

1. Attendance and Apologies

Cr Ben Smith (Chair)
Cr Paul Worth

Belinda Cordery – Alstonville/Wollongbar Chamber of Commerce
Debbie Chapman – Alstonville/Wollongbar Chamber of Commerce
Eoin Johnston - Rous Mill Ratepayers
Geoff Limbert – Alstonville & District Citizens & Ratepayers Association Inc
Ina le Bas – Alstonville Plateau Historical Society
Jane Gardiner – Alstonville Plateau Historical Society
Lois Wright – Plateau Seniors
Mary Birch – Wollongbar Progress Association
Pat Carney - Wardell Progress Association
Ron Birch – Wollongbar Progress Association
Wayne Garrard – Alstonville Cricket Club
Susanne Gilshenan – Alstonville Plateau Historical Society
Gerri White – Wollongbar Progress Association

Others in Attendance

Kathleen Thompson – concerned citizen
Michael Hogan - resident
27 local residents concerned about the Wollongbar Skatepark project

Staff in Attendance

Rod Willis – Group Manager Development and Environmental Health

Apologies

Cr David Wright (Mayor)
Cr Keith Johnson
Elva Fitzell - Alstonville Rotary Club
Sheila Aveling - Tintenbar School of Arts Inc

The apologies were accepted.

2. Declarations of Interest

Nil

3. Confirmation of Minutes 12 November 2015

(Pat Carney/Malcolm Johnson)
That the minutes of the previous meeting held on 12 November 2015 be accepted as a true and correct record, with it being noted that Eoin Johnston had raised concern about the boundary fence of Alstonville Pool being moved.

4. **Deputations**

Nil

5. **Business arising from Minutes – 12 November 2015**

(a) Landcare Group – Wollongbar Residential Estates

The information provided in the agenda was noted.

(b) Bulwinkel Park – unanswered emails

The information provided in the agenda was noted.

c) RMS and Council's maintenance boundaries - Alstonville Bypass

The information provided in the agenda was noted.

(d) Narrow Carriageway of roadway at that part of Freeborn Park parallel to the swimming pool lanes

The information provided in the agenda was noted.

(e) Crawford House – Lease Renewal

The information provided in the agenda was noted. Jane Gardiner asked whether or not other Council leases to groups such as sporting clubs and preschools are also limited to three year periods.

Cr Ben Smith undertook to advise Ms Gardiner.

(f) Apex Park Playground Equipment

The information provided in the agenda was noted.

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) Eoin Johnston – thanked Council for repairing the potholes he had raised with the Civil Services Group.

(b) Malcolm Johnson – advised that there were still periodical issues with Alstonville High School students at the shelter shed in Bulwinkel Park but that following contact with the school the situation had improved.

- (c) **Jane Gardiner** – reported that vandalism had occurred recently at the rear of Crawford House.
- (d) **Michael Hogan** – requested that Council look at and advise on the need for provision of both Disabled Parking and a Loading Zone in the Alstonville CBD. Mr Hogan also submitted a list of roads where trees were impeding traffic, for Council's attention.
- (e) **Geoff Limbert** – requested that Council's Road Safety Officer include a pedestrian education program in her work planning following a series of incidents involving bad pedestrian behaviour in Alstonville.
- (f) The Committee sought information about the speed limiting of gopher vehicles used on the footpath network.
- (g) **Belinda Cordery** – advised that the Alstonville/Wollongbar Chamber of Commerce is seeking a more substantial effort from the Council in respect of Christmas decorations of street trees and structures in Alstonville and Wollongbar Village Centres this year. The Chamber will make representations to the Council. The Chamber was advised that the Council was entering its annual financial planning period and that any submission should be made soon.
- (h) **Ina le Bas** – advised that the Historical Society would be holding a wedding exhibition at Crawford House on 20 March 2016.
- (i) **Pat Carney** – raised concerns that Council staff did not return telephone calls in accordance with Council's service standards. An undertaking was given that his matter would be attended to.

7. General Business

- (a) **Wollongbar Skatepark** – 27 local residents of Wollongbar attended the meeting to raise concerns about the Wollongbar Skatepark project.

The main issues raised were:

- Why would the Council want to locate a facility that residents saw as being a sports facility in a residential area?
- Why was the current site chosen over the new sports complex as the new sports grounds were away from residences?
- Concerned that the Council's normal maintenance regime for its parks and reserves wasn't good enough to keep a skatepark in their residential area safe and well presented.
- Concern that local residents would end up having to maintain surveillance of the park and respond to anti-social behaviour, drug use and vandalism as neither the Police nor Council would be able to adequately resource this.
- Noise.
- Road Safety in the local street.
- Parking will be on Avalon Avenue.

- People purchased land from the Council but weren't told that there was going to be a skatepark in the park.
- No toilets are being provided.
- People who made electronic submissions to Council were given the same weighting as people who attended the exhibitions and detailed their concerns in person.
- Residents of Tecton Place would particularly become responsible for overseeing the park.
- Security issues arising from low Police surveillance.
- The facility won't be kept clean and maintained.

The residents were advised that, while this C Ward Committee Meeting wasn't the right venue to make submissions about the park, their concerns would be recorded in the Minutes and C Ward Councillors would be aware of their concerns and issues when dealing with Council's project.

8. Next Meeting

Thursday 12 May 2016 at 5.00 pm

MEETING CLOSURE

6.15 pm