mort Street, Lithgow

on

Thursday 6 October 2022

at 4:00 PM

# ORDER OF BUSINESS

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The Chairperson declared the meeting open at 4:04pm

## **1. Acknowledgement of Country**

## **2. Present**

Councillor Stephen Lesslie  
Councillor Col OConner  
Councillor Eric Mahoney

Public Works Advisory - Presentation  
Glenn Fernandes  
Jennifer Blaikie  
Mark Eastwood

Officers:

Craig Butler	General Manager
Jonathon Edgecombe	Director Infrastructure Services
David Anderson	Building and Recreation Facilities Manager
Matthew Trapp	Executive Manager - Water & Wastewater
Karen Hall	Minutes

## **3. Apologies**

Councillor Stuart McGhie  
Councillor Maree Statham  
Councillor Deanna Goodsell

## **4. Confirmation of Minutes**

The minutes of the Operations Committee Meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> July 2022 were presented to the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> July 2022, where they were endorsed.

## **5. Matters Arising from Previous Minutes**

Nil

## **6. Declaration of Interest**

Nil

## **7. Staff Reports**

### **7.1. Integrated Water Cycle Management Strategy**

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Director of W&WW introduced Public Works Advisory (PWA) presenters Glenn Fernandez and Jennifer Blaikie who presented a powerpoint presentation on the Integrated Cycle Management Strategy Options Assessment.

Public works report presented by Glenn Fernandez in respect of water security.

DPIE presented information on the service growth in the area.

4:15pm Councillor Eric Mahoney entered the meeting.

Councillor Leslie wanted to rectify the industry water usage of 7M litres per day, the MT advised this would be an average as there would be peaks and troughs.

Councillor Mahoney questioned the quality of water that would be used for industry ie: raw or drinking. PWA advised the percentage would be of raw water.

PWA asked if construction of new tunnel has been taken into account.

MT noted that Transport for NSW are still investigating usage to be either 2.8 - 3Mega litres a day, which Lithgow can currently provide.

Councillor Stephen Lesslie questioned responsibility for the tunnelling project, suggesting perhaps Sydney Water.

MT advised that Transport for NSW are still in the process of investigating their options but are looking to start in Hartley and move up

Councillor Mahoney asked if water for tunnel would come from Lithgow Council water supply? MT advised that it is early stages and he presented the room with options of possibly using Clarence mine water or a pipeline that would need to be constructed.

Councillor Mahoney questioned the source of water being from Fish River compared to groundwater based sources.

PWA representatives acknowledged concern and advised assessment was included.

PWA spoke on Replacing Fish River system due to aging pipeline and option of a 25ML/d plant at Wallerawang

Councillor Lesslie questioned a replacement of pipes and MT advised that a complete replacement would need to take place.

MT noted that Farmers creek dam currently sits at extreme category

Councillor O'Connor asked about Farmers Creek Dam and whether storage could be reduces to lower the risk. Public Works advised that this could be considered and would need to be put to Dam Safety NSW and be a decision of Council.

*Another Option was presented to room - Option 2 Lake Wallace Sole Source of Water*

Committee asked if Lake Wallace was the raw source of drinking water - asked whether the water source should sit at Wallerawang

*Option 3 Clarence Colliery as Sole Source was presented*

Councillor Lesslie asked if sequential days for drawing down water from Clarence Colliery would cause issues?

DPI advised to implement this option additional bores would be required to get into mine works and new pipeline from Clarence to Oakey Park and upgrade Oakey Park required and then build 300mm line Oakey park to Wallerawang

*Option 3A*

A new bigger dam built on the Oakey Park site and additional yield stored in new Dam

*Option 3B*

Balance storage at Lake Wallace - would need reverse osmosis plant

Councillor O'Connor asking if raw water can be used for heavy industry?

MT advised that we don't have requirements from industry for raw water at present however this could occur.

Councillor O'Conner asked if we could create a raw water storage area ie: Thompson creek?

MT advised if we wanted to use multiple sources this is looked on favorably by DPE

PWA questioned who owns Lake Lyell.

Jennifer Blaikie of Public Works advised that currently there is an extraction licence owned by Energy Australia , whilst the lake is itself is owned by Greenspot.

Councillor Mahoney asked about the current residential water usage. Public Works advised very little change during drought, can reduce average but also reduces income.

Councillor Mahoney asked if we wanted to attract industry and if so we would need that 3000Megalitre yield. PWA presented options to include and exclude big industry.

PWA asked about operation risks of having a large dam above the town

MT responded that employees currently have to attend Dam every day to monitor.

Councillor Lesslie questioned costs of sending employees to check Dam and are these being quantified?

MT advised he will quantify costs associated with this Dam monitoring process.

PWA presented the best option that came out of their assessment as Clarence Colliery with Lake Wallace as a backup for emerging industries.

CB requested that a meeting be held by Greenspot and if they would have to upgrade a Dam wall, PWA will investigate any issue that may compromise us holding water in Lake Lyell.

PWA advised that Council need to select their preferred option or options and take them to the Community for consultation.

Councillor Lesslie questioned what the next steps would be?  
CB advised it would need to go to full Council Meeting and then Exhibition.

CB thanked Glen and Jennifer for their great work in presenting the Strategy.

Councillor Mahoney found the presentation engaging and challenging, and noted Council need to ensure adequate funding of water security in NSW.

Craig Butler acknowledged we are working with DPE and PWA and advised that we have acknowledged water security as a major priority in Lithgow.

Councillor Lesslie moved recommended and thanked Glenn and Jennifer for their contribution

Department of Public Works left meeting at 5:30pm

Meeting took a 5 min break.

#### **ACTION**

**THAT** the committee note the report on the Integrated Water Cycle Management Strategy and the presentation from Public Works Advisory.

**MOVED:** Councillor S Lesslie

**SECONDED:** Councillor C O'Connor

**CARRIED:** Unanimously

## 7.2. Project Update - Main Street Footpath Revitalisation Stage 2

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Meeting recommenced at 5:35pm

JE gave an update on the Mainstreet revitalisation project to the room. Acknowledgement was made that there wasn't enough community consultation previously and lessons have been learnt from Stage 1.

Council have been successful in gaining grants for Stage 2 revitalisation - encompassing Bridge Street to Cook Street Plaza, both sides of the street.

Overall objectives of the project: safety, compliance with disability access

There will be consultation with business owners regarding thoughts and needs on project and 3 community workshops for community consultation. Community consultation would begin at end of 2022

Councillor Lesslie noted slippery texture of current paving in Main Street.  
JE advised that the new paving would be concrete and alleviate this issue.

Councillor O'Connor asked if water mains could/should be replaced whilst the new paving project is proceeding, especially where pipes are asbestos?  
MT advised that he was confident in the mains integrity, and it was very rare that there was a break in the mains in the Mainstreet area, condition assessments had been previously completed and noted no major flaws or areas for renewal or remediation.

Councillor Mahoney reiterated Councillor O'Connor's idea of any services replacement taking place during Stage 2 construction and would also like to see a horticultural element to Main Street and more car parking off Main Street.  
JE advised there would be a pedestrian and traffic circulation study, with potential to use utilise UTS labor for the study.

Councillor O'Connor noted that buses take up a lot of parking area in Mainstreet.  
JE advised this would be something they also look at.

Councillor Lesslie asked about pram ramps, on behalf of Councillor Coleman who was absent.  
JE advised that Council will be looking at option of bringing the street level up, mitigating need for pram ramps in some difficult locations.

JE advised all standard events currently scheduled in Mainstreet will still go ahead.

Councillor Lesslie asked if Lithgow Council have viewed other Council areas who have completed Main Street revitalisation projects well?  
JE advised that Leanne Kearney and her team were on top of this.

CB noted that a detailed Risk Assessment of this project needs to be done ie; look at closure periods due to construction, effecting businesses. He expressed a need to get in and out as quickly as possible. Craig also noted this was a good opportunity to look at updating greenery/ street furniture in Mainstreet.

**ACTION**

**THAT** the Operations Committee note the update in relation to the Main Street Lithgow Footpath Revitalisation (Stage 2) Project.

**MOVED:** Councillor S Lesslie

**SECONDED:** Councillor C O'Connor

**CARRIED:** Unanimously

### 7.3. Project Update - Enterprise Asset Management System Implementation

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JE advised that council has been identifying and mapping council assets. He noted that Main Street Wallerawang was a Crown Road and until recently we were maintaining.

Councillor Lesslie questioned attributes referenced in table presented by JE who clarified attributes as being walls /floors desks chairs.

JE advised that inspections need to be put into policy

JE advised biggest assets spends is roads. He also noted that 2 new asset officers have been engaged full time to complete assets register.

Consultation required with internal staff and engineers along with community consultation regarding Expectations as needs to be balanced. JE noted some roads in community may not be maintained by Council due to be a privately owned road or a road that is too remote.

Councillor Mahoney thanks Jonathon Edgecombe for his work and made a statement that work is critical in enabling real time data. Wanted to know where Pearson's lookout sites and Hassans Walls sit as he sees these as an under pinning in the community.

JE advised that they come under open spaces.

Councillor O'Connor advised Hassans Walls Road 2 patches broke up on the road - Jonathon advised that sewer manholes were found in these 2 areas and will need to be cut out and raised up and manhole will be replaced

JE advised Council have been guaranteed a 2 year lifespan on the roadbase used in these projects.

Councillor O'Connor advised that there are also large holes around the services when roads are renewed.

MT advised that plumbers could look at the services that needed to be raised as opposed to lowering the road level.

JE advised we replace assets after road resurfacing process.

Councillor Lesslie asked about Crown Roads that were previously on Council assets.

JE advised that process is complete for removing Crown Roads from Council assets. Council has policy of not maintaining Crown Roads.

#### **ACTION**

**THAT** the Operations Committee note the update in relation to the implementation of the Enterprise Asset Management System.

**MOVED:** Councillor S Lesslie

**SECONDED:** Councillor C O'Connor

**CARRIED:** Unanimously

## **8. General Business**

- A Committee meeting to look at Council Assets Register.

## **9. Meeting Close**

There being no further business the Chairperson declared the meeting closed at 6:32PM