

1. **Attendance and Apologies**

*Members*

Cr David Wright (Mayor)  
Cr Sharon Cadwallader (Chair)  
Cr Keith Williams  
Cr Jeff Johnson

Debbie Smith, Lennox Head Chamber of Commerce  
Lyn Walker, Ballina Environment Society  
Shaun Eastment, Lennox Head Landcare  
Malcolm Milner, Lennox Head Residents Association  
Alan Veacock, Ballina Heights Residences Action Group  
Lorraine Leuckel, Marine Rescue Ballina  
Darel Vidler, Lennox combined Sports Association

*Council Staff*

Steve Barnier, Group Manager Strategic and Community Facilities  
John Truman, Group Manager Civil Services

*Apologies*

Ian Duncan, Knockrow Newrybar Residents Group  
Fran Byrne, Coastcare  
Graeme Shaw, Lennox Head Residents Association

2. **Declarations of Interest**

Nil

3. **Confirmation of Minutes**

That the Minutes of the "B" Ward Committee held on 16 November 2015 be taken as read and confirmed. (Lorraine Leuckel/Debbie Smith)

4. **Deputations**

Nil

5. **Outstanding Business**

(a) **Marine Rescue Building**

The information provided by staff in the agenda was received and noted, specifically it was noted

- Council has reaffirmed its position not to retain the existing training room as the new building will provide appropriate facilities

- The request for a hot water system was declined as it is not economic to install at this point in time.

**6. Business with Notice from Members**

**(a) Planning Proposal – Proposed rezoning of the property referred to as Reservoir Hill, North Creek Road, Lennox Head**

Steve Barnier provided a brief overview of the status of this planning proposal.

In February, Council accepted a report which confirms the land's general suitability for urban purposes. A key issue which is being negotiated with the landowner representatives is adjustments to the local road network to accommodate future development of the site as well as facilitating improved vehicular access to other nearby planned urban release areas.

The Committee noted that the planning proposal must now be sent to the NSW Department of Planning and Environment for a fresh Gateway determination to then enable the rezoning to be exhibited for community comment.

During discussion of this item, questions were asked about progress on some aspects of the adjacent Epiq development. It was agreed that representatives of that development be invited to attend the Committee's next scheduled meeting to provide an update.

**(b) Items submitted by Ballina Heights Residence Action Group**

- **That Council give consideration to the construction of an alternate route as a ring road connecting Cumbalum/Ballina Heights to West Ballina**

Mr Veacock indicated that his organisation is working on a submission to Council regarding this concept, together with a submission to the NSW State Government regarding a full upgrade to the Pacific Highway Cumbalum interchange. John Truman advised Mr Veacock that Council's Roads Developer Contribution Plan included a proposed road to service this traffic demand in the future.

- **That Council implement modifications to the roundabout at the top of Deadman's Creek Road**

John Truman confirmed that Council staff had agreed to complete adjustments to the kerb alignment and these works will be completed when resources are available. The works have not been completed prior to now as other tasks in our program have been assessed to have a higher priority or preferred construction sequencing.

- **That Council consider options to improve safety for pedestrians crossing The Ridgeway**

John Truman advised that the circumstances do not warrant the installation of pedestrian crossings, however pedestrian refuges may be an option for consideration in particular locations. Staff have inspected the site and reviewed the reported incident history at a meeting with residents. Further actions are not recommended at this point in time.

- **That Council has a “duty of care” regarding the provision of sun protection in childrens’ playgrounds**

It was noted that this issue has been the subject of extensive reports and discussion recently within Council. The Council’s position is that it does not support the view expressed by Mr Veacock’s organisation. The capital cost of installation of shade structures and their required ongoing maintenance are key considerations in relation to the Council’s current position. It was also noted that Council has scheduled a workshop in April to further review its position in this matter.

- **Expressed concern about the proliferation of mosquitoes in childrens’ playgrounds within Ballina Heights Estate that are adjacent to remnant rainforest areas**

Steve Barnier reported that advice from Council’s Environmental Health Section is that risk associated with mosquitoes is a key consideration in the planning for new urban release areas. In the case of Ballina Heights Estate, entomological assessments have been undertaken as part of previous rezoning and development assessment processes, and relevant recommendations were implemented.

Community information concerning recommended protection against mosquitoes may be found on Council’s website.

John Truman confirmed that further to the above minutes, he would provide a written response to the submission made by BHRAG to the Committee regarding the above points.

**7. Council Documents on Exhibition**

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

**8. Business Without Notice**

**(a) Darel Vidler – Epiq Playing Fields**

Mr Vidler enquired about the anticipated timeline for the community to be able to access the new playing fields.

Turfing of the fields is currently underway, and the period for settlement and consolidation will dictate when they will be available for use.

(b) **Darel Vidler – Ocean Breeze Reserve**

Mr Vidler expressed his concerns about the current proposal to construct a bicycle track on this reserve. He expressed a view that such a facility may lead to conflicts within the reserve. Further, that the community consultation undertaken by Council concerning the project has been inadequate.

The Committee noted this matter is to be further considered by the Council at its meeting to be held on 24 March 2016.

(c) **Debbie Smith – Appreciation**

Ms Smith was very appreciative of Council's recent prompt action to relocate waste receptacles which were identified as a safety concern in proximity to the pedestrian crossing in Ballina Street, Lennox Head.

(d) **Debbie Smith – Lennox Head Matters**

Ms Smith advised that the current principal focus of her Chamber is the coordination of the Love Lennox Festival and the forthcoming business awards.

(e) **Lorraine Leuckel – Ballina Marine Rescue Infrastructure**

Ms Leuckel enquired about the anticipated timeline for completion of the new Marine Rescue building.

Mr Truman advised that he understands the construction contract provides for the building's completion in October this year.

Ms Leuckel also asked if it is intended that the new building will be used to install shark spotting infrastructure.

Cr Wright advised that this is a matter which remains under consideration as part of the Government's shark response strategy.

(f) **John Truman – Megan Crescent Playing Field**

Mr Truman advised that Council has recently committed to contribute funds of \$45,000 toward the construction of improved sports infrastructure on Megan Crescent.

(g) **Lyn Walker – Sharpes Beach**

Dr Walker noted that there appeared to be some stormwater and drainage management issues in the vicinity of the contractor's temporary compound within the Sharpes Beach carpark.

Dr Walker also enquired about opportunities to improve pedestrian access between the carpark and Sharpes Beach. It was noted that the Sharpes Beach Master Plan, previously endorsed by Council, provides for improved beach access.

(h) **Lyn Walker – Coastal Recreational Pathway**

Dr Walker enquired as to when Council will be making a decision concerning the alternate route for the pathway adjacent to Flat Rock Tent Park.

The meeting was advised that the environmental and cultural heritage impacts associated with the alternate section of the pathway are still being assessed, prior to the matter being presented for Council's determination.

(i) **Lyn Walker – Coastal Shared Path**

Dr Walker expressed her disappointment regarding the recent recommendation of Council's Finance Committee to transfer funds reserved for shared path construction to construct the northern section of the coastal recreational path.

(j) **Lyn Walker – Eastern Road Closure, Lake Ainsworth**

Dr Walker expressed her concern regarding aspects of the current community lobbying which aims to influence Council to change its position concerning the eastern road closure. Dr Walker also indicated her support for the concept plan being presented to Council on 24 March 2016 which illustrates improvement works proposed to be undertaken in the reserve.

(k) **Malcolm Milner – Improvement Works, Lane Ainsworth Reserve**

Mr Milner enquired about the timing for implementation of works proposed in item (j), should Council endorse the concept plan.

Mr Truman indicated that it is difficult to provide a timeline until more detailed costing of the various works components has been undertaken and planning pathways and assessment processes were determined and undertaken.

(l) **Malcolm Milner – Park Lane Theatre, Lennox Head**

Mr Milner congratulated Council in relation to the Park Lane Theatre project.

**Recommendation:**

That Council and its staff be congratulated for undertaking this project. It is a great concept which has been very well executed on behalf of the community (Lyn Walker/Shawn Eastment)

(m) **Malcolm Milner – Village Renewal Program**

Mr Milner enquired about progress concerning the Lennox Head town centre enhancement project.

Mr Truman advised of the discussion which has taken place with community groups, as well as the Council's engagement of landscape architectural services.

It was acknowledged that provision has not been made in Council's 2016/17 draft Operational Plan/Delivery program for funding of improvement works.

(n) **Shaun Eastment – Vegetation Maintenance**

Ms Eastment enquired about the management of vegetation recently planted as part of the carparking and stormwater improvement works within the Lake Ainsworth reserve.

Council had watered the new trees while its water cart was in the area, however unfortunately this resource was not available during the hot weather in February. Dead trees will be replaced when the season is more favourable. These trees are for shade and aesthetic purposes and therefore the performance of the stormwater management system is not affected by the above issue.

(o) **Alan Veacock – Ballina Heights Playing Fields Clubrooms**

Mr Veacock indicated that there is concern within the Ballina Heights community about the manner in which the clubrooms are being managed, by the two approved Lessees. The concerns relate to the issue of community access to the premises.

The tenure agreements for this property issued by Council provide the Lessees with the discretion to casually hire the building for community usage.

(p) **Alan Veacock – Weed Management, Ballina Heights Estate**

Mr Veacock noted significant weed growth above the cutting within Ballina Heights Drive.

Mr Truman indicated his staff are examining options to identify the most cost effective method for managing this area.

**9. Next Meeting**

Monday 16 May 2016 at 4.30 pm

**MEETING CLOSURE**

6.15 pm