



MINUTES

Operations Committee

held at

Council Administration Centre
Committee Room
180 Mort Street, Lithgow

on

Wednesday 2 September 2020

at 4:00 pm

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The Chairperson declared the meeting open at 04:08 pm.

1. Present

Mayor Councillor Ray Thompson (Chair)
Councillor Steven Ring
Councillor Deanna Goodsell

Officers:

Craig Butler - General Manager
Jonathon Edgecombe - Director Infrastructure Services
Daniel Buckens - Director Water and Waste Water
Lewis Bezzina - Transport Manager
David Anderson - Building and Recreation Facilities Manager

2. Apologies

Apologies: Councillor W McAndrew, Councillor J Smith

3. Confirmation of Minutes

The minutes of the Operations Committee Meeting held on Wednesday 5th August 2020 were presented and adopted at the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on Monday 24th August 2020.

ACTION

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

MOVED: Councillor S Ring

SECONDED: Councillor D Goodsell

4. Matters Arising from Previous Minutes

The Chair called for any matters arising from previous minutes.

There was no matters discussed in relation to the previous meeting minutes.

5. Declaration of Interest

The Chairperson called for any declarations of interest.

There were Nil declarations of interest.

6. Staff Reports

6.1. Standing Item - Cullen Bullen Sewerage Scheme Update

A verbal update was provided by the General Manager on the current progress of the land tenure. It was advised that the owners of the land were approached approximately 2 weeks ago with a revised offer for purchase with valuation of land including a fee for impact of having a STP located on preferred site. Council are currently awaiting a response from the owners in relation to the offer. It was noted that Council will also cover costing for transfer.

It was advised that once feedback is provide a formal report will be presented to a future Closed Confidential Ordinary Meeting of Council.

ACTION

THAT the committee notes the update on the progress of the Cullen Bullen Sewerage Scheme.

MOVED: Councillor D Goodsell

SECONDED: Councillor S Ring

CARRIED: Unanimously

6.2. Standing Item - Water and Sewer Infrastructure Update

The Director of Water and Waste Water provided a brief overview of the report.

The committee noted that the Council have received the extra receivers for the meters and are planned to be installed this week. A shipment is expected to arrive shortly with the oversized meters; this has been held up due to COVID and the supply being located in Victoria. It is expected that the smart meter installation program will be finalised by the end of this calendar year.

It was noted that the Water and Waste Water department are preparing a heat map of main breaks in the area. The issue currently is that there is not enough detail in the exact location and will need to drill down further to get close to as possible on the map but also looking at ways to improve the way staff report back on location.

The Director of Water and Waste Water advised the committee that the contractor who was contacted to undertake the condition assessment of the Main Street water pipes have the resources available in Australia which they have been trained to use. Council are planning to go ahead with the works but should be noted that expert team are located in Queensland and currently getting permits to cross the board to undertake works which are expected to commence in the next 4 to 6 weeks. It was noted that this is a condition assessment (life expectancy of the main) only not to map the water main network as Council would need to have an idea of where the mains run before undertaking the mapping of the network.

Clr Ring asked if the GPS location will be mapped in the in the new Asset Management System , which was confirmed by the Director of Water and Waste Water.

The Committee were advised that the Coalbrook Street / Stephenson Street project has been put on hold as Council are awaiting on confirmation of funding approval from the RFS. It was noted that administration staff have contacted RFS to follow up on the funding request.

It was advised that there is no timeframe at this point from Water NSW (Fish River) in relation to the replacement works of a section of pipe in Wallerawang.

The Committee members raised that recent water main burst at Marrangaroo. It was advised that the break occurred on the Great Western Highway and Reserve Road. Council engaged RMS to undertake traffic control near the area for works to be carried out safely.

It was also raised at the meeting about a section of road at Hughes Lane, with water effecting the new section of road. At first it was thought to be a Fish River main, but after further investigation it was discovered that it was caused from natural runoff and the area has been rectified.

The Director of Water and Waste Water advised that Council are currently remediating the site adjacent to the Wallerawang STP with materials being delivered. Council staff also have been consulting the property owner throughout the whole process.

ACTION

THAT the report be accepted as an update on water and wastewater infrastructure projects and issues.

MOVED: Councillor S Ring

SECONDED: Councillor D Goodsell

CARRIED: Unanimously

6.3. Review of Environmental Factors - Lake Wallace Reeds

The Director of Infrastructure Services provided a brief update on the report.

Council engaged a consultant to undertake an environmental assessment of the area of Lake Wallace prior to any environmental works being undertaken. Within the report it was noted that Lake Wallace has become an ecological habitat and therefore some works within the water body will require approval before works occur. There were a number of pertinent considerations raised such as the fact that Lake Wallace is home to a number of threatened species and the reeds do not attribute to the smell but are actually positive for the overall health of the water body. It was noted that the weeds ie Willow trees and blackberry are a factor to the smell of the lake as vegetative material falls into the reeds which then rots causing the smell.

It was noted that administration would like to consult with the community, particularly with the Progress Association, Lithgow Environmental group and the dragon boat users as well as the general public to further understand the needs and expectations of the community. Outcomes to be determined and a plan of management of the site to be created on the land that Council lease with long term strategy developed to target the future management of the facility.

The General Manager also provided comment on this matter, noting that he had recently visited the site to develop a better understanding of the facility.

ACTION

THAT

1. The Committee discuss the actions proposed within the report; and
2. In recognition of the broader interest in this matter beyond this Committee, a briefing of the full Council be scheduled.

MOVED: Councillor D Goodsell

SECONDED: Councillor S Ring

CARRIED: Unanimously

7. General Business

Clr R Thompson raised the rubbish collection at the Glen Davis Campground. The Director of Infrastructure Services advised that this matter has been discussed internally by management with ways of better managing this process in terms of managing waste assets in rural areas. Like Clarence Pirie Park there are an excessive amount of bins, which many may need to be removed to reduce residential waste being dumped in the area. It was noted that the cleaning contractor has also been engaged to discuss waste management in the area. It was advised that there is a transfer station in the area which is opened but is undergoing an upgrade. It was advised that there are plans to go out to community consultation about the campgrounds.

Clr R Thompson also raised the derelict buildings in the LGA (Old Pizza Hut & Old Portland Hospital). The Director of Infrastructure Services advised that there is little Council can do to improve the amenity if the building is safe. It was noted that a letter was sent to the owners of the Old Pizza Hut building but will draft a new letter for both owners of the above mentioned buildings to bring attention to the owners of the premises.

Clr D Goodsell raised the Hassans Walls Road project. The Director of Infrastructure Services advised that Council has in house expertise to investigate the options to apply to the site. Council has also purchased upgraded software (Traffic Management) to facilitate the investigation. It was noted that Council are looking at project feasibility at this stage and will bring a formal report to a future committee meeting (expected by the end of the year) for discussion.

Clr D Goodsell asked about the large pipes that are located near the golf club. The Director of Infrastructure Services advised that these pipes are a surplus should a second stage be required to further improve stormwater drainage in the area. The pipes recently laid have made a major improvement to stormwater flow in the area. Clr S Ring showed the committee photos of the Lithgow Golf Club with the recent rain fall showing the natural flood flow path.

The Building and Recreational Facilities Manager provided an update on the following:

- A report is expected to be presented to the next meeting of Council in relation to the location and disabled parking of Portland Touch Football Club House.

- The painting of the Union Theatre is nearing completion. The main lift has been installed and commissioned and the air conditioning unit that was purchased as part of the grant was installed last week.
- The shed at the Golf Club is having a re design to have an extension to cater for the golf club. Plans have been amended for Council development department to further assess.
- A quantity surveyors report has been sought for the Lake Pillans Board Walk, it is expected that a tender will be advertised soon.
- Aquatic Centre - Looking at using the bank to support more solar panels to be installed at the Centre.
- Staff also met with contractors about the new pump track planned for Endeavour Park.

8. Meeting Close

Next Meeting: Wednesday 7th October 2020 at 4:00pm in the Committee Room.

There being no further business the Chairperson declared the meeting closed at 04:50 pm.