

**MINUTES OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING  
OF THE BALLINA SHIRE COUNCIL  
HELD IN THE BALLINA SHIRE COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
40 CHERRY STREETS, BALLINA,  
ON 12/04/16 AT 4.00 PM**

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**Attendance**

Cr David Wright (Mayor - in the chair), Sharon Cadwallader, Keith Williams, Susan Meehan, Ken Johnston, Paul Worth, Ben Smith and Robyn Hordern.

Paul Hickey (General Manager), John Truman (Civil Services Group Manager), Peter Morgan (Manager Finance & Governance), Linda Coulter (Accountant), Steve Barnier (Strategic and Community Facilities Group Manager) and Sandra Bailey (Secretary) were in attendance.

There were two people in the gallery at this time.

**1. Apologies**

Apologies were received from Cr Jeff Johnson and Cr Keith Johnson.

**RECOMMENDATION**

(Cr Sharon Cadwallader/Cr Keith Williams)

That such apologies be accepted.

FOR VOTE - All Councillors voted unanimously.

ABSENT. DID NOT VOTE - Cr Jeff Johnson and Cr Keith Johnson

**2. Declarations of Interest**

Nil

**3. Deputations**

- **Col Lee, Ballina on Richmond Rotary Club** – spoke in relation to the Club's request contained in Item 4.14 – Information and Resourcing Requests – Various.

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**4. Committee Reports**

**4.1 Waste Operations - Long Term Financial Plan**

**RECOMMENDATION**

(Cr Sharon Cadwallader/Cr Susan Meehan)

That Council endorses the inclusion of the LRM and DWM long term financial plans, as attached to this report, and the following waste charging structure, in the draft 2016/17 Delivery Program and Operational Plan for public exhibition:

**LRM Waste Charges**

<b>Charge Type</b>	<b>2015/16 (\$)</b>	<b>2016/17 (\$)</b>	<b>% Change</b>
Kerbside Non Domestic Mixed Waste (Annual)	369	342	(7.3)
Kerbside Non Domestic Recycling (Annual)	182	169	(7.3)
Kerbside Non Domestic Green Waste (Annual)	322	299	(7.3)
DWM Gate Fee Mixed Waste	256/tonne	261/tonne	2
Self-Haul Mixed Waste Under 300kg	221/tonne	225/tonne	1.8
Over 300kg	256/tonne	261/tonne	2
Gate Fee Recyclates > 500kg	215/tonne	219/tonne	1.9
Gate Fee Recyclates < 500kg	88/tonne	90/tonne	2.3
Self-Haul Green Waste	70/tonne	71/tonne	1.4
Remaining Gate Fees	Various up to 5%	Various up to 5%	Up to 5%
Waste Operations Annual charge	72	73	1.4

**Domestic Waste Charges**

<b>Charge Type</b>	<b>2015/16 Charge \$</b>	<b>2016/17 Charge \$</b>	<b>% Increase</b>
DWM - Rural (excludes green)	314	320	1.9
DWM – Urban (all three collections)	360	367	1.9
Additional Extra Mixed Waste Urban – Fortnight	108	110	1.9
Additional Mixed Waste Rural – Weekly	215	219	1.9
Additional Domestic Recycling	108	110	1.9
Additional Green Waste Collection - Urban Only	215	219	1.9
DWM – Vacant Land	39	40	2.6

FOR VOTE - All Councillors voted unanimously.  
ABSENT. DID NOT VOTE - Cr Jeff Johnson and Cr Keith Johnson

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**4.2 Wastewater Operations - Long Term Financial Plan**

**RECOMMENDATION**

(Cr Ben Smith/Cr Sharon Cadwallader)

1. That Council notes the contents of this report in respect to the modeling undertaken in respect to the long term financial plan for Council's Wastewater Operations.
2. That Council endorses the annual charges, as per the following table, for exhibition in the draft 2016/17 Operational Plan, as well as the long term financial plan included, as per the attachments to this report.

<b>Charge Type</b>	<b>2015/16 \$</b>	<b>2016/17 \$</b>	<b>% Increase</b>
Residential availability charge	864	925	7.06
Residential availability charge vacant land	651	697	7.06
Non Residential Usage charge	2.19	2.34	6.8
Non Residential Access charge	Variable based on meter size		7%
Recycled Water	80% of potable water step 1		2.8%

3. That Council receive a further report on the justification for the two additional positions as outlined within this report, with those positions not to be recruited until that report is endorsed by Council.

FOR VOTE - All Councillors voted unanimously.

ABSENT. DID NOT VOTE - Cr Jeff Johnson and Cr Keith Johnson

**4.3 Recycled Water Pricing Structure - Open Space Users**

**RECOMMENDATION**

(Cr Sharon Cadwallader/Cr Ben Smith)

That Council approves the exhibition of the following pricing strategy for the supply of recycled water supplied to open space users, as part of the draft Delivery Program and Operational Plan:

- a) recycled water will continue to be provided to open space users at no charge up to July 2017
- b) from July 2017 charging will commence at a lower rate and move to the proposed rate over five years
- c) from July 2022 the charge be set at 50% of the price for recycled water supplied to urban dual reticulation (i.e. 40% of the drinking water price)

FOR VOTE - All Councillors voted unanimously.

ABSENT. DID NOT VOTE - Cr Jeff Johnson and Cr Keith Johnson

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**4.4 Ballina Visitor Information Centre Volunteer Staff**

**RECOMMENDATION**

(Cr Susan Meehan/Cr Sharon Cadwallader)

1. That Council notes the contents of this report relating to the potential for an expanded Council visitor services volunteer program.
2. That the General Manager monitor opportunities for increased involvement by volunteers in the delivery of visitor services.

FOR VOTE - All Councillors voted unanimously.  
ABSENT. DID NOT VOTE - Cr Jeff Johnson and Cr Keith Johnson

**4.5 Ballina Fair Go Skateboarding Festival 2016 - Submissions**

**RECOMMENDATION**

(Cr Sharon Cadwallader/Cr Ben Smith)

That Council award \$4,000 funding for Fair Go 2016 Skateboarding Festival to TruckStop Sk8 and that a finance agreement be prepared and determined by the General Manager, subject to an acquittal process.

FOR VOTE - All Councillors voted unanimously.  
ABSENT. DID NOT VOTE - Cr Jeff Johnson and Cr Keith Johnson

**4.6 North East Weight of Loads Group (NEWLOG)**

**RECOMMENDATION**

(Cr Sharon Cadwallader/Cr Ben Smith)

1. That Council notes the contents of the NEWLOG Annual Report for 2014/15.
2. That Council endorses the draft NEWLOG budget for 2016/17.

FOR VOTE - All Councillors voted unanimously.  
ABSENT. DID NOT VOTE - Cr Jeff Johnson and Cr Keith Johnson

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**4.7 Asset Management Plans**

**RECOMMENDATION**

(Cr Keith Williams/Cr Sharon Cadwallader)

1. That the updates to Council's Asset Management Plans, as outlined in this report, be placed on public exhibition.
2. If no submissions are received in response to the exhibition in point one above, the plans will be considered adopted by Council. A further report to Council will be prepared in response to any submissions.

FOR VOTE - All Councillors voted unanimously.

ABSENT. DID NOT VOTE - Cr Jeff Johnson and Cr Keith Johnson

**4.8 Rating Structure - 2016/17**

**RECOMMENDATION**

(Cr Ben Smith/Cr Susan Meehan)

1. That Council, for the 2016/17 Draft Operation Plan, include a base rating structure, modelled on the existing structure, which applies the following principles:
  - a) Marginally less than 50% of the rate income for the residential category of properties being generated from the base amount
  - b) Business, farmland and mining categories to have the same base amount as the residential base amount
  - c) A total of 20% income from the rate yield to be sourced from the business category properties
  - d) Farmland rate in the dollar is approximately 80% of the residential rate in the dollar
  - e) The mining category rate in the dollar to be set as the same rate as the business category (currently no mining category properties in the shire).
2. That Council notes the indicative figures for this rating structure for 2016/17, are as follows

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**Proposed 2016/17 Rating Structure**

Rating Category	5.41% Increase	
	Base Amount	Rate in Dollar
Residential	470	0.001902500
Business	470	0.007579200
Farmland	470	0.001509900
Mining	470	0.007579200

**Table Eight: Proposed Income per Category (Cat.) at 5.41%**

Rate Category	2015/16			2016/17		
	Income 5.41% increase	Cat % of yield	Ave Rate	Income 5.34% increase	Cat % of yield	Ave Rate
Residential	13,895,275	72.43	900	14,748,183	72.55	943
Business	3,836,591	20.00	2,982	4,065,675	20.00	3,160
Farmland	1,451,321	7.57	1,382	1,514,776	7.45	1,448
Mining	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>19,183,187</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>1,079</b>	<b>20,328,634</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>1,131</b>

FOR VOTE - All Councillors voted unanimously.  
ABSENT. DID NOT VOTE - Cr Jeff Johnson and Cr Keith Johnson

**4.9 Fees and Charges - 2016/17**

**RECOMMENDATION**

(Cr Sharon Cadwallader/Cr Keith Williams)

1. That Council approves the exhibition of the draft schedule of fees and charges for 2016/17, as attached, including any amendments resulting from this meeting.
2. That Council approves the inclusion in the draft Delivery Program the forecast income and expense associated with the new Information Services/Records fee as detailed within this report, with part of this funding to be allocated to the replacement of the existing telephony system and the balance transferred to reserve.

FOR VOTE - All Councillors voted unanimously.  
ABSENT. DID NOT VOTE - Cr Jeff Johnson and Cr Keith Johnson

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**4.10 Coastal Zone Management - Beach Nourishment, Seven Mile Beach**

**RECOMMENDATION**

(Cr Sharon Cadwallader/Cr Keith Williams)

1. That Council confirm its support to implement a beach nourishment program in partnership with the Crown Land's delivery of the Richmond River bar dredging project.
2. That Council approves funding of \$30,000 from the quarry reserve, as our initial offer, to support this work.
3. The General Manager is authorised to continue to investigate the proposal in point one above with Crown Lands and seek out available grant opportunities.

FOR VOTE - Cr David Wright, Cr Sharon Cadwallader, Cr Keith Williams, Cr Susan Meehan and Cr Ken Johnston

AGAINST VOTE - Cr Paul Worth, Cr Ben Smith and Cr Robyn Hordern

ABSENT. DID NOT VOTE - Cr Jeff Johnson and Cr Keith Johnson

**4.11 Wollongbar Sporting Fields - Funding Update**

**RECOMMENDATION**

(Cr Ben Smith/Cr Sharon Cadwallader)

That Council approves the reallocation of the \$625,500 currently held in reserves to the Wollongbar Sporting Fields project, to allow that project to be completed in full.

FOR VOTE – Cr David Wright, Cr Sharon Cadwallader, Cr Paul Worth, Cr Ben Smith and Cr Robyn Hordern

AGAINST VOTE - Cr Keith Williams, Cr Susan Meehan and Cr Ken Johnston

ABSENT. DID NOT VOTE - Cr Jeff Johnson and Cr Keith Johnson

**4.12 Fit for the Future - Update**

**RECOMMENDATION**

(Cr Sharon Cadwallader/Cr Susan Meehan)

That Council notes the contents of this report highlighting the need for further work to be undertaken to improve Council's Asset Renewal ratio and Operating Result ratio to ensure we meet the Fit for the Future benchmarks.

FOR VOTE - All Councillors voted unanimously.

ABSENT. DID NOT VOTE - Cr Jeff Johnson and Cr Keith Johnson

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**4.13 Long Term Financial Plan - Consolidated Forecast**

**RECOMMENDATION**

(Cr Ben Smith/Cr Sharon Cadwallader)

1. That Council endorses the exhibition of the draft Long Term Financial Plan document for 2016/17 as attached to this report, subject to any amendments arising from this meeting.
2. That Council receive a report on the operations of Council's Nursery.

FOR VOTE - All Councillors voted unanimously.  
ABSENT. DID NOT VOTE - Cr Jeff Johnson and Cr Keith Johnson

**4.14 Information and Resourcing Requests - Various**

**RECOMMENDATION**

(Cr Sharon Cadwallader/Cr Keith Williams)

That Council receive a report on increasing the funding for weed control over time.

FOR VOTE - All Councillors voted unanimously.  
ABSENT. DID NOT VOTE - Cr Jeff Johnson and Cr Keith Johnson

**4.14 Information and Resourcing Requests - Various**

**RECOMMENDATION**

(Cr Ben Smith/Cr Susan Meehan)

That Council notes the contents of the report in respect to the Killen Falls report.

FOR VOTE - All Councillors voted unanimously.  
ABSENT. DID NOT VOTE - Cr Jeff Johnson and Cr Keith Johnson

**4.14 Information and Resourcing Requests - Various**

**RECOMMENDATION**

(Cr Ben Smith/Cr Sharon Cadwallader)

That the Executive of the Ballina Naval and Maritime Museum be asked to submit an application to the annual donation process.

FOR VOTE - All Councillors voted unanimously.  
ABSENT. DID NOT VOTE - Cr Jeff Johnson and Cr Keith Johnson



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**4.14 Information and Resourcing Requests - Various**

A **Motion** was moved by Cr Sharon Cadwallader and seconded by Cr Ben Smith

That Council notes the contents of this report in respect to the cost of cultural precinct including the former Ballina Fire Station building.

An **Amendment** was moved by Cr Susan Meehan and seconded by Cr Keith Williams

That Council investigate options to fund the \$30,000 required for the consultancy report.

The **Amendment** was **LOST**.

FOR VOTE - Cr Keith Williams and Cr Susan Meehan

AGAINST VOTE - Cr David Wright, Cr Sharon Cadwallader, Cr Ken Johnston, Cr Paul Worth, Cr Ben Smith and Cr Robyn Hordern

ABSENT. DID NOT VOTE - Cr Jeff Johnson and Cr Keith Johnson

The **Motion** was **CARRIED**.

FOR VOTE - Cr David Wright, Cr Sharon Cadwallader, Cr Keith Williams, Cr Ken Johnston, Cr Paul Worth, Cr Ben Smith and Cr Robyn Hordern

AGAINST VOTE - Cr Susan Meehan

ABSENT. DID NOT VOTE - Cr Jeff Johnson and Cr Keith Johnson

**RECOMMENDATION**

(Cr Sharon Cadwallader/Cr Ben Smith)

That Council notes the contents of this report in respect to the cost of cultural precinct including the former Ballina Fire Station building.

FOR VOTE - Cr David Wright, Cr Sharon Cadwallader, Cr Keith Williams, Cr Ken Johnston, Cr Paul Worth, Cr Ben Smith and Cr Robyn Hordern

AGAINST VOTE - Cr Susan Meehan

ABSENT. DID NOT VOTE - Cr Jeff Johnson and Cr Keith Johnson

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**4.14 Information and Resourcing Requests - Various**

A **Motion** was moved by Cr Sharon Cadwallader and seconded by Cr Keith Williams

That the Ballina Rugby League Club be asked to submit an application to the annual donation process.

An **Amendment** was moved by Cr Susan Meehan and seconded by Cr Keith Williams

That Council receive a report on options to finance the remediation of the grandstand at the Seagulls Rugby League Club and that Council clarify the scope of works to be undertaken.

The **Amendment** was **CARRIED**.

FOR VOTE - Cr David Wright, Cr Keith Williams, Cr Susan Meehan, Cr Ken Johnston, Cr Paul Worth and Cr Ben Smith

AGAINST VOTE - Cr Sharon Cadwallader and Cr Robyn Hordern  
ABSENT. DID NOT VOTE - Cr Jeff Johnson and Cr Keith Johnson

The **Amendment** then became the **Motion** and was **CARRIED**.

FOR VOTE - All Councillors voted unanimously.

ABSENT. DID NOT VOTE - Cr Jeff Johnson and Cr Keith Johnson

**RECOMMENDATION**

(Cr Susan Meehan/Cr Keith Williams)

That Council receive a report on options to finance the remediation of the grandstand at the Seagulls Rugby League Club and that Council clarify the scope of works to be undertaken.

FOR VOTE - All Councillors voted unanimously.

ABSENT. DID NOT VOTE - Cr Jeff Johnson and Cr Keith Johnson

**4.14 Information and Resourcing Requests - Various**

A **Motion** was moved by Sharon Cadwallader and seconded by Cr Ben Smith

That the Rotary Club be asked to submit an application to the annual donation process.

An **Amendment** was moved by Cr Susan Meehan and seconded by Cr Keith Williams

That Council fund the 2017 Rotary Club Conference from the following funding sources:

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\$5,000 from the Airport Marketing Budget  
\$5,000 from the Tourism Promotions Budget  
\$5,000 from Working Capital

The **Amendment** was **CARRIED**.

FOR VOTE - All Councillors voted unanimously.  
ABSENT. DID NOT VOTE - Cr Jeff Johnson and Cr Keith Johnson

The **Amendment** then became the **Motion** and was **CARRIED**.

FOR VOTE - All Councillors voted unanimously.  
ABSENT. DID NOT VOTE - Cr Jeff Johnson and Cr Keith Johnson

**RECOMMENDATION**

(Cr Susan Meehan/Cr Keith Williams)

That Council fund the 2017 Rotary Club Conference from the following funding sources:

\$5,000 from the Airport Marketing Budget  
\$5,000 from the Tourism Promotion Budget  
\$5,000 from Working Capital

FOR VOTE - All Councillors voted unanimously.  
ABSENT. DID NOT VOTE - Cr Jeff Johnson and Cr Keith Johnson

**4.14 Information and Resourcing Requests - Various**

**RECOMMENDATION**

(Cr Paul Worth/Cr Keith Williams)

That Council notes the request from the Ballina Tennis Club.

FOR VOTE - Cr David Wright, Cr Sharon Cadwallader, Cr Keith Williams, Cr Ken Johnston, Cr Paul Worth, Cr Ben Smith and Cr Robyn Hordern  
AGAINST VOTE - Cr Susan Meehan  
ABSENT. DID NOT VOTE - Cr Jeff Johnson and Cr Keith Johnson

**4.14 Information and Resourcing Requests - Various**

**RECOMMENDATION**

(Cr Paul Worth/Cr Ben Smith)

That Council notes the request in respect to air-conditioning at the Lennox Head Cultural and Community Centre.

FOR VOTE - All Councillors voted unanimously.  
ABSENT. DID NOT VOTE - Cr Jeff Johnson and Cr Keith Johnson

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**4.14 Information and Resourcing Requests - Various**

A **Motion** was moved by Cr Sharon Cadwallader and seconded by Cr Keith Williams

That Council receive a report on funding options for the Lennox Head Village Renewal project.

The **Motion** was **LOST**.

FOR VOTE - Cr Sharon Cadwallader, Cr Keith Williams and Cr Ken Johnston  
AGAINST VOTE - Cr David Wright, Cr Susan Meehan, Cr Paul Worth, Cr Ben Smith and Cr Robyn Hordern  
ABSENT. DID NOT VOTE - Cr Jeff Johnson and Cr Keith Johnson

**4.15 Delivery Program and Operational Plan - Exhibition**

**RECOMMENDATION**

(Cr Paul Worth/Cr Keith Williams)

1. That Council approves the exhibition of the draft Delivery Program and Operational Plan document, as attached to this report, inclusive of any changes arising from this meeting.
2. That Council receive a report on options to improve the level of Christmas decorations for the Shire.

Cr Ben Smith left the meeting at 06:22 pm.

FOR VOTE - All Councillors voted unanimously.  
ABSENT. DID NOT VOTE - Cr Jeff Johnson, Cr Keith Johnson and Cr Ben Smith

**MEETING CLOSURE**

6.24 pm