



MINUTES

Operations Committee

held at

Council Administration Centre
Council Chambers
180 Mort Street, Lithgow

on

Wednesday 7 October 2020

at 4:00 pm

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The Chairperson declared the meeting open at 04:01 pm.

1. Present

Present:

Councillor W McAndrew	Chair
Councillor R Thompson	Mayor
Councillor D Goodsell	
Councillor S Ring	

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

Councillor J Smith

3. Confirmation of Minutes

The minutes of the Operations Committee Meeting were presented and endorsed by Council on Monday 28th September 2020.

ACTION

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

MOVED: Councillor R Thompson

SECONDED: Councillor S Ring

4. Matters Arising from Previous Minutes

The Chair called for any matters arising from previous minutes.

No matters raised from the previous minutes.

It was noted by Councillor McAndrew that the standing items for Cullen Bullen Sewerage Update and Water/Sewer Infrastructure Update were not included in this month's agenda. Administration apologised for the missing items and advised that these items will be on the November agenda.

5. Declaration of Interest

Nil

6. Staff Reports

6.1. Macauley Street Slope Stability Assessment 2020

Council Transport Manager gave an overview of the report provided and the committee reviewed the mapping of the Macauley Street Slope that was provided by the contractor of the slope assessment. It was noted that this assessment was undertaken after much concern was raised from both Council and residents after the bushfire and heavy rain event with notable changes in the slope with loss of vegetation and small landslides.

The map that was viewed showed the slope post bushfire event and the report completed noted that there is a total of 17 properties at risk (16 high risk & 1 extreme risk). The report also shows details photos and predictions of rock falls and history of rock falls in the area.

Costings have been sought for warning signage to be installed in the area. It was also advised that research showed land slips occurring in the 1920's and 1940's. It was discussed that Council may need to make note on sale certificates and possible restrictions on development and planning approvals in the area. It was advised that administration will put together a communication strategy to advise residents of the outcome of the report and consult to develop an action plan to mitigate the at risk properties.

It was advised that Council could have the mapping redone every 2 years to map any changes.

It was requested by the committee that a report be presented in relation to communicating to resident at the foot of the mountain.

ACTION

That a report be presented to the operations committee with form of communication process/strategy for residents at the foot of Mountain (Macauley Street)

MOVED: Councillor D Goodsell SECONDED: Councillor R Thompson

RECOMMENDATION

THAT

1. In acknowledgement of risk, approve the reallocation of funds commensurate with the financial implications by;
 - Deferring \$380,000 from Capital Works Program, for Ray Crescent Road Sealing, and;
 - Reallocating \$380,000 for Macauley Street slope risk mitigation.

MOVED: Councillor R Thompson

SECONDED: Councillor S Ring

CARRIED: Unanimously

6.2. Water for the Greenspot Site

The Director of Water and Waste Water provided an overview of the report advising that there has been a renegotiation with Fish River (Water NSW) agreeing to supply 100 mega litres per year over a 2 year period to the Greenspot site. It was noted that there is no available water licence in the upper Cox's River and Council were unable to provide water to the site under the town water licencing. The committee were advised that the new owner cannot extract water from Lake Wallace.

ACTION

THAT the Committee accepts the report as advice on the process Council is undertaking to provide a water supply to the Old Wallerawang Power Station.

MOVED: Councillor S Ring

SECONDED: Councillor R Thompson

CARRIED: Unanimously

6.3. Integrated Water Cycle Management Plan

The Director Water and Waste Water provided an overview of the report, noting that discussions were held between Council and Bettergrow with opportunity to use existing infrastructure for water security. It advised that there were 9 options and in consultation with Public Works, Council has reduced the shortlist down to 5 with these options to be further reduced to 2 based on estimated expectant life cycle and capital costing.

The committee discussed some of the options shortlisted in terms of water supply from Clarence to Wallerawang and being able to support industrial / commercial water supply, as Council are unable to do so with current town supply licencing. It was noted that the Water Treatment plant is due for upgrade in 2028 and Regional NSW looking to part fund projects to support industrial development in regional areas.

The General Manager suggested that this matter should become a standing item on the Operations Committee agenda to better understand the supply and security of water within the region.

ACTION

THAT the Committee accepts the report as an update on the IWCM development.

MOVED: Councillor S Ring

SECONDED: Councillor R Thompson

CARRIED: Unanimously

6.4. IPART Bulk Water Pricing for the Fish River Water Supply Scheme

The Director Water and Waste Water gave an overview of the report advising that every 4 years the bulk water pricing for fish river supply is reviewed and determined. It was noted that Water NSW wish to have the pricing determined every year. The issue with the determination every year is that the financials are not released until June and this would leave Council in a vulnerable position and risk implementing charges higher then we need or too low and run at a loss. With the 4 year price determination, Council can recover costs after the first year if required.

The Director Water and Waste Water advised the committee that Council will push for the 4 year plan, with a submission to be made to IPART in response to their report by 16th October 2020.

ACTION

THAT the Committee accepts the report on IPART Pricing process and that further reports be provided to the Committee as the review process progresses.

MOVED: Councillor R Thompson

SECONDED: Councillor D Goodsell

CARRIED: Unanimously

6.5. Monthly Project Update

The Director Infrastructure Services advised the committee of the new way of reporting on monthly project updates. This data is source from the internal reporting system "Pulse". It was noted that this information will be more fine-tuned in future reports. The committee reviewed the report provided.

The Cullen Bullen Sewerage project was raised it was noted that Council are still waiting on the land acquisition.

The Transport Manager advised that Fields Road in Little Hartley will be sealed next week.

ACTION

THAT the committee notes the update of the progress of the listed projects.

MOVED: Councillor S Ring

SECONDED: Councillor R Thompson

CARRIED: Unanimously

6.6. Progress of Staging NRL Games - Tony Luchetti Sportsground

The Director Infrastructure Services advised that Council have been successful in gaining grants , such as the Drought Communities & Showground Stimulus to upgrade the facilities , recently used for the installation of irrigation to the fields and for the current upgrade to the change room / amenity facilities.

It was discussed that the first step in attracting NRL games is to upgrade of the facility. Council is focusing on taking incremental steps and developing a long term plan for the facility / attracting NRL games to the area.

ACTION

THAT the committee note the progress of the upgrade works to the Tony Luchetti Facility to attract future NRL games.

MOVED: Councillor R Thompson

SECONDED: Councillor D Goodsell

CARRIED: Unanimously

7. General Business

Clr McAndrew raised the comment from the resident of Cullen Bullen in relation to the Columbarium constructed at the Cemetery noting that the residents are not happy with the colour as it does not match the original one. It was also asked if the project is completed. The Director Infrastructure Services noted the advice will investigate the matter.

It was noted that there was a large attendance of camping / caravans at Lake Wallace over the long weekend. The Building & Recreation Facilities Manager advised that extra portaloos were hired and strategically placed around the venue for the holiday period.

The committee also asked when the removal of the reeds and trees at Lake Wallace will occur. The Director of Infrastructure Services advised that quotes are currently being sought with a report to be presented to a future Operations/ Council meeting to request a revote of funds for the project.

Clr McAndrew also raised a safety issue of an opened stormwater pit at the Wallerawang Skate Park. The Building and Recreation Facilities Manager advised that he will investigate the matter.

The Director Infrastructure Services advised the committee that the Fixing Country Bridges application has been submitted today (7th October 2020). It was noted that a report will be presented to Council on the matter.

Clr R Thompson asked about the recent induction of Lithgow Golf Club volunteers. The Building and Recreation Facilities Manager explained that he has not met with the board for some time due to COVID19 but will create a list of jobs that can be undertaken by the volunteers.

It was raised that a local resident has contacted Council in relation to some vegetation clearing that occurred at Hassans Walls lookout noting that some orchids were removed. The Transport

Manager advised that he has spoken directly to the Customer and it was advised that emergency roads works had occurred in the area and some orchids were removed in this process.

It was noted that the next meeting is scheduled for 4th November 2020 but many Councillors will be unavailable. It was agreed that the next Operations Committee be held on 11th November 2020 at 4:00pm.

8. Meeting Close

Next Meeting: Wednesday 11th November 2020 at 4:00pm in the Committee Room

There being no further business the Chairperson declared the meeting closed at 05:37 pm.