



# DRAFT MINUTES

Operations Committee

held at

Council Administration Centre  
Committee Room  
180 Mort Street, Lithgow

on

Wednesday 1 April 2020

at 4:00 pm

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# ORDER OF BUSINESS

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The Chairperson declared the meeting open at 04:32 pm.

## 1. Present

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Councillor Wayne McAndrew  
Councillor Ray Thompson  
Councillor Steven Ring  
Councillor D Goodsell      Entered the meeting at 5:01pm  
Councillor S Lesslie      Observer

Officers:

Craig Butler                      General Manager  
Jonathon Edgecombe          Director Infrastructure Services  
Daniel Buckens                  Director Water and Waste Water  
Lewis Bezzina                   Transport Manager  
Kaitlin Cibulka                  Minutes

## 2. Apologies

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Apologies: Councillor Joe Smith

## 3. Confirmation of Minutes

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The minutes of the meeting held on the 4th March 2020 were presented to the Council on Monday 6th April 2020.

### ACTION

**THAT** the Minutes of the meeting of be taken as read and confirmed.

**MOVED:** Councillor S Ring

**SECONDED:** Councillor R Thompson

## 4. Declaration of Interest

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Nil

## 5. Staff Reports

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**5.1. Standing Item - Capital Works Report**

<b>2019/20 INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES CAPITAL WORKS PROGRAM UPDATE - June 2020</b>			
<b>PROJECT</b>	<b>STATUS</b>	<b>TO DATE</b>	<b>PROGRAMMED COMPLETION</b>
Unsealed Road Sealing - Hazelgrove Road	Complete	Complete	Complete
Unsealed Road Sealing - Glen Davis Road	Complete	Complete	Complete
Hughes Lane	Complete	Complete	Complete
Rural Sealed Roads renewal - Magpie Hollow Road	Complete	Complete	Complete
Rural Sealed Roads renewal - Cuthill Road	Complete	Complete	Complete
Sunray Ave	Complete	Complete	Complete
Hampton Road	Complete	Complete	Complete
Pine Grove Road	Complete	Complete	Complete
Rural Unsealed Roads - Jerrys Meadows Road	In progress	70% Complete	30-Jun
Rural unsealed Roads - Anarel Road	In progress	95% Complete	30-Jun
Urban Sealed Roads - Fourth Street	Complete	Complete	Complete
Urban Sealed Roads - Lidsdale Street	Complete	Complete	Complete
Urban Sealed Roads - Tobruk Street	Complete	Complete	Complete
Rural Sealed Roads - Villiers Street	Complete	Complete	Complete
Rural Sealed Roads - Sofala Street	Complete	Complete	Complete
Rural Sealed Roads - William Street	Complete	Complete	Complete
Rural Sealed Roads - View Street	Complete	Complete	Complete
Rural Sealed Roads - Red Hill Road	Complete	Complete	Complete
Portland Footpath Garden Beds	In progress	Materials Ordered & works in progress	Carry Over
Urban Footpath Renewal	Started	Works Completed - 50%	Carry Over
Wallerawang Drainage - Allison Close	Complete	Complete	Complete
Main Street - Stage 2	Commenced	Shade structures & bins installed/concept for banners & footpath surface complete	Ongoing

Slope Stability - Wolgan Road Embankment	Commenced	REF Complete	Carry Over
Bridge St, Tank St, Inch St	Complete	Complete	Complete
Pipers Flat Road Resealing	Complete	Complete	Complete
Windara PI cul de sac resealing	Complete	Complete	Complete
West Ridge Road Stormwater Drainage	Complete	Complete	Complete
Urban Kerb and Gutter Improvements	In progress	Works completed - 90%	30-Jun
Depot Improvements - Rear gate installation	Complete	Complete	Complete

The committee reviewed the progress of the capital works occurring in the LGA.

Clr Ring requested that the report be expanded and include construction updates. The Director of Infrastructure Services to speak with other area to include matters in future reports.

Clr McAndrew suggested to remove projects that are completed.

Council Transport Manager gave an brief overview of the progress of the Portland garden bed project. It was noted that existing trees have been removed and bed being concreted with new guards and grates to be installed. The project is expected to be completed by the end of the financial year.

The committee noted that the safety improvement works at the Lithgow Depot are completed.

## **ACTION**

THAT The committee note the progress update on the capital works in the LGA

**Moved:** Councillor R Thompson

**Seconded:** Councillor S Ring

**CARRIED:** Unanimously

## **5.2. Standing Item - Cullen Bullen Sewerage Scheme Update**

The Director of Water and Waste water gave an overview of the current progress of the Cullen Bullen Sewerage Scheme.

It was noted that the valuation of the land that Council are looking to acquire was undertaken by an independent valuer and a local real estate is undertaking negotiations with the resident on behalf of Council. Council will be able to go out to tender once the valuation / sale process is finalised.

The committees were advised that the EPA discharge licencing is still outstanding. It was also noted that Council may have to lodge a development application rather the complete works under the SEEP.

Discussions were also had in relation to the possibility of effluent irrigation and the process that was reported on in relation to connection residents and surveyor being engaged to undertake surveys of the area.

**ACTION**

**THAT** committee note the advice on the progress provided in relation to the Cullen Bullen Sewerage Scheme.

**MOVED:** Councillor R Thompson

**SECONDED:** Councillor S Ring

**CARRIED:** Unanimously

**5.3. Standing Item - Water and Sewer Infrastructure Update**

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The Director of Water and Waste Water provided a brief update to the committee in relation to the Water and Sewer Infrastructure. It was noted that due to COVID19 restriction and staff being out of the office, this has slowed the progress on the Asset Management System. The Director of Water and Waste Water advised that the 2020/2021 Budget plan has additional resources in the water and waste water section that would further assist in this project.

It was discussed that the detection services of the water mains expectant life span has not been undertaken due to COVID19 and that the experts are located in England. The alternate option would be to pot hole each section of the Main Street and remove samples of the pipe material and send away to be tested, which is a lengthy process and leave many patches in the road/footpath. It was discussed at looking into new technology and possibly partner up with Universities to assist with this project.

Clr R Thompson raised the matter of the new smart meeting. The Director of Water and Waste Water advised that administrations are currently experiencing problems with the integration of the new and the old systems. Manual entry is in progress to amend this issue. It was also noted that there is signal issues with lids particularly the steel ones which are being replaced with plastic lids.

The committee also raised the community concerns in relation to the billing. It was noted that as at the 30th June 2020 the bill for all residents will be issued quarterly.

Deanna entered the meeting at this point of the meeting (5:01pm)

**ACTION**

**THAT** the committee notes the advice provided in relation to the Water and Sewer Infrastructure update.

**MOVED:** Councillor S Ring

**SECONDED:** Councillor R Thompson

**CARRIED:** Unanimously

#### **5.4. 2019 / 2020 Capital Program**

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The Director of Infrastructure Services noted that this was an old report that the information is out of date. An amended report will be provided to the committee next week for their information.

The committee noted that the Wolgan Slope Stabilisation funding will be carried over the next financial year as the project has not been completed due to the recent bushfires and COVID19 restrictions.

It was noted that Council is expected to receive feedback in the next couple of weeks in relation to the section 44 claim (bushfire). The Director of Infrastructure Services advised that he has contacted relevant mid-level tiers of government to chase up the progress. It was also noted that the General Manager will be in contact with relevant premiers tomorrow and will also be putting in formal letters to Shane Fitzsimmons, OLG and the RFS to chase up funding.

Clr S Ring raised the Mayoral Minute that was presented to Council in January in relation to alternate access to the Wolgan Valley. It was noted that a report will be presented to the next meeting.

The committee would also like updates on the following;

- Slope stabilisation at Lithgow.
- Mapping of chitters fires and coal seams - update.
- Main risk around Macauley street. The Transport Manager advised that Council is expecting a report shortly from the contractors

#### **ACTION**

**THAT** the report on the status of the 2019/20 Capital Works Program be noted by the Committee.

**MOVED:** Councillor D Goodsell

**SECONDED:** Councillor S Ring

**CARRIED:** Unanimously

#### **5.5. Proposal - Partial Permanent Closure of Hassans Walls Road (Up to Lookout)**

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The Director of Infrastructure Services provided an overview of the proposal noting that this conversation has been started over recent feedback from residents during the recent closure of the road due to COVID19 restrictions.

The committee discussed the 3 options that administration have suggested within the report. It was noted that most traffic enters from the Rutherford Lane, this route also has TASAC (Tourist Attraction Signposting Assessment Committee) signage which should the route change Council would lose the benefit of the signage and it was advised that this signage is hard to get as there is a lot of criteria that must be met. Also having the traffic diverted this way encourages tourists to stop within town.

It was noted that option 1 had been trialed during the COVID19 restriction where a full road closure occurred, with only contractors accessing the area by vehicle to undertake works. The committee discussed trialing option two and seek feedback from the community.

The Director of Infrastructure Services advised that a cost analysis can be completed for the installation of temporary barriers and signage to trial option 2. A report will be presented to a future committee meeting.

**ACTION**

**THAT**

1. The Committee considers the strategic benefits of the options provided, with the view to maintain tourism interest and encourage an active local culture.
2. A detailed report be presented on option 2 with costing for a trial basis be presented to a future Council meeting.

**MOVED:** Councillor R Thompson

**SECONDED:** Councillor D Goodsell

**CARRIED:** Unanimously

**5.6. Grant Applications - Update**

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The committee reviewed the update on the recent Grant Application submitted and successful.

The Director of Infrastructure Services advised that committee that Round 2 of the Showground Stimulus Funding is open and Council will be submitting an application for the upgrade of the change room and facilities within the Ashley Grandstand.

It was noted that a memo was sent to all Councillors outlining information in relation to the Local Road and Community Infrastructure Program.

The Director of Infrastructure Service also advised the committee of a recent grant application lodged to the RFS to seek funding for Hazard Reduction (road side slashing) within the LGA. It was also noted that an application was lodged in relation to the Crane Road main extension project.

**ACTION**

**THAT** the Committee notes the information provided relating to current grant applications and funding opportunities.

**MOVED:** Councillor R Thompson

**SECONDED:** Councillor D Goodsell

**CARRIED:** Unanimously

## 5.7. LATE REPORT - Speed zone review - Great Western Highway

The Director of Infrastructure Services provided an overview of the report noting the correspondence from Transport for NSW in relation to a review of the speed limit increase to 90kms from McKanes Falls Road to Riverlett. It was noted that installation of crash barriers in the area could see a further increase to the speed limit in the area.

### RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council;

1. Support the proposal to increase speed limits along the Great Western Highway as outlined in the report; and
2. In its response to Transport for NSW , the administration request feedback of Council's request for further speed limit reviews between Lapstone and Marrangaroo.

<b>MOVED:</b> Councillor S Ring	<b>SECONDED:</b> Councillor R Thompson
<b>CARRIED:</b> Unanimously	

## 6. General Business

### Request - Palmers Oakey

Clr R Thompson advised that he received a call from resident from the Palmers Oakey Progress Association in relation to installing bollards to stop 4 Wheel Drives going down into the Turon. It was discussed that bollards will not be put in place.

### Famers Creek

It was advised that a letter was received from a resident in Bells Road wanting Council to re visit the Council Farmers Creek Master Plan urgently in relation to clearing the creek. The committee were advised that funding will be provided from the Water and Waste Water department to commence the process of remediation of the site with works expected to start in Bells Road and works west from that point.

### Bells Road

Clr S Lesslie asked for an update on the matter at 2 Bells Road. The Director of Infrastructure Services advised that funds have been provided to Council for a contractor to undertake capital works at the site. It was noted that the resident will be contacted and advise of the upcoming works.

### Woolnough Street

The committee were advised that works on Woolnough street have commenced and it is expected that the contractor will have a concrete slab poured on Friday with the culvert being installed shortly after.

### **Marjorie Jackson Oval**

Clr R Thompson asked about the fencing at Marjorie Jackson Oval. The Director of Infrastructure Services advised that the fencing contractor will be in the area next week to commence works noting that the COVID19 restrictions have held up this process.

### **Tony Luchetti Sportsground**

The committee noted that the recent vandalism of the pigeon netting has been repaired in the Ashley Grandstand. The Director of Infrastructure Services advised that administration is looking into installation of CCTV / security systems within the facility.

### **Old Pizza Hut Building - Great Western Highway**

The committee noted that the recently raised matter about vandalism occurring at the old Pizza Hut building and that the owners have been identified and that a letter has been drafted to sent to advise of the recent vandalism / unsightly premises and to seek information on plans for the building.

### **Williwa Creek Road**

The committee were advised that maintenance works is scheduled to commence on Monday to grade the road from the intersection to the Council boundary.

### **Pioneer Park - Refurbishment**

The Councillors raised that they had received an email from Lithgow Tidy Towns in relation to the recent notification of the Pioneer Park upgrades. It was noted that a grant application was submitted to improve the site and to keep in line with the revitalisation project. Clr W McAndrew advised that there is a plaque located in the park from the original parties who developed the site and Council may have an opportunity to seek external assistance from these parties in relation to the revitalisation of the site. Clr S Lesslie advised the committee that the tidy town association are a hardworking group and suggests that the General Manager meet with them.

### **Factory Lane, Lithgow**

Clr D Goodsell noted that there barricades at the top of Factory Lane (Wrights Road) have been removed and asked if they were going to be replaced. The Director of Infrastructure Services took this question on notice and advised that he will respond to committee members with a response after an investigation is undertaken.

### **Water Main Breaks**

The committee noted that there was a large water mains break over the long weekend period. The Director of Water and Waste Water advised that staff acted promptly to repair the main and noted that water trucks supplied water to business that were effected during this period.

### **Water Matter**

The Director of Water and Waste Water provided an update in relation to the water pooling around the property of Thales and Timberfix. Investigations have taken place with no solution found. Repairs works to the kerb may help to divert the water away from the area into the storm water inlets.

### **Schiedel Lane**

Clr W McAndrew raised the matter of Schiedel Lane. The Director of Infrastructure Services advised that a bitumen overlay is scheduled to be completed next week and that this is only a temporary solution prior to the mains being fixed.

### **Post Bushfire**

The Transport Manager advised the committee that Drone footage around the Macauley Street area and Wolgan Gap to assist with reporting on the slope stability. It was noted that many trees that are deemed dangerous , particular in the McKellars Park vicinity are located on private 'mining' land.

### **Rural Rest Stop / Camping Amenities**

A discussion was had on the rural rest stop/ camping amenities , particularly the cleaning process at Capertee / Glen Alice and Glen Davis. It was noted that there was also a blockage that had occurred over the long weekend period at the Capertee Rest stop.

### **Great Western Highway**

The General Manager advised that arrangements will be made with RMS (Transport NSW) to provide a briefing on the Great Western Highway upgrade. It was noted that a good forum for presentation would be the Councillor Information session as all Councillors and Senior Management attend.

## **7. Meeting Close**

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Next Meeting: Wednesday 1st July 2020 at 4:00pm in the Committee Room.

There being no further business the Chairperson declared the meeting closed at 06:30 pm.