

1. Attendance and Apologies

Cr David Wright (Mayor) (Chair)
Cr Paul Worth
Cr Keith Johnson

Mary Birch - Wollongbar Progress Association
Elva Fitzell – Alstonville Rotary Club
Ina le Bas – Alstonville Plateau Historical Society
Malcolm Johnson – Ballina Environment Society
Wayne Garrard – Alstonville Cricket Club
Lois Wright – Plateau Seniors
Eoin Johnston - Rous Mill Ratepayers
Pat Carney, Wardell Progress Association
Jane Gardiner – Alstonville Plateau Historical Society
Richard Lutze – Combined Services Club (Apex)

Staff in Attendance

Rod Willis – Group Manager Development and Environmental Health

Apologies

Cr Ben Smith
Katherine Buckley – Alstonville Community Preschool
Narelle Walker – Alstonville Community Preschool
Allan Hart – Rotary Club of Ballina on Richmond
Les Wiles – Alstonville Lions Club

The apologies were accepted.

2. Declarations of Interest

Nil

3. Confirmation of Minutes 13 November 2014

That the minutes of the previous meeting held on 13 November 2014 be amended to show that Agenda Item 7(d) was raised by Mary Birch and not Lois Wright. Subject to the amendment, the Minutes were accepted as a true and correct record. (Mary Birch/Ina Le Bas)

4. Business arising from Minutes – 13 November 2014

(a) “No Right Turn” sign – Main Street, Alstonville

It was clarified by the Committee that the traffic sign in question was the “No Right Turn” sign on the northern side of the intersection facing traffic travelling from Ballina.

The Council’s response was noted.

(b) Metal Handrails over culverts on Old Bruxner Highway near playing fields in Alstonville

Council's advice about the replacement of the railings and the commencement of the work was noted. The Committee thanked the Council Civil Services Group for its actions.

(c) Road Safety Officer visit to Maranoa – Presentation on Road Safety

Lois Wright confirmed the visit and presentation by Council's Road Safety Officer, Jodie Hewitt to the Alstonville Uniting Church. Jodie's presentation was excellent and very much appreciated.

(d) Damage to Tintenbar Oval Pavillion

The advice provided in the agenda was noted.

(e) Sight Distance Problem, 300 m south of the Rous Mill intersection on Dalwood Road – Vegetation

Council's maintenance mowing was noted and Eoin Johnston thanked the Council staff for their response.

(f) Fallen Tree in Bullwinkle Park, Alstonville

Council's removal of the fallen tree was appreciated.

5. Council Documents on Exhibition

The list of Council documents which have recently been exhibited for public comment was noted.

6. Items raised by members of the Committee

(a) Jane Gardiner - Alstonville Plateau Historical Society - On-going vandalism at Crawford House Museum and Council's quick response to requests for help

Jane Gardiner, on behalf of the Alstonville Plateau Historical Society, thanked the Council staff for the prompt response to repairing damage.

(b) Malcolm Johnson - Sale of Kays Lane Tennis Club Site

Malcolm Johnson explained the mis-communication about the sale of the tennis courts and retention of the RFS facility. Council's advice that the RFS was to be retained was accepted and noted.

7. General Business

(a) Lois Wright – Seats

Lois asked about the availability of the restored seats that had previously been made by Alstonville High School and placed in the Main Street. The Committee was reminded that this matter had previously been raised and answered. All restored seats had been allocated.

(b) Graffiti

It was raised that the seat and trees on the walkway to Russellton at the top of the hill have been graffitied. The Committee has asked Council's maintenance staff to check.

(c) Bullwinkle Park

Malcolm Johnson asked the Committee to thank James Brideson for the work carried out in quick response at Bullwinkle Park.

(d) Better Boating Fund

Pat Carney asked about the Better Boating Fund and Council's identified priorities for work.

The Mayor outlined the Council's position advising that about 11 projects had been identified and that Keith Hall boat ramp was No. 1 priority.

(e) Wardell – State Election – Meet the Candidates Night

Pat Carney invited all interested people to attend the Wardell Meet the Candidates Night.

(f) Proposed Rate Increase for Swimming Pool Refurbishment

Eoin Johnston enquired about the proposed rate rise and intended program.

The Mayor advised that a decision would be made by IPART in May.

(g) Parking Sight Distance – Cnr Daley Street and Wardell Road, Alstonville

Wayne Garrard raised that cars parking legally, but close to the intersection in Wardell Road were creating a safety problem. The Committee has requested the Council to check the sight distances for the designated parking spaces on both sides of Wardell Road.

(h) Alstonville Swimming Pool Refurbishment

Eoin Johnston asked whether there was sufficient space available in the Alstonville Swimming Pool grounds for the planned pool refurbishment and whether or not there would be noise issues for the planned Alstonville Preschool.

The Mayor advised that there was room for the planned facility and that the development assessments for the pool would assess potential noise disturbance issues.

(i) Alstonville Blue Light Disco for Youth

Elva Fitzell advised the Committee that Rotary, in association with Viewpoint 2477 Security, would be hosting four Blue Light Discos in Alstonville for youth of the broader area.

(j) 150th Anniversary of Alstonville

Ina le Bas reported on the Alstonville Plateau Historical Society arrangements for the celebration of Alstonville's 150th year. The celebration dinner is scheduled for 5 September.

(k) Wollongbar Sports Fields

Malcolm Johnson asked about the construction program for the Wollongbar Sports Fields.

The Mayor advised that they were close to commencing following the refinement and amendment of the plans.

(l) Ballina Indoor Sports Complex

Malcolm Johnson asked about the future of the Ballina Indoor Sports Complex project and whether it might be co-located with the Government's proposed new Ballina School.

The Mayor advised that co-location would not likely be possible due to competing interests and location/siting restrictions.

(m) World War 1 – Heritage Item Exhibition

Jane Gardiner advised that the Alstonville Plateau Historical Society had scheduled its WW1 exhibition for 28 March 2015, the State Election date.

8. Next Meeting

Thursday 14 May 2015 at 5.00 pm

MEETING CLOSURE

6.00 pm