



# DRAFT MINUTES

Operations Committee

held at

Council Administration Centre  
Committee Room  
180 Mort Street, Lithgow

on

Wednesday 3 March 2021

at 4:00 PM

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# ORDER OF BUSINESS

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The Chairperson declared the meeting open at 04:03 pm.

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## **1. Present**

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Mayor Councillor Ray Thompson - Chair  
Councillor Deanna Goodsell

Officers:

Craig Butler - General Manager  
Daniel Buckens - Director Water and Waste Water  
Michael McGrath - Director People & Services  
David Anderson - Building and Recreations Facility Manager  
Matthew Johnson - Community & Culture Manager  
Nigel Campbell - Waste & Recycling Manager

## **2. Apologies**

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Clr Wayne McAndrew  
Clr Joe Smith  
Clr Steve Ring

Jonathon Edgecombe - Director Infrastructure Services  
Lewis Bezzina - Transport Manager

## **3. Confirmation of Minutes**

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The minutes of the Operations Committee held on 11th February 2021 were presented to Council on Monday 22nd February 2021.

### **ACTION**

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

**MOVED:** Clr R Thompson

**SECONDED:** Clr D Goodsell

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

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The Chair called for any matters arising from previous minutes.

No matters were raised.

## **5. Declaration of Interest**

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## **6. Staff Reports**

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## 6.1. Standing Item - Water & Sewer Infrastructure Update

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The Director of Water and Waste Water advised the committee that no written report was provided due to the water issues that occurred.

The committee were advised that water was being fed to the villages but the reservoirs were not filling up as quick as they were being drained. An investigation occurred and a team from Sydney came up but no issues were found. However staff identified 2 matters and rectified these but the reservoir still declined.

It was noted that on Thursday the reservoirs did start to refill but calls were being received from Marrangaroo residents and high areas advising of no water. From Friday afternoon water was being supplied by Lithgow then on Saturday was supplied by fish river. It was identified that a valve was recording that it was open however it was closed. The Valve was manually opened resolving the issue, however the water quality has only worsen with the supply from fish river. The committee were advised that Lithgow will supply the villages from tomorrow ( Thursday) and this should improve the quality within the week. It was noted that the water quality of the dam ( fish river) is not good and is not expected to be improved until May 2021.

Clr R Thompson asked if the administration could issue a media release to that effect to advise residents of what has occurred in relation to the valve matter / water outages. The Director of Water and Waste Water advised the committee that a broader communication piece has been put together and will be issued next week spelling out the issues that have occurred including water quality issues.

### **ACTION**

**THAT** the committee notes the update provided on Water and Sewer Infrastructure

**MOVED:** Clr D Goodsell

**SECONDED:** Clr R Thompson

**CARRIED:** Unanimously

## 6.2. Standing Item - Cullen Bullen STP

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The committee were advised that the timeline has been reviewed and will be revised. An update on the timeline will be provided by way of email.

A contract is currently being drafted with solicitor / property manager and GHD are working with the water engineer to get keep the process on track and once the acquisition is completed, Council will go out to consult the community and a draft design will go out for tender once the environmental report is completed.

### **ACTION**

**THAT** the information on the Cullen Bullen Sewer Treatment Plant be noted and a update on the timeline be emailed to members

**MOVED:** Clr R Thompson

**SECONDED:** Clr D Goodsell

**CARRIED:** Unanimously

### **6.3. Standing Item - Integrated Water Cycle Management Plan**

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It was agreed that a formal report be brought back to the next meeting.

#### **ACTION**

**THAT** a report be presented to the next committee meeting.

**MOVED:** Cllr D Goodsell

**SECONDED:** Cllr R Thompson

**CARRIED:** Unanimously

### **6.4. Water Security in LGA**

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It was agreed that a formal report be brought back to the next meeting.

#### **ACTION**

**THAT** a report be presented to the next committee meeting.

**MOVED:** Councillor D Goodsell

**SECONDED:** Councillor R Thompson

**CARRIED:** Unanimously

### **6.5. Standing Item - Monthly Project Update**

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The Committee reviewed the report.

It was confirmed by the Director of Water and Waste Water that the Tweed Mill Project is on track and close to being finalised. The Committee were advised that a retro fit out of the old pump station has taken place with Council still utilizing the old station to cater the South Bowenfels sewer upgrade.

The Community & Culture Manager also advised the committee the library awning is now back on track since being deferred with plans for commencement in the new financial year with DA approval. It was also confirmed that the carpark at the Adventure Playground ( Endeavour Park ) will be carried out in line with the pump track with further information to be sought and provided to members if bitumen will be laid in winter for the track as it is dependent on ground temperature whether or not bitumen can be laid.

**ACTION**

**THAT** the committee note the progress of the projects.

**MOVED:** Councillor D Goodsell

**SECONDED:** Councillor R Thompson

**CARRIED:** Unanimously

**6.6. Update - Bushfire Recovery Grant for Farmers Creek Masterplan Implementation**

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The Community & Culture Manager advised the committee that Council has received a grant for the Farmers Creek Corridor for shared pathways to attract visitors and promote activeness in the community. It was noted that a total of \$600,000 was granted for pathways and \$180,000 for weed works along the creek. Administration has also put in a budget bid for further funding for creek works.

The committee reviewed the maps to gain an understanding the extent of the works and how far and where the footpath with connect.

The committee also raised the footpath matter at Wallerawang along the bridge / Barton Ave / Pipers Flat. The Director of Water and Waste Water advised that Sydney water is expected to carry out footpath works and are due to commence on the 8th March.

The Building and Recreation Facilities Manager advised that this is a real managed project, if the trees are removed they don't actually remove the stumps until regeneration occurs to stabilize the banks therefore the erosion facto is controlled. Council still continues to consult with residents about the ongoing works in the area.

**ACTION**

**THAT** the committee notes the information provided on the Bushfire Local Economies Recovery Funding for Farmers Creek.

**MOVED:** Councillor D Goodsell

**SECONDED:** Councillor R Thompson

**CARRIED:** Unanimously

## **6.7. Mowing Schedule in LGA**

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The committee reviewed the report. The Building & Recreation Facilities Manager advised that Corrective Services would assist with mowing in the warmer months for Council , however since the COVID 19 outbreak have been unable to assist. Contractors have been engaged to carry out and assist with maintenance works. Clr D Goodsell noted that it takes 2 staff to carry out rubbish collections and asked if this is something that can be taken over by the cleaners when the new contract commences. It was advised that this is being investigated into. The Building and Recreation Facilities Manager advised that employing more staff is an option however there is no funding to support this but a business case has been submitted and being looked into and will be report to Council.

It was also advised that the recent irrigation works have reduce the labour required to watering the sporting grounds freeing staff to undertake other maintenance work required. It is written within a policy that the nature strip at the front of a residential property is up to the resident to maintain , however Council will undertake maintenance on behalf of those with a disability or elderly residents. The General Manager suggested that administration revisit the policy.

The Building and Recreation Facilities Manager advised that staff still continue to carry out maintenance in the winter season.

### **ACTION**

**THAT** the committee notes the mowing schedule within the LGA.

**MOVED:** Councillor R Thompson

**SECONDED:** Councillor D Goodsell

**CARRIED:** Unanimously

## **6.8. Bins at Clarence Pirie Park, Capertee**

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The Waste & Recycling Manager provided background to the committee and noted the issues that have been occurring at the site with the regular overflow of bins. It was advised that a large number of bins were removed and signage installed to deter this from occurring as it is believed that it is not just travelers waste but general household waste. The committee were also advised that services over the holiday periods have increased and a large skip bin was also placed but this is not the best option for recycling purposes.

Management have discussed installing cameras to manage the use of the area in relation to waste. It was noted that there are many different cameras that can be installed that have different lenses ie to capture number plates. It would be dependent on how much regulation will be enforced by Council which will determine what type of camera is placed.

## RECOMMENDATION

### THAT Council:

1. Install an additional 12 bins to cater to overflow from genuine park users and the travelling community,
2. Install solar-powered CCTV in the area to act as a deterrent and enforcement tool,
3. Install appropriate signage to increase awareness of acceptable use and remote site monitoring, and
4. Continue to monitor the site, reporting any future requirements for change to the Operations Committee.

**MOVED:** Councillor R Thompson

**SECONDED:** Councillor D Goodsell

**CARRIED:** Unanimously

## 7. General Business

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Items raised by Cllr Deanna Goodsell

- **Hassan's Walls one Way - will this now be considered in conjunction with the mountain bike tracks and the Hassan's Walls plan of Management**

Cllr D Goodsell noted that this matter was raised when the COVID19 pandemic hit and a road closure was implemented. It was advised at the time it was raised that administration were investigating the possibility of changes to consider several options but no report has been provided since. It was requested information be sought from the Director Infrastructure Services and provide report back to the committee.

- **An update on the road to Bracey's Lookout. I brought this up in November also. Letter from resident asking the same at Council meeting public forum last Monday.**

Cllr D Goodsell raised this items as it was reported to Operations Committee in November but also a letter has been received from a resident at the recent Council meeting. It was noted that the road is deplorable and no signage to state it's a no through road. It was requested a report be brought back to the next meeting with information on the matter.

- **Review of assets (green spaces, parks, open spaces, play equipment) Cllr Coleman stated at the council meeting that she had asked for this information on many occasions??**

The committee were advised that the Director Infrastructure Services has planned for the Asset Management System / Schedule be presented at a Councillor Information session.



Clr Goodsell also advised that she has had a request for a community group to maintain the Coal Miner at the rotary park. The Building and Recreation Facilities Manager requested that the community group contact him to communicate what they are after and will assist with providing an approval / induction if required.

Clr R Thompson congratulated staff on effort at the Lithgow Tip. The Waste & Recycling Manager provided a brief update on the works and ongoing projects at the waste facility noting that contract for the resource recovery center is currently in the process of being signed and will be presented to the General Manager shortly , just currently waiting on construction approval from the internal planning and development team. It was noted that once the certificate has been issued and documents signed construction will commence 3 weeks after that. The CRC will be a part of this project and will look after waste (EPA Funded ) in terms of annual house hold clean up and will continue all year round rather than on an annual basis.

## **8. Meeting Close**

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Next Meeting: Wednesday 7th April 2021 at 4:00pm in the Committee Room

There being no further business the Chairperson declared the meeting closed at 04:48 pm.