

1. **Attendance and Apologies**

Cr Ken Johnson  
George Young  
Pamela Steele

2. **Resignation and Change of Members**

**Ballina CWA**

The Ballina CWA has advised that Mrs Jeanette Kennedy is no longer able to fill her position on the A Ward Committee. The new President, Mrs Lyn Davidson, is her replacement.

**Ballina Bears Cricket Club**

Boyd Lancashire has advised that he is no longer able to fill his position on the A Ward Committee. The Club has nominated Mr Steven Wills as his replacement.

Boyd has provided the following comments to the Committee in his resignation notice: *"I have enjoyed my involvement with the Ward A meetings have felt it is a great opportunity for clubs such as ours to have a word at the council and local community. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank the other members and the councillors and staff that are involved with this great initiative."*

3. **Declarations of Interest**

4. **Deputations**

5. **Confirmation of Minutes – 10 March, 2015**

A copy of the minutes of the previous meeting held 10 March, 2015 were distributed.

**RECOMMENDATION**

That the minutes of the previous meeting held on 10 March, 2015 be accepted as a true and correct record.

6. **Amendment to Minutes – 10 March, 2015**

**Signage on Road Reserves**

The following information is provided as clarification to the advice provided to the meeting on 10 March 2015.

The Electoral Act prohibits advertising on public or private lands without the approval of the land owners.

Ballina Council does not normally give approval for advertising on public places during elections. All candidates in elections are contacted leading into an election advising them of the Electoral Act restrictions, that the Council does not normally approve signs on land under its control, and requesting their assistance to observe this. The Council rangers impound signs placed on public land without approval. During the last election three candidates were fined for persistent placing of signs on public lands without approval.

This approach has now been in place for a number of elections (Federal, State and Local) and has contributed to a reduction in litter left across the Shire during and after elections.

## **7. Business arising from Minutes – 10 March, 2015**

### *Tweed Street*

The potholes at the end of Tweed Street were repaired on 8 April 2015.

In relation to the request for sealing of Tweed Street, a report was prepared for the Finance Committee meeting held 16 April 2015, The following is a copy of that item for the information of the Committee.

#### *1. Cost of completing the sealing of Tweed Street, Ballina.*

This request for information was in response to representations from Mr George Young to the A Ward Committee meeting held 10 March 2015. Mr Young has also written to Council highlighting his concerns in regards to the road condition in Tweed Street and a copy of his correspondence is attachment one to this report.

Council's technical officers advise that the scope of works required to address these concerns are:

- The road will need reshaping and the placement of a layer of shale at a minimum depth of 150mm.
- Drainage works on the western side are required to allow the water from the road surface to be directed toward the river.
- The application of an asphaltic concrete wearing surface. An asphalt surface is recommended at this location due to the cul de sac shape will mean turning vehicles.

The cost to undertake the above works is estimated to be \$25,000. This amount can be reduced by \$3,500 if a bituminous spray seal is used in lieu of asphaltic concrete.

The March Finance committee considered a recommended list of road reconstruction projects for 2015/16. These are reproduced as follows.

<b>Road Reconstruction</b>	<b>Amount (\$)</b>
Angels Beach Drive (Regional Road Program)	171,000
Angels Beach Drive (Roads to Recovery)	174,000
Uralba Road	300,000
Pimlico Road	297,000
Midgen Flat Road	205,000
Grant Street	360,000
Fox Street	281,000
Marom Creek Road	270,000
Houghlahans Creek Road	357,000
Marsh Avenue	185,000
Cawarra Street	286,000
Wardell Road	228,000
Teven Road	220,000

The scale of these projects does not allow a direct substitute to be suggested. These projects are derived from Council's road rehabilitation program, meaning they are asset renewals.

As previously reported to Council in a number of financial reports and information in response to the NSW Government's Fit for the Future program, reducing the amount of the infrastructure backlog through asset renewal is considered essential for improving the long term financial sustainability of councils.

The previous report to the Finance Committee also provided a list of nine footpath and shared path projects for a program with a total budget allocation of \$308,000. This list is reproduced in item two of this report. These projects are generally of a similar scale to the cost estimate for this request.

The priority for the footpath projects are derived from Council's Pedestrian Access and Mobility Plan (PAMP). This program has been successful in improving the safety and amenity of residents.

To accommodate the funds required for the Boating Now program, the recommendation to the last Committee, which was supported by Council, was to reduce the footpath program by \$100,000 over the next three years. In light of this reduction, some projects were deferred outside of the four year period. Having regard to the objectives of the PAMP and the reduced funding to this program, it is not recommended that Council make a further reduction to the footpath program.

The other alternative option is to use road maintenance funds for this project. While the budget for road maintenance is a significant allocation, increasing expenses, increasing demands for service, weather conditions and so forth make this budget a challenging one for Council to manage annually. It is also noted that for 2015/16 Council has not been able to increase this funding allocation by the preferred inflation amount.

For these reasons, this option is also not preferred. However, it is suggested to Council that the above works do have merit and therefore the recommendation to this report suggests this be the preferred funding source if during the course of the year staff are able to identify program savings.

In response to this report Council has resolved:

*That Council notes the contents of this report in respect to the cost of completing the sealing of Tweed Street, Ballina. Council also provides in principle support to upgrade Tweed Street, Ballina and requests the General Manager to monitor the Road Maintenance budget in 2015/16 and resubmit this item for Council's consideration in the event savings are identified during the year.*

Bus Stop – Sunnybank Road

Staff have advised that the grass has been mown. The road and the cycleway are in a fair condition.

Canal Road Market Area - Mowing

Staff advise that the area is always mown for the Markets, it maybe that mowing had been washed out on due dates as the area can get very wet and cannot be mown at various times. Staff have also advised that they will continue mow the area prior to the market days.

Entrance to East Ballina Cemetery

The potholes at the entrance to the East Ballina Cemetery were repaired on 8 April 2015.

Signage at Sunnybank Road & Boatharbour Road

The bicycle markings on Sunnybank Road and Boatharbour Road were provided as part of the NSW Coastal Cycleway Program to designate the route of the cycleway. They do not, and are not intended to designate bicycle only lanes.

“Austroads Guide to Road Design Part 3: Geometric Design” is the recognised standard for road design and advises that the sharing of lanes by motorists and cyclists is appropriate in speed zones of 70 km/h or less, where parking is minimal and there is sufficient width to allow cyclists to travel beside the main traffic stream and permit motorists to overtake cyclists without having to effectively change lanes.

Given the low volume of cars and bicycles on Sunnybank Road and Boatharbour Road, prohibition of parking to provided dedicated bicycle lanes is not considered to be warranted.

Council is currently developing a Draft Bike Plan. The plan has involved a comprehensive review of all shared paths and on-road cycleways to improve path connectivity for cyclists across the shire. As part of the review we have identified path issues and solutions for improving the provision of on-road cycle facilities to ensure they meet appropriate standards and to ensure our paths are safe and pleasant to use. The on-road cycleway at this location will be considered as part of that review.

#### Howard Crescent/Riverside Drive

Staff advise that they have sprayed the weeds around the hydrant.

#### Embankment – River Drive

Future embankment protection works along River Drive is currently on the protection works list along with a number of other locations. Due to budget constraints these works will be addressed incrementally as funds are available and in line with their relative priority.

At this stage we anticipate further foreshore protection works to River Drive will be carried out next financial year.

#### Floodgates

Two flood gates in this area have been identified and inspected at high and low tides.

The flood gate located on the culvert pipe to the outlet of the open drain to the west of Burns Point Ferry is in operational condition and appears to be functioning correctly. The embankment at this headwall has also recently been repaired.

The flood gate located within the stormwater pit to the north of Burns Point Ferry Road is also in operational condition and again appears to be functioning correctly.

#### Ferry Capacity

In response to the concerns that the ferry travels too slowly and does not load to full capacity, Council has commenced the collection of ferry patronage data during peak hours. A summary of this data is available in table 1 and table 2 below.

*Table 1 Ferry Patronage Data*

<b>Date</b>	<b>Peak (AM 7 - 9, PM 4 - 6)</b>	<b>Total Number of Vehicles</b>	<b>Total Number of Trips</b>	<b>Trips w. space on ferry</b>	<b>Trips w. Vehicle/s left behind</b>	<b>Recorded Hours</b>	<b>Average Trips per Hour</b>
27Apr	PM	109	31	31	0	2	15.5
28Apr	AM	107	15	15	0	2	7.5
28Apr	PM	91	21	21	0	2	10.5
29Apr	AM	93	25	25	0	2	12.5
29Apr	PM	74	20	20	0	2	10
30Apr	AM	94	23	23	0	2	11.5
30Apr	PM	65	23	23	0	2	11.5
1May	AM	70	23	23	0	2	11.5
1May	PM	67	24	24	0	2	12
2May	AM	60	29	29	0	2	14.5
2May	PM	72	25	25	0	2	12.5
3May	AM	-	-	-	-	-	-
3May	PM	20	7	7	0	1	7
4May	AM	120	29	29	0	2	14.5

*Table 2 Weekly Ferry Patronage Data Summary*

<b>Operating Week</b>	<b>Total Number of Vehicle s</b>	<b>Number of Trips</b>	<b>Trips w. space on ferry</b>	<b>Trips w. Vehicle/s left behind</b>	<b>Recorded Hours</b>	<b>AVG Trips / Hour</b>
27Apr PM to 04May AM	1042	295	295	0	25	11.8

The above information shows to date the ferry has made 295 trips during the recorded peak hours in 25 recorded hours. The ferry averaged 11.8 crossings per hour, with a high of 15.5, which is considered the maximum crossing rate that the ferry can realistically achieve. The number of crossings per hour appears to be governed by demand with periods of lower total number of vehicles also resulting in lower average crossing rate. Therefore, on this sample, there is no evidence to support the claim that the ferry is operated at speeds that are inconsistent or less than optimum.

During the recording period, there has not been a trip made with the ferry completely full, however there has also not been a trip made with a customer left behind. On this sample there is no evidence that not loading to capacity is causing an unnecessary delay to customers.

It is also proposed to provide the Committee with the data collected in the week 4 to 10 May 2015.

**8. General Business**

**9. Council Documents on Exhibition**

The following is a list of recent documents that have been placed on exhibition in the period since the last meeting:

- **Policy – Temporary Storage Containers on Community Land – closing date 25 March 2015**

This is a new policy endorsed by Council.

Shipping containers are currently being used by sporting and community groups as a cost effective way to store equipment on Council managed community land. There has been an increase in the number of containers used in recent years, often without approval from Council. While the containers are effective for clubs, the containers can also have an impact on the amenity, presentation and safety of our public spaces.

The policy aims to recognise the benefits temporary storage containers provide to sporting and community groups and to provide a clear framework to both clubs and Council regarding how these units are to be managed.

Following the closure of the exhibition period and the receipt of one submission, this policy was adopted by Council at its meeting on 23 April 2015.

- **Ballina Local Environmental Plan 2012 – Planning Proposal BSCPP 14/009 – Ballina Heights Estate – closing date 27 March 2015**

Council has prepared a planning proposal to undertake adjustments to the zoning and associated land use provisions in the area of the Ballina Heights Estate, Cumbalum. These amendments are intended to ensure the zoning and its associated planning provisions align with actual or intended land uses on land within the Ballina Heights Estate and are consistent with the subdivision approvals previously granted by Council.

The proposal includes the following amendments:

- Minor adjustments to zone boundaries to reflect recent newly registered cadastral boundaries.
- Application of the RE1 Public Recreation zone to areas of public reserve recently dedicated to Council.
- Adjustments to the areas of R3 Medium Density Residential and R2 Low Density Residential zones to reflect the intended land use outcomes of recently released stages of the Ballina Heights subdivision.

Council has been given delegation to undertake the processes for finalisation of this planning proposal (should it proceed to completion).

- **Policy – Liquid Trade Waste – closing date 8 April 2015**

Council first adopted its Liquid Trade Waste Policy in 2006. The current version of the Liquid Trade Waste Policy was adopted in August 2011, and is required to be reviewed every four years to ensure it continues to reflect contemporary practices and legislative requirements.

A new revision has been developed. The changes are considered to be relatively minor. A number of factsheets are also being developed which are referenced in the revised Trade Waste policy. These will make it easier for the community to understand Trade Waste requirements and the revised policy.

- **Policy – Donations – Waste Disposal Fees for Not-for-Profit Disposal of Feral Orphan Animals (New Policy) – closing date 8 April 2015**

This policy has been developed to assist local veterinary practices to continue to manage the humane treatment and disposal of pest animals and wildlife by a way of an introduced waste disposal subsidy.

- **Policy – Urban Vegetation and Tree Management on Public Land – closing date 8 April 2015**

This is a review of the Urban Vegetation and Tree Management on Public Land policy which was first adopted in August 2010.

The review of this policy provided an opportunity to update legislative changes and make amendments to reflect contemporary practices as well as make significant improvements on how the content of the previous policy was presented.

Feedback from both the community and staff members highlighted that the former 27 page policy was focused on technical data, which was found to be confusing and containing unnecessary information. The new policy is an updated 10 page document and a supporting fact sheet, enabling the community to have a greater understanding of the policy.

The policy content has been edited with input from Council's insurer, consulting arborists, internal staff as well as desktop reviews of other Councils tree policies to ensure current best practice in urban vegetation management.

- **Community Land Lease Proposal – Hill Park Oval – closing date 22 May 2015**

Ballina Shire Council is proposing to enter into a Lease Agreement for occupation of part of the land known as Hill Park Oval which is on land classified under the Local Government Act 1993 ("the Act") as 'community' land. The details are as follows:



Organisation	Location of Property	Purpose	Term of Lease Years
Wollongbar Community Pre School Inc	5 Hall Court, Wollongbar Lot 7 in DP 778746 and Part Lot 41 in DP 262013 (Proposed lot 266 on plan below)	Community Pre School	10

As the land on which the Wollongbar Community Pre School Inc operates is classified as Community Land, in accordance with the provisions of Section 47 of the Local Government Act, interested persons are invited to make a submission with respect to the granting of the Lease Agreement.

**Documents soon to be exhibited**

- **2015/16 Fees and Charges**
- **2015/16 to 2018/19 Delivery Program and Operational Plan**
- **Playground Upgrade Plan – closing date 3 June 2015**

Council currently manages 47 playgrounds in accordance with relevant Australian Standards and has previously managed the provision of playgrounds through the adopted 2007 Playground Equipment and Installation Program and draft 2013 Playground Upgrade and Improvement Program.

The draft 2015 Playground Upgrade Plan has been developed following an assessment of the progress to implement the previous plans and information contained in a recent audit of our playground assets. The revised plan aims to clearly highlight the adopted hierarchy and playground catchment area, ensure the community has reasonable access to quality playgrounds and provide a framework for the upgrade and replacement of equipment.

- **Policy (Review) – Backyard Burning**

The review of this policy has identified only minor changes as outlined below:

- The deletion of some words to improve readability.
- An addition of a Clause reference from the Protection of the Environment Operations (Clean Air) Regulation 2010 to ensure consistency throughout the document.
- Correcting the title of the Animal Diseases and Animal Pests (Emergency Outbreaks) Act 1991.
- Correcting the name of Council's Development and Environmental Health Group.

- Including an additional reason for people to call Council's after hours, namely that fire is causing a serious risk to the environment such as air quality.
- Amending the Backyard Burning Restricted Area maps so they contain relevant and up to date mapping information such as, property boundaries and street names.
- Consideration was given to including Gilmore Close, Wollongbar and Fig Tree Hill Estate, Lennox Head in the backyard burning restricted area maps.

These areas would be considered closely settled with the potential to have an adverse impact on neighbouring residents should backyard burning be carried out in an unsatisfactory manner. However they are large rural allotments ranging from approximately 2000m<sup>2</sup> to 9000m<sup>2</sup> in size and there is no history of backyard burning complaints from these areas.

In addition, consideration was also given to including Sanctuary Village at Ross Lane, Lennox Head in the Restricted Area Maps due to the closely settled nature of the site.

However the decision was made to monitor complaints from the abovementioned areas and assess the circumstances at the next Policy review.

#### **10. Next Meeting**

The next regular meeting is scheduled to be held on Tuesday, 14 July, 2015 at 4.00 pm.